

## WELCOME TO PPCMOAA NEWS

This Fall 2022 *Eagle* issue contains a variety of topics:

- Chapter Officers
- Upcoming Chapter Events
- Select Event Details
- VA/Veteran Articles
- Legislative Affairs
- Employment/Training
- Community News
- MOAA National/Chapter News
- MOAA Membership
- Key/Useful Websites

### GREETINGS FROM THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT

As we enter the Fall and Winter season, we would love to see many of you at the continuing luncheons including the up-and-coming October Fest.

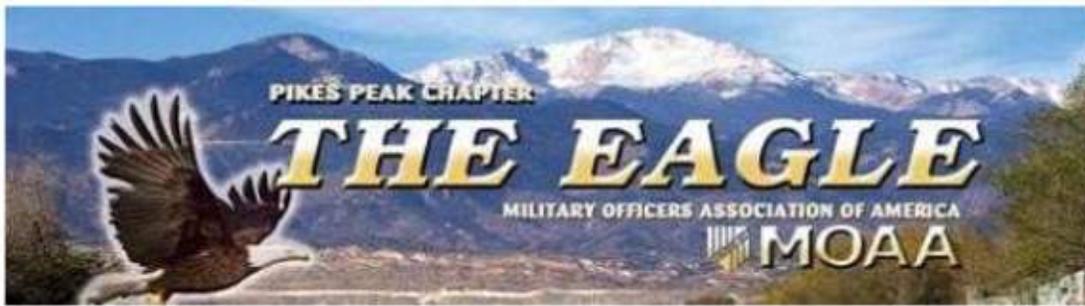
Our current focus and planning have been to get back to having regular luncheons in 2022-23 as well as other possible fun activities such as tours and dinner meetings. Ongoing efforts to return to our past battle rhythm will directly benefit from member's ideas and we welcome your input to better our chapter. If you know of people who meet the requirements please pass the word around and let's see our Team grow.

We still need volunteers for several open Chapter positions. With just a few hours a month, you can significantly help our local MOAA become stronger and more active. Please send an email to Felix Uhlik (felixuhlik@aol.com) if you are interested or have any questions about the positions.

Finally, thanks for being loyal Pike's Peak Chapter members. Please reach out to other members you may know and invite them to join us at a future event. It is time for a revival, let's not permit the COVID aftermath to dwindle the ranks of our proud chapter!

Sincerely,

Dr Steven Lucks PhD  
President  
[luckssj@msn.com](mailto:luckssj@msn.com)



## CHAPTER OFFICERS

### President

Steven Lucks, CAPT, USN (Ret)  
Telephone: 208-521-1980  
Email: [president@ppcmoaa.org](mailto:president@ppcmoaa.org)

### 1<sup>st</sup> VP

Richard Stapp, CAPT, USN (Ret)  
Telephone: 719-510-0639  
Email: [wyo seabee@gmail.com](mailto:wyo seabee@gmail.com)

### 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Communications

Felix Uhlik, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)  
Telephone: 719-264-0526  
Email: [felixuhlik@aol.com](mailto:felixuhlik@aol.com)

### Treasurer

Felix Uhlik, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)  
Telephone: 719-264-0526  
Email: [treasurer@ppcmoaa.org](mailto:treasurer@ppcmoaa.org)

### Transition & Employment Mentor

Nanette Brede, COL, USA(R) (Ret)  
Email: [nanette.mueller@gmail.com](mailto:nanette.mueller@gmail.com)

### Membership

Peter Mueller, LTC(R), USA (Ret)  
Telephone: 719-487-0787  
Email: [pjmueller1@mindspring.com](mailto:pjmueller1@mindspring.com)

### JROTC/ROTC

John Gillett, CDR, USN (Ret)  
Telephone: 661-332-1295  
Email: [gillettjohn@att.net](mailto:gillettjohn@att.net)

### Legal Advisor

Chester (Skip) Morgan, COL, USAF (Ret)  
Telephone: 719-473-1965  
Email: [chmorgan2d@yahoo.com](mailto:chmorgan2d@yahoo.com)

### Chaplin

Robert Mossey, COL, USAF (Ret)  
Telephone: 719-576-6010  
Email: [remoss75@yahoo.com](mailto:remoss75@yahoo.com)

### Program Support

Nina Brokaw, USA  
Email: [brokaw135@aol.com](mailto:brokaw135@aol.com)

### Asst. Chaplin

James M Meredith COL, USA  
Telephone: 719-593-2485  
Email: [coljmm@aol.com](mailto:coljmm@aol.com)

### Photographer

William Pearce, MAJ, USAF (Ret)  
Telephone: 719-548-1748  
Email: [wwpearce@comcast.net](mailto:wwpearce@comcast.net)

### Eagle Editor

Michael McCoy, CDR, USCG (Ret)  
Telephone: 719-360-5069  
Email: [mccoyjm@msn.com](mailto:mccoyjm@msn.com)

### Legislative Affairs

Devon Du Fur, USMC  
Telephone: 719-331-2090  
Email: [ddufur@comcast.net](mailto:ddufur@comcast.net)

### Webmaster

Joe Leonard, CAPT, USN (Ret)  
Telephone: 843-278-1240  
Email: [jrl@nonprofitdynamics.com](mailto:jrl@nonprofitdynamics.com)

## Vacant Positions

Secretary

Medical Advisor

Historian

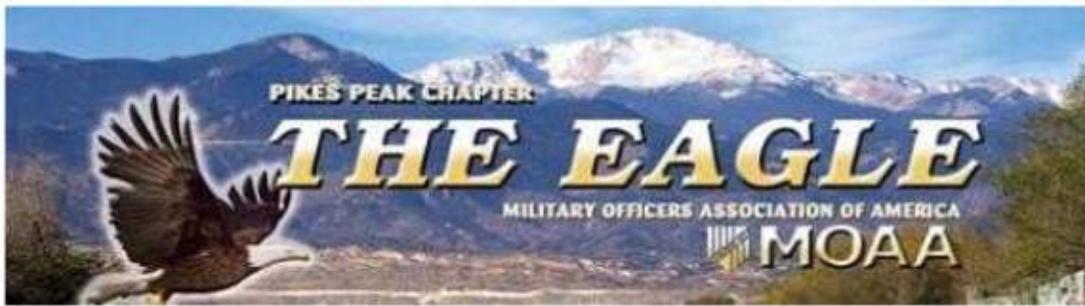
Personal Affairs

Veteran Affairs

Sergeant-At-Arms

Community Outreach

Spouse Representative



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sep 17 **Retiree Appreciation Day (CANCELED DUE TO COVID)**
- Oct 6 **“Octoberfest” Luncheon, Edelweiss Restaurant (see Select Event Details section)**
- Oct 18 **STAND DOWN for Colorado’s Homeless Veterans (see Select Event Details section)**
- Oct 22 **Veterans Health Fair, Mt. Carmel Veterans Center (see Select Event Details section)**
- Dec 8 **Holiday Luncheon, Antler’s Hotel**

