



SMSD Information and Resources

Service Members and Military Families

June 29, 2020

Army National Guard Exceptional Family Member Program

While active duty components have had policies in place that address the Exceptional Family Member Program for years, the Army National Guard recently published their first regulation on 31 May 2020.

[National Guard Regulation 608-1](#) applies to all Army National Guard (ARNG) personnel and provides policies and procedures necessary for implementing, managing and monitoring a successful Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP). The intent of the regulation is to provide a policy to support mission readiness for all ARNG Soldiers with Exceptional Family Members (EFMs) during the assignments. It is highly recommended that traditional ARNG members who may deploy or aspire to AGR position pre-enroll in the EFMP. The enrollment process typically takes 3-6 months, which is much more manageable proactively than in the midst of a deployment or PCS. Pre-enrollment reduces processing time.

Mission readiness cannot be accomplished without Family Readiness – enrolling your Family Member ensures that in case of a PCS move your next duty location meets the needs of the EFM. Additionally all eligible family members will receive the information and assistance needed to involve them with community based support services to meet their needs.

Appendix C of NGR 608-1 defines an Exceptional Family Member as a Family Member with special medical needs such as potentially life-threatening conditions, specific chronic medical or physical conditions, certain current and chronic mental health conditions as well as deficit disorders, attention deficit hyperactivity disorders or a diagnosis of asthma or other respiratory-related diagnosis with chronic recurring symptoms.

For a complete copy of [National Guard Regulation 608-1](#) or more information contact a Soldier & Family Readiness Specialist (S&FRS) at 1-800-292-9464 opt 1 or visit: <https://wisconsinmilitary.org/fac/>



Homes of the Founding Fathers

This year many of the traditions which make up the 4th of July holiday have been altered or canceled. Missing are the hours long parades, fireworks displays, and large backyard gatherings. It is important to acknowledge the time we have been granted to slow down and reflect upon events which occurred 244 years ago, in 1776. More than a lifetime ago, members of the [Second Continental Congress](#) risked their lives and current circumstances to formally declare independence from King George III and Britain. Only 21 of the 56 men who signed the declaration have homes which survive to this day. Through the dedicated efforts of preservationists, historians and technology, it is possible to gain insight to the lives and times of the [signers of the declaration](#).

Thomas Jefferson –Monticello, Charlottesville, Virginia

Virtually tour the home of the primary author of the Declaration of Independence by [clicking here](#). Did you know he was also a bibliophile? Jefferson's collection of books is housed at the [Library of Congress](#).

John Adams— Birthplace and Old House at Peace Field, Quincy, Massachusetts

Thanks to Google and the National Parks Service, anyone can virtually tour the [birthplace and residence](#) of the Adams Family. Fun Fact: Jefferson and Adams had a notable rivalry and died within hours of one another –on July 4th, 1826.

(continued)

Special Mention: George Washington—Mount Vernon, Mount Vernon, Virginia

Although not a signatory of the Declaration, it is through his efforts as General of the Army and service as President, not King, the document continues to hold a place of historical reverence. His beloved family home can be viewed in intricate detail [online](#).

Money in Your Pocket Virtual Financial Discussions

From July 7-16, 2020 join the Wisconsin Personal Financial Counselors and Military OneSource Consultant for 35min sessions to discuss financial topics.

Tues., July 7 at 1130 CST - TSP Check-up: Are You in the Right Funds for YOU?

Your investment choices today have a huge impact on long-term savings.

<https://militaryonesource.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMldu-vrj4vHtMWUYFyKJJ3JIJuTp7ffXzc>

Tues., July 7 at 1500 CST - Your Credit Score Unplugged

What It's Made Of, and Why You Should Care. What the new FICO 10T means for you and me.

<https://militaryonesource.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMpd-qorT4vHtGG-bNEBXvfkDUhk2rww0IA>

Wed., July 8 at 1900 CST - Got Young Kids? Saving for Their Education

Education savings options: 529 Plans, Coverdell, IRA withdrawals for education, and more.

<https://militaryonesource.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0lc-qrqD8jGdyqx9937HKshcxUUTM-Hzxb>

Thurs., July 9 at 1130 CST - A Spending Plan, Your Way to Savings

A written budget, converted to a spending plan, is a path to a sound savings plan.

