

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM

“LAWS FOR A NATION AT WAR”

SERVICE MEMBERS LAW CENTER

Sunday, January 29, 2012¹

8 a.m. to Noon

Wardman Park Marriott

Washington, DC

This seminar is eligible for Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credit with proper documentation in accordance with the standards of attendee's State of bar admittance. If you are an attorney in one of the 40 states with mandatory a Continuing Legal Education requirement, this seminar.

Please let us know that you are coming, so that we can prepare a certificate of attendance for you to present to the state bar in your state, and so that we can ensure that we have enough seats. Please contact Rebecca Riedler, ROA's Executive Office Director, at 800-809-9448, ext. 706, or RRiedler@roa.org.

This is legal training for lawyers, but you don't have to be a lawyer to be interested, or to attend. If you have trouble following the legal mumbo-jumbo, I will stay afterwards to translate for you.

Agenda:

8 a.m. to 8:50 a.m.—Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA)

Presenter: Colonel John S. Odom, Jr., USAF (Ret.)

Congress enacted the SCRA in 2003, as a long-overdue rewrite of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act (SSCRA), which dates back to 1917. Colonel Odom is a member of the Louisiana bar and is a retired Air Force judge advocate. He is the nation's foremost expert on the SCRA and SSCRA. His presentation will provide an overview of the SCRA, including a detailed sectional analysis of those provisions that are most relevant to Reserve Component personnel called to the colors.

8:50 a.m. to 9 a.m.—Break

¹ This CLE will be repeated on Wednesday, February 1, 2012, from 8 am to noon. The program on Wednesday will be the same, except that Colonel Odom's presentation will be shown on tape.

9 a.m. to 10:20 a.m.—Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA)

Presenter: Captain Samuel F. Wright, JAGC, USN (Ret.)

Congress enacted USERRA in 1994, as a long-overdue rewrite of the Veterans' Reemployment Rights Act (VRRRA), which dates back to 1940. Captain Wright is a member of the District of Columbia bar and a retired Navy judge advocate. He was one of two principal drafters of the interagency task force work product that President George H.W. Bush presented to Congress, as his proposal, in 1991, and that formed the basis for USERRA. He has dealt with the VRRRA and USERRA for almost 30 years, as an attorney for the United States Department of Labor, a judge advocate in the Navy and Navy Reserve, an attorney for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), an attorney for the United States Office of Special Counsel (OSC), and an attorney in private practice. Since June 2009, he has been the Director of the Service Members Law Center at the Reserve Officers Association (ROA).

10:20 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.—Break

10:30 a.m. to 11:20 a.m.—USERRA, Practice Pointers for Counsel

Presenter: Lieutenant Colonel Mathew Tully, ARNG

Colonel Tully is the founding partner of Tully Rinckey PLLC and is a member of the New York bar. He got interested in USERRA as a successful *pro se* plaintiff and used his winnings to finance his law school education. As the founding partner of Tully Rinckey, he and his firm have had great successes representing National Guard and Reserve personnel in USERRA actions against both government sector and private sector employers. In his presentation, he will address some of the unique provisions of USERRA's enforcement scheme and provide pointers to attorneys.

11:20 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.—Break

11:30 a.m. to noon—Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)

Presenter: Captain Samuel F. Wright, JAGC, USN (Ret.)

UOCAVA is the federal statute that protects the voting rights of members of the uniformed services and their family members (whether within or outside the United States) as well as U.S. citizens outside our country temporarily or permanently. For more than 35 years, Captain Wright has worked on reforming federal and state absentee voting laws and procedures, to facilitate voting by those who serve our nation in uniform.

The CLE will adjourn at noon, but the presenters will remain for as long as desired, taking questions from those who have attended.