## SELECT EVENT DETAILS

### “Octoberfest” MOAA Luncheon

Date/Time: October 6, 2022/11:30 am

Location: Edelweiss Restaurant, 34 E. Ramona Ave, Colorado Springs, CO 80905

RSVP: Email/call Nina Brokaw ([brokaw135@aol.com](mailto:brokaw135@aol.com)) (719) 502-1004 and then go to [www.PPCMOAA.org](http://www.PPCMOAA.org)

Speaker: Brigadier General Richard “Scott” Stapp, USAF (Ret)

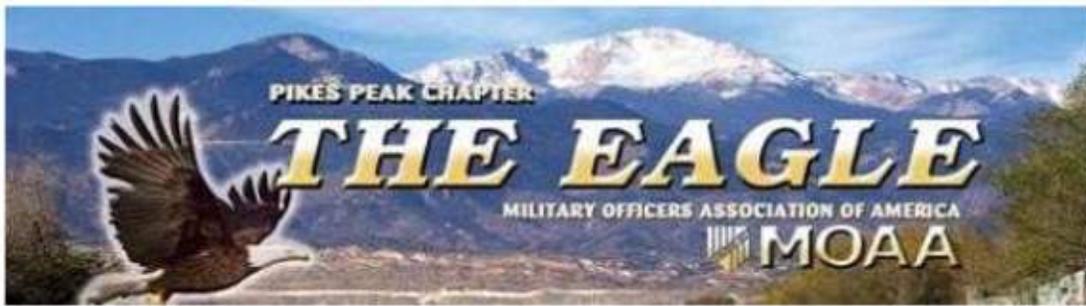
Topic: James Webb Space Telescope



In 2014, retired U. S. Air Force Brig Gen Richard "Scott" Stapp joined the Northrop Grumman as vice president of Technology Development for its Aerospace Systems sector. He is now serving as their Chief Technology Officer. He has more than 30 years of experience with the Department of Defense and Intelligence Community and a proven record of effective leadership in key positions with several government offices and agencies.

Scott Stapp was the director, Special Programs, for Office of the Secretary of Defense, where he was responsible for the governance, acquisition, oversight and external liaison for all DoD special access programs (SAP), he was the principal staff assistant to the undersecretary of Defense, Acquisition, Technology and Logistics and served as the primary DoD liaison to agencies of the executive branch and the Congress on all SAP matters. He was the chairman of the Tri-Service Committee overseeing the national disclosure policy and transfer/export of critical technologies to the international community. He established and administered governance of the DoD's SAP information technology policy, strategy, requirements and execution in coordination with the DoD's chief information officer.

Scott Stapp holds a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Wyoming and a master's degree in electrical engineering from the University of New Mexico and master's degree in national resource management from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. He received numerous honors throughout his Air Force career including the Director of National Intelligence Award for Collaboration Leadership and the Air Force Weapon's Laboratory's Outstanding Technical Achiever of the Year. His career with the Air Force began in research and development as a flight test engineer.



## STAND DOWN for Colorado's Homeless Veterans

Date: October 18, 2022  
Time: 0900 - 1500  
Location: City Auditorium, 221 E. Kiowa St,  
More Info: [www.epchvc.org](http://www.epchvc.org)

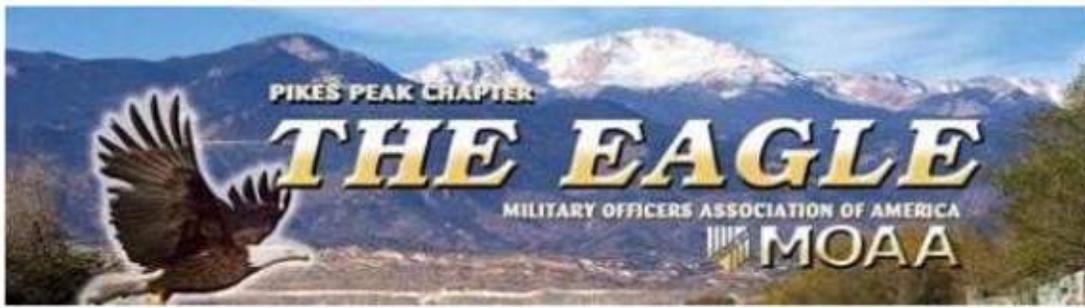
This annual event provides direct assistance to Colorado's Homeless Veterans. If any MOAA members know of someone in need, please encourage them to take advantage of this opportunity.

**24TH ANNUAL**  
**STAND DOWN**  
**For Colorado's Homeless Veterans**  
**Tue 18 Oct 2022**  
**9AM-3PM**

VA & COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES  
WILL BE ON SITE!

Clothing • Boots • Personal Care Items  
Hot Lunches • Flu Shots • VA Medical Care  
VA and Rocky Mountain Human Services  
Veterans Administration • VA Claims Assistance  
DD-214 Assistance • Veterinary Care

**@City Auditorium • 221 E. Kiowa St**  
**MORE INFO & RESOURCES: [www.epchvc.org](http://www.epchvc.org)**



Vol. 8 Fall 2022 Page 5 Editor: Mike McCoy

## Veterans Health Fair

Date: October 22, 2022

Time: 1000 - 1500

Location: Mt. Carmel Veterans Service Center, 530 Communications Circle, COS CO 80905

If you have healthcare questions or need to connect with key providers this event is for you!

### PPCMOAA RAFFLE TICKETS DURING HEALTH FAIR!

PPCMOAA will be holding a raffle during the Veterans Health Fair to support JROTC programs in the Colorado Springs area. Please come and support our future leaders! Buy a raffle ticket!



### You're invited to a FREE health and wellness fair!

If you're 50+, learn more about staying healthy.

**Do you remember the last time you made yourself a priority?**

Now more than ever it's important to make your health and wellness a top priority. Get to know those in your community who want to keep you healthy and feeling your best.