<https://militaryonesource.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwrcuisrjsiE9Y99TtdUXgvnd89Y6hoWDCj>

MILITARY
ONE SOURCE



Tues., July 14 at 1130 CST - Life Insurance and the Military: SGLI, VGLI, SBP and RCSBP

Why you need to understand the benefits ... before you need them.

<https://militaryonesource.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJkceGprz0tHtGIW-1Y8sh-M0K0mvKdBsFT>

Tues., July 14 at 1500 CST – Got Young Kids? Saving for Their Education

Education savings options: 529 Plans, Coverdell, IRA withdrawals for education, and more.

<https://militaryonesource.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAscumhrjIqH9ZDO3ug0KY-iyJACaXpdweD>

Wed., July 15 at 1900 CST - TSP Check-Up: Are You in the Right Funds for YOU?

Your investment choices today have a huge impact on long-term savings.

<https://militaryonesource.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJIof-CrrDovHNLzwHA3jwKZRnkzAIMSLS6A>

Thurs., July 16 at 1130 CST – Personal Finances and Security Clearances

Make sound financial decisions now to maintain your clearance.

<https://militaryonesource.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwod-igrz8jGdV7F10onweADTYLF0rMz9Un>

- (1) Please register at least 24 hours prior to class start-time. You will receive a confirmation email with meeting ID and password. For additional security, the classroom will be closed shortly after class begins.
- (2) DoD has approved the use of Zoom platform for these non-FOUO classes. (Recommendation: Use personal device.)

Trouble registering? Email Rebecca.boehlke@militaryonesource.com and include the class you wish to attend.

Firework Safety

The 4th of July is going to look different for most this year. Many local celebrations have been cancelled or you may not want to attend those that remain. The next best thing is to bring the party to your own home - with fireworks! If consumer fireworks are legal to buy where you live and you choose to use them, be sure to follow the following safety tips. Be smart, be safe, and enjoy the glory and celebration of Independence Day.

- * Never use illegal fireworks
- * Never allow young children to handle fireworks
- * Older children should use them only under close adult supervision
- * Never use fireworks while impaired by drugs or alcohol
- * Anyone using fireworks or standing nearby should wear protective eyewear
- * Never hold lit fireworks in your hands
- * Never light them indoors
- * Only use them away from people, houses and flammable material
- * Never point or throw fireworks at another person
- * Only light one device at a time and maintain a safe distance after lighting
- * Never ignite devices in a container
- * Do not try to re-light or handle malfunctioning fireworks
- * Soak both spent and unused fireworks in water for a few hours before discarding
- * Keep a bucket of water nearby to fully extinguish fireworks that don't go off or in case of fire



Sparklers are dangerous too!

Sparklers burn at about 2,000 degrees – hot enough to melt some metals. Sparklers can quickly ignite clothing, and children have received severe burns from dropping sparklers on their feet. According to the [National Fire Protection Association](http://www.nfpa.org), sparklers alone account for more than 25% of emergency room visits for fireworks injuries. For children under 5 years of age, sparklers accounted for nearly half of the total estimated injuries. This information and more can be found on the National Safety Council (NSC) website. www.nsc.org

FIREWORKS

Each year, fireworks injure thousands and cause thousands of fires.



Fireworks cause an estimated **18,500** reported fires in the U.S. each year.

U.S. hospital emergency rooms saw an estimated 12,900 people for fireworks-related injuries in 2017.



Fireworks Injuries by Body Part



Eye
14%

Arm
6%

Hand or Finger
31%

Head, Face or Ear
22%

Trunk or Other
10%

Leg
17%

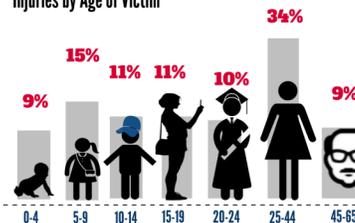


Sparklers alone account for more than one-quarter of emergency room fireworks injuries.

Fireworks Injuries: Demographics



Injuries by Age of Victim



MALES ACCOUNT FOR **70%** OF FIREWORKS-RELATED INJURIES

However, children aged 5-9 are actually **more than twice** as likely as other age groups to be injured by fireworks when looking at relative risk based on population totals of each age group.



About 2 in 5 fires started by fireworks each year, are reported on Independence Day.



Be safe. If you want to see fireworks, go to a public show put on by experts.

For more information, please visit: www.nfpa.org/fireworks



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

*Information sourced from CPSC, and NFPA's "Fireworks Report"