

NATIONAL MILITARY FAMILY ASSOCIATION

AND

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

I. Purpose and Basis for Memorandum of Understanding

This non-binding Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishes a partnership between the National Military Family Association (NMFA), and the Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Military Community and Family Policy). This allows, under conditions outlined in this MOU, military installations throughout the Department of Defense (DoD) to draw upon NMFA's programs, services and materials as a resource and part of the DoD campaign to improve the financial readiness of Service members and their families.

The purpose of the DoD financial education initiative is to assist Service men and women and their immediate families in their efforts to build personal wealth through reducing debt and establishing savings goals. Building wealth affords Service members and their families an opportunity to achieve goals such as maintaining an emergency cash reserve, buying a house, or paying for college.

II. NMFA

The NMFA is an independent, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization devoted to ascertaining and resolving issues of concern to military families. NMFA's mission is to serve the families of the seven uniformed services through education, information, and advocacy. NMFA's primary goals are to educate military families concerning the rights, benefits and services available to them; to inform them regarding the issues that affect their lives; and to serve and protect the interests of military families by influencing the development and implementation of legislation and policies.

III. Description of NMFA Programs, Services and Materials

The NMFA achieves its goals through studying issues, working with Congressional staffs and the DoD Office of Military Community and Family Policy, and on councils for the Department of Defense Dependent Schools. The NMFA regularly speaks at group meetings, including family service organizations, Commanders' Conferences, and officer

and enlisted spouse clubs. The NMFA also maintains a Web site and publishes a regular, monthly newsletter to inform worldwide members about issues significant to military families.

IV. Department of Defense

The DoD represents over 2 million active duty and reserve Service members in three military departments - Army, Navy, and Air Force. As part of its social compact with Service members and their families to care for their quality of life, DoD provides personal financial management education and training to prepare them for their changing financial needs. Enlisted Service members receive the bulk of their basic financial education during the first 18 months of service. Follow-on programs that include family members are provided at military installations to fulfill local educational requirements.

Personal financial management is also seen as an integral part of personal readiness to accomplish the DoD mission. Poor money management skills may cause a Service member more than financial problems, and may also interfere with his or her ability to focus on the mission of defending the nation's interests.

V. Responsibilities

The Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Military Community and Family Policy) and NMFA agree to the following:

Responsibilities of NMFA

- A. When relevant, the NMFA agrees to promote the Financial Readiness Campaign ideals, tools, resources and events, when speaking at family service organizations, Commanders' Conferences, and officer and enlisted spouse clubs, and via its monthly newsletter and Web site.
- B. The NMFA agrees to take editorial ownership over an unnamed, quarterly periodical produced by InCharge® Institute at the approval of the DoD and targeted at military spouses. Said periodical will focus on promoting financial readiness among young spouses of enlisted Service members. Prior to publication, NMFA will review said periodical for content, layout, design and advertisements, to ensure that the periodical is relevant and follows DoD protocol. The review time will be limited to no more than 5 work days in order to ensure the timely distribution of said periodical. The NMFA will have the option of submitting relevant articles to said periodical if it so desires.

Responsibility of the DoD

The DoD will encourage enlisted Service members to attend NMFA speaking engagements, and view NMFA websites and publications.

VI. Amendment

The parties will review the MOU annually. The MOU may be amended by a written amendment signed by both parties.

VII. Effective Date and Termination

The MOU becomes effective upon the signature of the authorized officials of the respective parties. It remains in effect until terminated by mutual agreement or terminated for any reason upon 60 days advance written notice by either party.

VIII. Limitation

This document is a MOU only. It is entered into only as a declaration of present intent. Nothing contained in this MOU is intended to be construed as a legally binding commitment of any party or parties either individually or collectively. This MOU does not create any rights on the part of DoD or NMFA or any third party. Any provision of this MOU that conflicts with any federal, state or local laws or regulations is null and void.

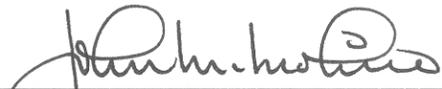
IX. Notice

All notices or other communications which may be given pursuant to this MOU shall be in writing and delivered as addressed below.

Ms. Lillie Cannon
National Military Family Association
2500 North Van Dorn Street, Suite 102
Alexandria, VA 22302-1601
Voice: (703) 931-6632 x321
Fax: (703) 751-4857
Email: cannon@nmfa.org

Colonel Michael A. Pachuta
Director of MWR Policy
Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense
(Military Community & Family Policy)
1745 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 302
Arlington, VA 22202
Voice: (703) 602-4994
Fax: (703) 602-4977
Email: michael.pachuta@osd.mil

Signatures:



John M. Molino
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Military Community & Family Policy)
Department of Defense
Date: 10/1/03



Barbara Williams
President
National Military Family Association
Date: 10/8/03