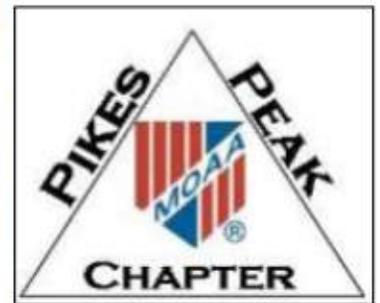
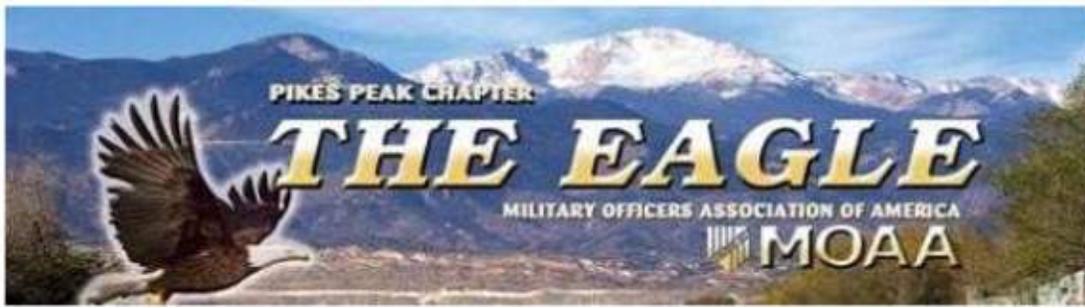
**Saturday, October 22, 2022** Mt. Carmel Veterans Service Center  
10am - 3pm 530 Communications Circle  
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

Free admission + free onsite parking • Event giveaway  
Light refreshments and food trucks are available.

Join us to connect with experts in areas critical to seniors:  
Healthcare, Medicare insurance, estate planning, long term care, home care, financial planning, Veterans benefits and healthcare, and more!

To RSVP scan this code





## VA/VETERANS ARTICLES

### Protect Yourself Against Social Media Phishing

Alarming, the FTC expects that social media phishing will increase. Because social media platforms make it easy to find people and groups, phishers use them to identify and target potential victims. For example, you could be targeted for sharing your military service or employment history on Facebook.

VA's [Office of Information and Technology](#) recommends the following tips when using social media:

- Never share sensitive or financial information in social media messaging or posts, including direct messages.
- If you're following a link or ad, check the site's security. Look for "https://\" at the start of the website address.
- Enable multi-factor authentication on all your accounts to keep them safe from hacking. For example, when logging onto social media platforms, you can select a code to be sent to your email/phone number for security.
- Limit the personally identifiable information (such as your date of birth, home address, social security number, etc.) on your account. Remember: the less information, the better.

Phishers especially love targeting Veterans for their government-provided aid and benefits.

- Fake advertising. Phishers will create fake charity ads during natural disasters to collect Veteran information.
- Phishers create fake accounts and personas to steal sensitive information through false romantic interest.
- Hijacking social media accounts. Hackers can take control of loved ones' social media accounts and send messages through the platform to phish your information.

If you think your information has been compromised, you can submit the incident to your local police and file a report with the FTC at [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://www.ftc.gov/report-fraud). Monitor your accounts and report unauthorized charges immediately.

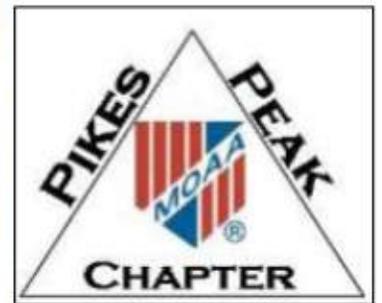
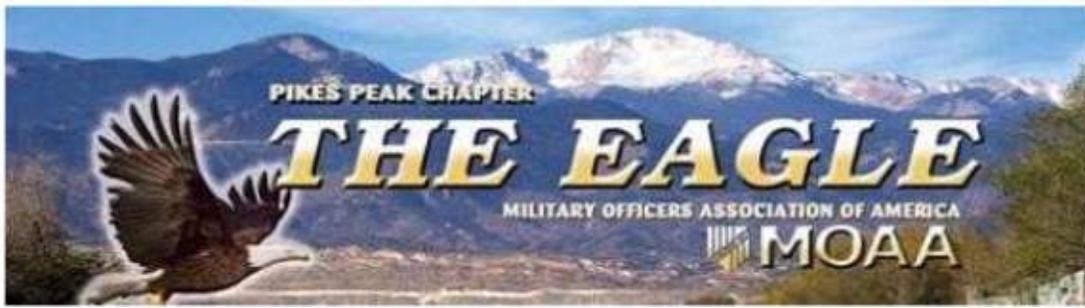
Track the latest phishing attacks so you know what to expect; for example, monitor resources such as:

[Fraud Alert COVID-19 Scams HHS IG website](#).

[Tax Scams/Consumer Alerts IRS website](#).

Source: VA News 06 JUL 2022 (Extract)





## Retiring Soon or Have Questions? Helpful Newsletter Articles

The June 2022 issue of our quarterly Retiree Newsletter is now available online:

- Retiring soon? You can find a helpful article on how to get started on time.
- Not new to Retired Pay, but want to make sure your account is up to date? Check out how to perform regular checkups.
- Finally, make sure you check out our new Helpful Customer Information Guide for Retirees and Annuitants.

To access the newsletter, please copy and paste the link below to your internet browser. You will find a list of topics in the newsletter with a brief description of each article. After copying and pasting the link to your internet browser, click on the link for the article you want to read, and the full text will appear.

We have a downloadable PDF of the newsletter you can share with other retirees.

<https://www.dfas.mil/retireenews>

Source: DFAS Retired & Annuitant Pay



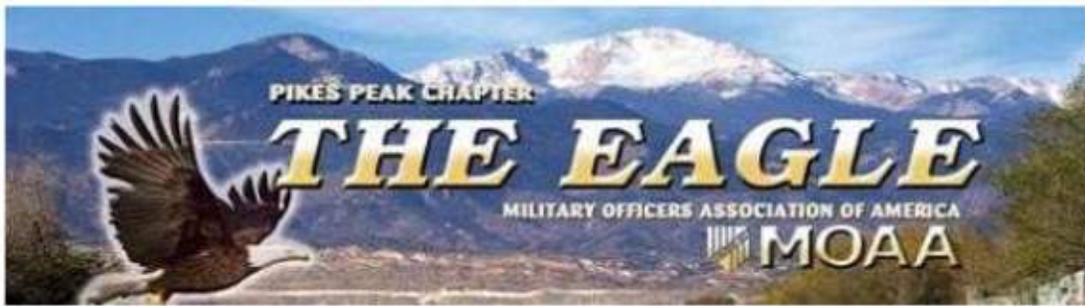
## MOAA, Military Family Groups Seek Solutions to Quality-of-Life Concerns

Mid-July 2022, the Military Family Advisory Network (MFAN) brought DoD leaders, veterans, military spouses, and numerous organizations (including MOAA) together to focus on solutions to issues impacting military families. The results of MFAN's [2021 Military Family Support Programming survey](#) reconfirmed many things we already know:

- Families are facing financial stresses, leading to difficulty covering housing costs and [putting food on the table](#).
- Spouses continue to struggle with finding and maintaining employment.
- A lack of available, affordable child care is exacerbating the spouse employment issue.
- There is a need for increased availability of health care and mental health appointments.

The survey results also shed light on areas that haven't received much attention:

- More than half (58.7%) of military and veteran families report moderate or poor family well-being. There was a significant relationship between ethnicity and family well-being, with members of minority groups more likely to report poor or moderate family health.
- Loneliness contributes to family well-being, and 54% of respondents reported experiencing loneliness.
- Fewer military families are willing to recommend military life to someone considering it (down from 74.5% in 2019 to 62.9% in 2021). (Continued Next Page)



## MOAA, Military Family Groups Seek Solutions to Quality-of-Life Concerns

(Continued) The Solutions Summit provided opportunities for stakeholders to focus on tangible ways to address these issues. I participated in the housing breakout session, where we developed solutions to address the increasing out-of-pocket housing costs faced by military families and find ways to improve privatized housing. Two primary solutions came to light during the daylong discussion:

- **Raise (and Recalculate) the BAH.** Current Basic Allowance for Housing rates, which are set to cover 95% of housing costs, are insufficient – the calculation method fails to keep pace with rapid changes in the market. BAH must be restored to 100%, and the calculation method must be re-evaluated and updated.

- **Install Better Advocates.** The FY 2020 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) required the establishment of resident advocate positions across DoD; however, the roles differ across the services, confusing and complicating the process of addressing issues with privatized housing. This role must be standardized across the services to ensure military families have access to advocates outside of Military Housing Offices and private companies.

Source: MOAA Newsletter 21 July 2022 (Extract)

## How MOAA Members Can Assist in DoD's New Suicide Prevention Effort

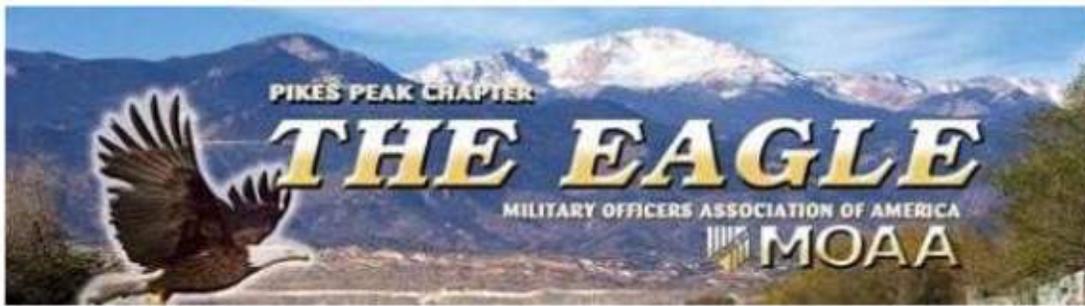
*Editor's note: If you or someone you know is in crisis, contact the Veterans Crisis Line at 988 (press 1) or via [www.veteranscrisisline.net](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net).*

The use of an independent review commission to address systemic challenges across DoD is not new. Last year, the [Independent Review on Sexual Harassment and Assault](#) found "[Hard Truths](#)" and drove directives in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to increase personnel and resources for criminal investigators and prosecutors, and reform the Uniformed Code of Military Justice.

There are similarities between that commission and the SPRIRC -- DoD had previously tried to train its way out of the sexual harassment and assault problem, just as it has tried to do so with the suicide problem, via ineffective mandatory training. Both commissions likely will result in Pentagon leaders making difficult decisions to change personnel policy and resources in the face of failed approaches.

Suicide prevention is often characterized as the battle against isolation and the fight to improve connections and a sense of belonging. The erosion of the on-installation community, unit cohesion, esprit de corps, and trust in installation support to quality of life will also feed into the committee's report and drive resource recommendations.

A 2020 [DoD Inspector General](#) report found access to care was a major problem, and provider shortages remain in the aftermath of pandemic-driven isolation and reduction in personal protective factors such as a sense of belonging and community. The IG found: (Continued Next Page)



## How MOAA Members Can Assist in DoD's New Suicide Prevention Effort

(Continued)

- An average of 53% (4,415 of 8,328 per month) of all active duty servicemembers and their family members identified as needing mental health care and referred to the purchased care system did not receive care, and the military health system did not know why.
- Seven of 13 military treatment facilities (MTFs) studied, or their supporting TRICARE network, did not meet the 28-day specialty mental health access-to-care standard in each month.

The problem goes beyond those already in service: An internal DoD survey of young Americans [obtained by NBC News](#) found more than half (57%) think military service would lead to emotional or psychological problems. This public perception adds to an already-overwhelming series of recruitment problems faced by all services.

As it considers these troubling statistics and others, SPRIRC has asked for assistance from the MSO/VSO community. Dr. Gayle Iwamasa, the VA national director for inpatient mental health services, [serves as the lead](#) for the SPRIRC. She has asked a pointed question of groups like MOAA and their members: **What recommendations would you give to Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin?**

Send your recommendations on how to improve servicemember quality of life and suicide prevention to [legis@moaa.org](mailto:legis@moaa.org) with the phrase "suicide prevention" in the subject line. Your feedback will feed into the SPRIRC.

Source: MOAA Newsletter 21 July 2022 (Extract)

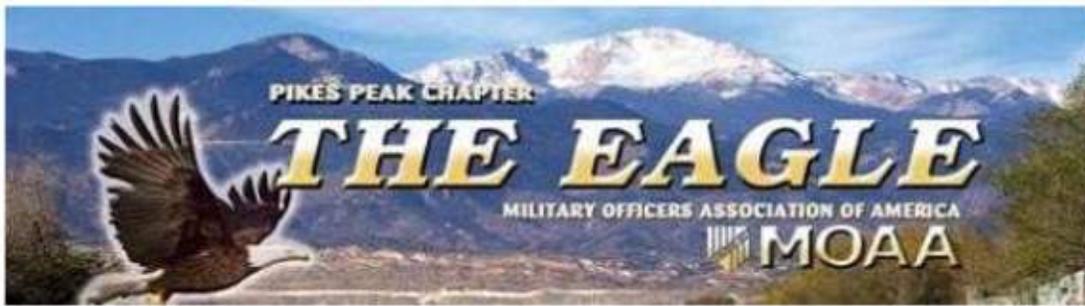
## Study: Commissaries Claim Inflated Savings

The Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) used unreliable and inconsistent methodologies to calculate the annual savings realized by commissary shoppers, resulting in inflated savings figures, [according to a Government Accountability Office \(GAO\) report released](#) in June.

The study, required by the FY 2021 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), highlighted concerns with DeCA's conflicting goals and savings rate calculation methods. DeCA strives to meet two primary objectives: To be a benefit to servicemembers and their families by providing the target savings rate to its customers, and to operate like a business to reduce its reliance on appropriated funds.

Since 2016, DeCA has had a global target customer savings rate of 23.7%, which it says has been met or nearly achieved over the last several years. The average savings for CONUS patrons in FY 2021 was 17.7%, compared with 42.5% for OCONUS patrons. When calculated to reflect the 81% of CONUS commissary sales and 19% of OCONUS sales, the average savings rate was 22.4%.

The report found the savings rate calculation for CONUS commissaries is accurate, as it relies on market-based price comparison data from two sources: manual shoppers and syndicated data. Yet the calculation methodology for OCONUS commissary savings relies on cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) rather than actual price data.  
(Continued Next Page)



## Study: Commissaries Claim Inflated Savings

(Continued)

GAO provided three recommendations to DeCA:

- Conduct and document an analysis of whether the OCONUS customer savings rate methodology provides comparable accuracy to a market-based price comparison and make appropriate adjustments.
- Conduct an analysis of tradeoffs that specifically identify the customer savings rate and related benefits, such as number, location, and operating hours of commissaries, that it can provide at varying levels of appropriation.
- Update the strategic plan and supporting documentation to include all business reforms and identify goals with associated performance measures, milestones, and deliverables. DeCA concurred with all recommendations. In this time of inflation and DoD's efforts to reduce food insecurity, the commissary benefit is especially important.

Source: MOAA Newsletter 07 July 2022 (Extract)

## LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

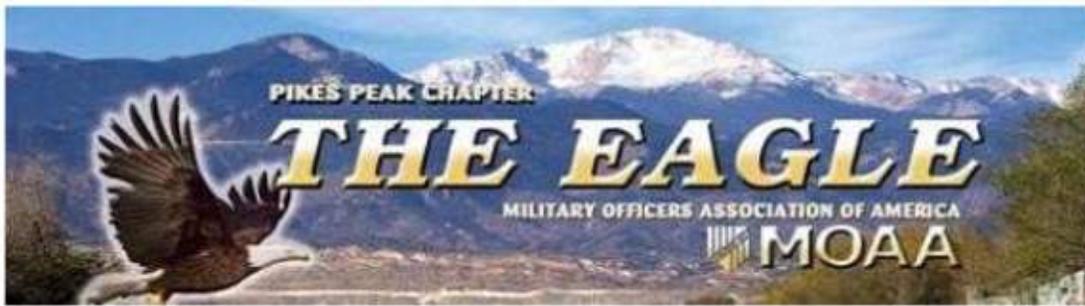
### What's in the House NDAA, and What's Next for Key MOAA Priorities

The House of Representatives passed its version of the FY 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) on July 14 by a vote of 329-101. The legislation included several key provisions important to MOAA and our members. Earlier in July, ahead of the House vote on its version of the NDAA, [MOAA sent a letter](#) outlining our support for several key amendments to House leadership. MOAA was pleased to see that all five amendments listed in the letter were included in the final House version of the bill:

- Removal of the 180-day delay for [hiring military retirees into the military health care system](#), to combat nationwide health care shortages and allow continued uninterrupted service to servicemembers, veterans, and beneficiaries.
- Prevention of the enforcement of pre-dispute [forced arbitration clauses](#) in any dispute covered under the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act.
- Establishment of [a pilot program](#) providing eligible military spouses with a spouse-specific Training Assistance Program focusing on employment services, offering guidance on available health care resources and training in mental health first aid to learn crisis management strategies.
- DoD authority to [increase the inflation bonus pay above 2.4%](#) for servicemembers and DoD civilian employees who make \$45,000 or less annually to respond to the ongoing economic impact of inflation.
- A [study on adding au pairs](#) to the in-home child care fee assistance program, and the expression of a sense of Congress that members of the armed forces who participate in the au pair exchange visitor program should be eligible for assistance.

As the NDAA process continues, MOAA's government relations team will stay committed to the inclusion of our legislative priorities in the final version of the bill. To stay informed and to find out how you can make a difference, check in for updates at [MOAA's Advocacy News page](#) and stay tuned for alerts on [MOAA's Legislative Action Center](#).

Source: MOAA Newsletter 20 JUL 2022 (Extract)



## How MOAA's Grassroots Advocacy Helps Shape Legislation

Finding accurate information on legislative issues affecting you can be daunting when so much material can be accessed in just a few keystrokes. Reliable sources like MOAA can help you stay up to speed, which is especially important if you are looking to get involved in the legislative process.

A leading voice on compensation and benefits for the uniformed services and a recognized [“Top Lobbyist” for each of the last 15 years](#), MOAA can help navigate a busy and competitive system: Of the 13,200 bills introduced during each two-year session of Congress, only about 2% pass both the House of Representatives and the Senate, and are signed into law by the president.

MOAA plays an active role in military personnel matters, especially proposed legislation and administration policies affecting the career force, retirees, and veterans of the eight uniformed services. For more than 90 years, MOAA's advocacy efforts with Congress have led to [real results](#) – pay and benefits protected from budget-driven threats, continued access to quality medical care, and countless other areas of concern to our members, our military, and the wider uniformed services and veteran communities.

Through our monthly [Military Officer magazine](#), *The MOAA Newsletter*, and the [Advocacy News page at MOAA.org](#), members can keep abreast of our continued work and updates of ongoing advocacy issues.

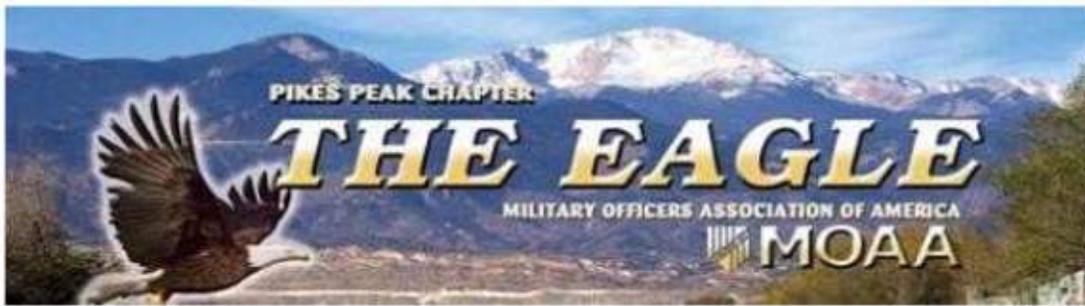
As constituents, you provide the most powerful voices for swaying legislators on issues affecting the military and veteran communities. Legislators often need to hear firsthand how reductions to earned benefits affect their constituents, which is why letters, phone calls, and emails to your elected officials are so impactful.

You can engage with your members of Congress by sending pre-written letters through [MOAA's Legislative Action Center](#), or by using MOAA's Capital Hotline – 866-272-MOAA (6622), a toll-free line to the U.S. Capitol switchboard – to connect with your legislators' offices to either voice your concerns or set up virtual or in-person meetings with their D.C. and local district offices.

Source: MOAA Newsletter 6 JUL 2022 (Extract)

## 2022 Colorado General Assembly Wrap-up

For the first time in three years, the Colorado General Assembly both began and ended on schedule. The United Veterans Coalition of Colorado (UVC) shared nine specific goals with legislators prior to the session with three of these goals moving successfully either to governor's signature (inclusion of a new women veteran/EDI coordinator FTE in the Long (Budget) Bill and establishing a Space Force license plate) or onto the upcoming November ballot (Extending Homestead Act Property Tax Exemption to Gold Star Spouses). Additional bills directly impacting Colorado veterans with UVC support positions included adding veterans/military to Colorado Fair Housing statutes, allowing veterans to audit space-available, higher education courses for \$10 per course, and a bill adding military occupational specialties to the credential portability program. A bill to increase the Homestead Act Property Tax exemption for 100% disabled veterans and seniors failed in committee. The UVC also monitored five additional bills that could affect some veterans. For more information on these actions go to Bills to Watch – UVC ([uvcoc.org](#)). (Continued Next Page)



(Continued) The 15 military/veteran resolutions of the session included several that renamed portions of highways in honor of veterans. These include:

- Designating a portion of Colorado State Highway 21 as the "SFC Will Lindsay Memorial Highway." SFC Lindsay was killed in action during a 2019 Afghanistan firefight.
- Designating a portion of Colorado State Highway 115 as the "CW3 Scott A. M. Oswell Memorial Highway." CW3 Oswell died in the line of duty from injuries sustained in a 2007 Iraq helicopter crash.
- A portion of Colorado State highway 14 in Weld County for Col Stan Cass, founder of the Northern Colorado Honor Flight.
- A portion of Colorado State highway 85 in Pvt. Joe P. Martinez from Ault, CO, WWII Medal of Honor recipient.
- Renaming a portion of Colorado State Highway 115 as the "Veterans of Foreign Wars Warriors Memorial Highway."

Source: UVC State Legislative Committee Team

## EMPLOYMENT/TRAINING

### \$57M+ for Helping Veterans' Homelessness & Reentering the Workforce

The U.S. Department of Labor has awarded more than \$57 million in grants to organizations that help veterans who are experiencing homelessness find meaningful employment and assist them in overcoming barriers to successfully transition back into the workforce.

"The Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program" grants will fund initiatives that help our veterans – particularly those in underserved communities – get the training and support they need to return to the workforce and use their skills to make valuable contributions to our society," said U.S. Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh.

\*\*Colorado's long-standing grantee, the Colorado Coalition of the Homeless, remains a strong partner in this program. Colorado has been fortunate enough to receive a new Grantee this year (Hire Heroes USA in Colorado Springs) and we look forward to the amazing work that will be done for our veterans.

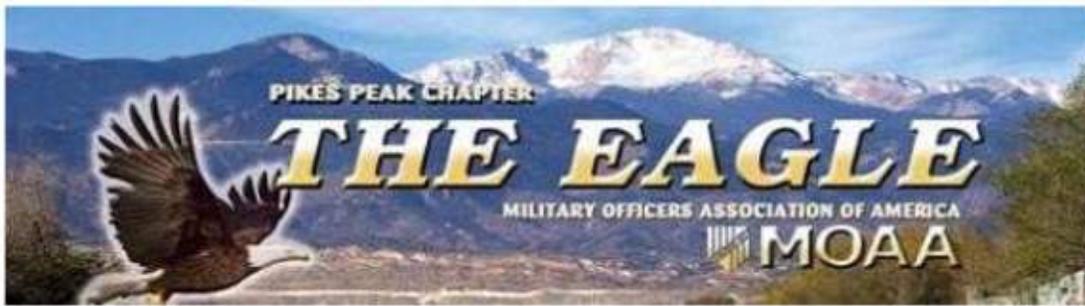
#### **New Podcast: *Ending Veteran Homelessness***

A new monthly podcast titled *Ending Veteran Homelessness* hosted by Shawn Liu explores all the ways our country is working to ensure that every veteran has a safe and stable place to call home.

Listen to the podcast by opening the link below

[https://podcasts.google.com/feed/aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuc3ByZWFrZXIuY29tL3Nob3cvNTU1MzM5NC9lcGlzb2Rlcy9mZWVk?sa=X&ved=0CAMQ4aUDahcKEwi4h5rHuc\\_5AhUAAAAAHQAAAAAQAO&hl=en](https://podcasts.google.com/feed/aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuc3ByZWFrZXIuY29tL3Nob3cvNTU1MzM5NC9lcGlzb2Rlcy9mZWVk?sa=X&ved=0CAMQ4aUDahcKEwi4h5rHuc_5AhUAAAAAHQAAAAAQAO&hl=en)

Source: Department of Labor



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### US Air Force Academy Update

For the latest updates concerning USAFA (Air Force Academy) go to <https://www.usafasupport.com/> and for the latest issue of BLAST Magazine go to <https://www.usafasupport.com/pdf/blast-magazine.pdf> Please visit [www.usafa.af.mil](http://www.usafa.af.mil) or Academy social media platforms for updates. MWR and service facilities hours can be found at [www.usafasupport.com/index.html](http://www.usafasupport.com/index.html). For the latest on what is going on at the Academy regarding operations under COVID-19, please go to <https://www.usafa.af.mil/Coronavirus/>.

## MOAA NATIONAL/CHAPTER NEWS

### 2022 Retiree Appreciation Day – CANCELED

On 14 July 2022, Col Clay, Space Based Delta 2/CV, made the decision to cancel the 2022 Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) scheduled for 10 September. This decision was made mainly due to concerns with the COVID resurgence, and the Retiree Activities Office (RAO) agreed with the decision. This RAD event has already been rescheduled for 9 September 2023.

### Defense Finance & Accounting Service email

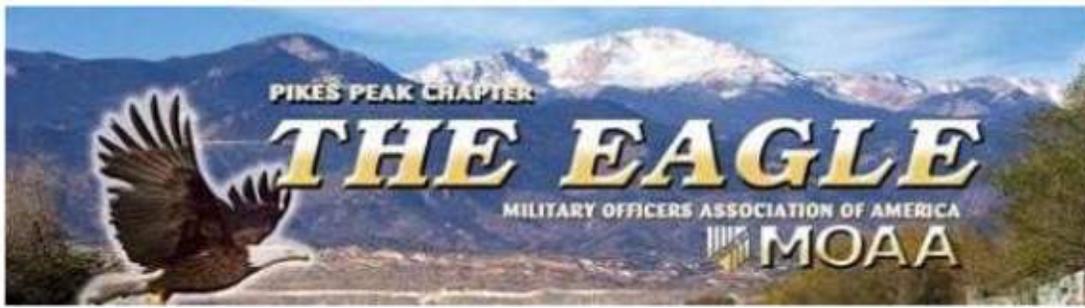
On 15 July 2022, the Defense Finance & Accounting Service (DFAS) sent out an email to every military retiree and annuitant in Colorado with a valid email on file. This correspondence provided information on the Retiree Activities Offices available to them throughout the state and was sent to over 46K recipients.

### PPCMOAA BY-LAWS Update

Since the Chapter BY-LAWS have not been updated since 2016, Chapter Officers met this past June and revised them to more closely conform to the Chapter composition and operation over the past five years.

You can access the BY-LAWS by going to the Chapter website, [www.PPCMOAA.org](http://www.PPCMOAA.org), then selecting “Chapter Info,” and then “BY-LAWS.” There you will see the current version (proposed 25JUN2022). By selecting “Previous Issues,” you will see the previous version (04SEP2016) as well as the “Summary of Proposed Changes.” These three documents can then be printed if you choose for a side-by-side comparison.

Comments are welcome and should be e-mailed to: [felixuhlik@aol.com](mailto:felixuhlik@aol.com) NLT 31 October 2022. The proposed BY-LAWS are scheduled to be voted on at the 8 December 2022 luncheon meeting.



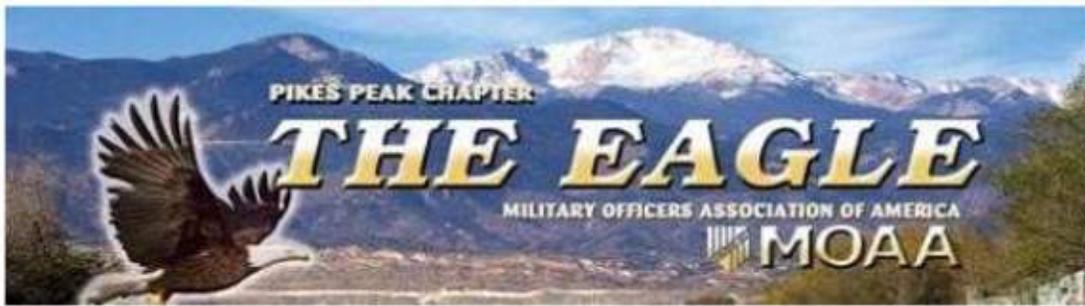
## **LEVEL OF EXCELLENCE (LOE) AWARD WINNER**

We are proud to announce that our Pike's Peak Chapter has been selected as a LOE (4-star) award winner for 2021! This is a significant milestone that the chapter has not achieved since 2018. Sincere thanks and congratulations go out to the officers, appointed officials, and especially our loyal chapter members who have continued their support in spite of the turmoil of COVID and inflation concerns!

According to MOAA National:

“Out of just over 400 MOAA affiliates, 161 councils and chapters nominated themselves for LOE award recognition this year. Despite a difficult year of transition from the COVID-19 pandemic, these councils and chapters adapted and improvised when necessary to support and foster programs that directly support the MOAA mission and their communities.

All LOE nomination packages were independently evaluated by two members of the Council and Chapter Affairs Committee of the MOAA Board of Directors. Throughout the grading process, it was very clear that our councils and chapters didn't just maintain satisfactory performance but rather, excelled in their mission and determination.”



## MOAA MEMBERSHIP

A concerted effort has been made to update/purge the chapter membership roll to reflect current active members. This effort began in January 2022 and has included phone calls, emails, and postal letters. While this will be an ongoing effort, we believe current membership data is more accurate than it has been for at least a decade.

As of 8/01/2022, the Chapter has 385 Life Members and 195 regular members (including auxiliary members). A big "Thank-You" to the six new Life Members that have joined this year.

Note that, of the regular members, less than 15% are current with their dues. Please do your part and, if you have not already done so, send in your 2022 dues (previous year's dues are not required). Dues are the primary income source for our chapter and are used to support the 10 JROTC detachments in our area which have received \$3000 in chapter donations this year.

**We have chapter members who are Life members of MOAA and Life members of PPCMOAA as well as Annual dues-paying members of both MOAA and PPCMOAA.**

**Chapter Dues are required for all with the exception of PPCMOAA Life Members and Surviving Spouses of deceased PPCMOAA Life Members. If you are unsure about your membership status, please contact our Treasurer, Felix Uhlik at (719) 264-0526 or felixuhlik@aol.com**

Chapter dues are paid for the calendar year (Jan – Dec) and **do not include MOAA National dues.**

Mail the form below to:

**PPCMOAA Attn: Membership PO Box 33, USAF Academy, CO 80840.** Please make your check payable to: **PPCMOAA**

----- Clip and mail -----

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle one: Retired Active Duty Former Member (MOAA National # \_\_\_\_\_)

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

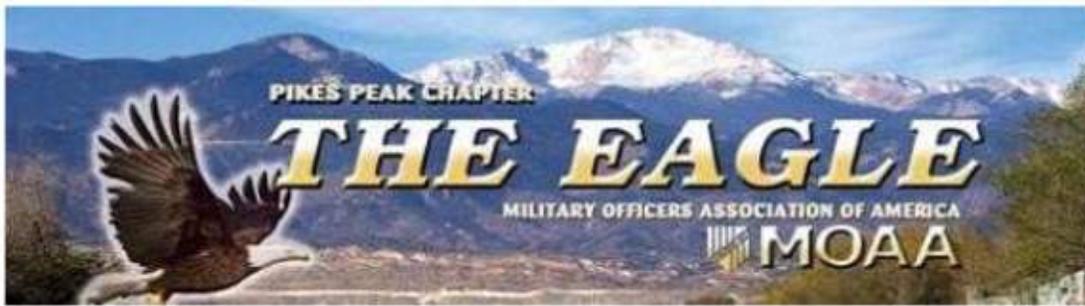
**Regular Member** (Chapter and MOAA member) or **Associate Member** (Chapter member only)

Dues: \_\_\_ 2022 - \$24 \_\_\_ 2 years - \$48 \_\_\_ 3 years - \$72 \_\_\_ Life: Under 70 - \$300 \_\_\_ 70 & over - \$240 (Life membership cannot be extended to Associate Members.)

**Surviving Spouse (Auxiliary) Member** Dues: (unless deceased spouse was a Life Member)

\_\_\_ 2022 - \$12 \_\_\_ 2 years - \$24 \_\_\_ 3 years - \$36 \_\_\_ Life - \$150

Life Memberships can be paid in 4 equal installments during the year. Amount this payment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



## KEY/USEFUL WEBSITES

### El Paso County Veterans Services

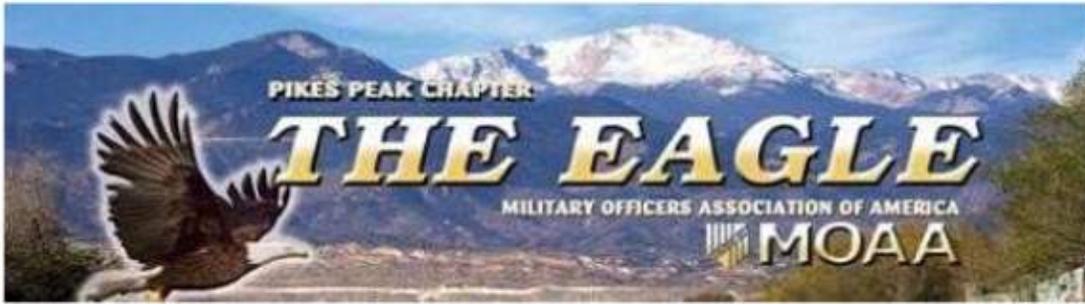
The El Paso County Veterans Service Office is responsible for assisting residents of the State of Colorado who served honorably in the United States Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, Navy, Marine Corps or any other armed service of the nation.

The El Paso County Veterans Service Office was established by State law to advise and assist veterans, their dependents, and their survivors concerning any Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits which such person may be, or may have been, entitled to receive under the laws of the United States or the State of Colorado. The office is not a part of the Department of Veterans Affairs, which is a Federal government agency, but serves as a liaison between the claimant and the VA.

The primary purpose of the office is to provide personalized local service to veterans and other claimants, and to assist them in cutting through the maze of red tape frequently involved in direct dealings with government agencies.

The following category can be accessed by visiting:  
<https://justiceservices.elpasoco.com/veterans-services/>

Veteran Benefits		
Benefits Page	Service Connected Disability	Pension
Death Benefits	Burial Benefits	Medical Care
VA Life Insurance	CHAMPVA	TRICARE
Education Benefits	VA Home Loan Guarantee	



The following category can be accessed by visiting:  
<https://justiceservices.elpasoco.com/veterans-services/>

Services

Frequently Asked Questions

Homeless Veterans

Pikes Peak Veterans Cemetery

Veteran of the Year

The following category can be accessed by visiting:  
<https://justiceservices.elpasoco.com/veterans-services/>

Community Resources

Mt. Carmel Veterans Service Center

Home Front Military Network

El Paso County Department of Human Services

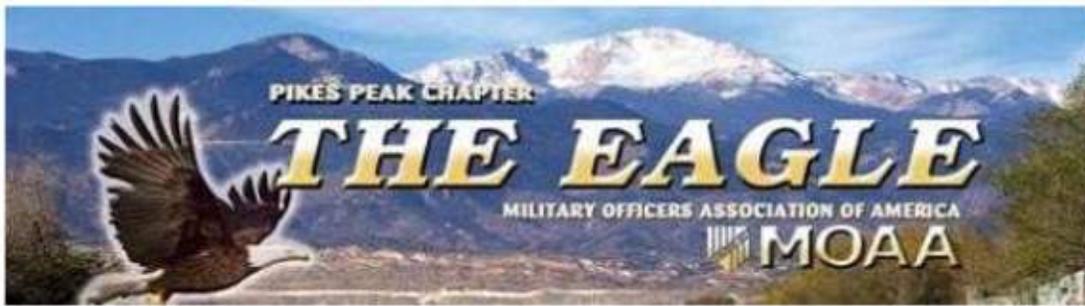
Rocky Mountain Human Services

Pikes Peak Workforce Center

Veterans Law Group

Colorado Springs VA Clinic

Vet Center Program



The following category can be accessed by visiting:  
<https://justiceservices.elpasoco.com/veterans-services/>



Contact Veterans Services

**Main Office**

**Veterans Service Office**

5850 Championship View, Suite 130

Colorado Springs, CO 80922

Phone: (719) 520-7750

FAX: (719) 520-7751

**Satellite Office**

**Mt. Carmel Veteran Service Center**

530 Communication Circle, Ste 114

Colorado Springs, CO 80905

Phone: (719) 309-4729

FAX: (719) 520-7751

[Vet@elpasoco.com](mailto:Vet@elpasoco.com)

Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Monday – Friday, except holidays

***By Appointment Only***