



LIBERTY ACCELERATOR PROGRAM *LIBERTY FIELD GUIDE*

ico

“military separation/retirement”

*This “checklist” begins upon completion of the basic training pipelines, or NOW! And share it with others you care about...take care of our people.

Starting sooner and earlier will equip the military family and their hero with the tools, plans, and flexibility they need to successfully navigate the transition battlefield landscape and win their Liberty Battle, to turn the tide in the Transition War!

It’s not just about a job, education, the limitless free resources and information that abound, but about Life fully alive in uniform and far, far beyond. But it takes intentional, informed planning, preparations, and workups, just like those we did for every “little-m” mission for the warfare platforms but applied to the much more important “Big-M” Mission of living life fully alive throughout time in service! It takes cognizant, informed actions around three basic pillars:

HEALTH | SELF | WEALTH

which all must reside
on a sturdy, rock solid foundation
of

RELATIONSHIPS!

TIMELINE IN BOLD

objective: plan, prepare, and workup for the Liberty Battle before going on the Transition Mission (begins at the 48-month point) and stepping onto the Transition Battlefield Landscape (happens at the 24-month point).

Each timeline checkpoint is categorized into Health | Self | Wealth, Relationships, and Bureaucratic Requirements categories, and we touch on developing relationships throughout.

Are we ready??? Turn the page or scroll down to the superhighway to Liberty...and Freedom. And before we do, say this out loud: “It’s my fault...good or bad...it’s my own fault.”

D-Day - Early on, like during the training pipelines, or at the latest, upon completion of basic training pipelines...or NOW!

HEALTH

- Smart use of the medical system for any and all ailments. Get the VA Whole Health Card and use it at the bi-annual PFA/ACFT/Physical fitness test as well as at the annual PHA (Physical Health Assessment)
 - Understand how Tricare works. Get smart and OWN OUR OWN HEALTH and equip our dependents to fully utilize the medical system.
 - Help our spouse. It's hard.

- Understand the inevitable VA Disability Claim process, and how to compile the file at each medical touchpoint. Each ailment we have in service will have its own VA Disability Claim and preparing that file for each begins now. This is a program, so treat it as such with a binder, records, and the like. It's your claim, and it's your Health...so own both, like a BOSS!

SELF

- What is your "Why?" beyond dying for your country? Who are you? This is different than "What do you do?"

The training pipelines, relentless operational and staff assignments, and the psychology of our culture changes us. There's an urgent need to get a little bit of you back. You'll be better for it, and we'll take better care of our people and our family. I speak from personal experience.

- Once we know who you are, establish a social media presence (e.g., LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Locals, the possibilities are endless) to position yourself as an expert in whatever it is you want to provide to others. Follow groups and influencers who interest you and whom you relate with...who you LIKE! The Liberty Accelerator has a list of previously vetted and continuously updated affiliates to get started with the cream of the crop.
- Fully understand the promotion system, evals/fitreps and the records management that will determine promotion, or not, while in service. ***It's not a child's game.*** This, too, is a program that must be completely owned, alone!
- Learn how to dress. Our brand and our goals for the future dictate this. Likely lost much of your personal fashion in training. Get it back, now. Waiting to "learn what to wear" until a year out from separation is ludicrous. Dress cool now, and always, throughout time in service. It's a pride about self-thing that stretches way beyond rank, and either puts us in a great light with others at that rank, or shines negatively upon it. Be somebody through how you dress, today and into the future.

WEALTH

- Understand the monetary system that you receive pay through
- Understand the income tax system, and its history
- Understand Life Insurance and the various options that exist (universal, whole, term & SGLI/VGLI)
- Beware advice to speak to a financial advisor – advisors use your wealth to generate their cash flow. Because you've been cognizant of the systems through which your wealth is accumulated, or squandered away, your entire career, you continue working with your Financial Literacy and Intelligence Guide and your Money Aptitude Coach. If not, find yours in the Liberty Accelerator Program, NOW!!!
- Know what Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) is, now. It matters.
- For the inevitable retiree, get insights from the Liberty Accelerator Program. This is a danger topic that many are getting tripped up on, and it hits directly at the pocketbook.
- Understand the alternative income sources you're legally and ethically allowed to participate in starting now and that lasts through our last day on active duty.
- Umbrella Insurance (and other liability insurance matters)
- Contemplate setting up a legal entity; explore entrepreneurship and side-gig opportunities. **Take no action** before consulting with the Liberty Power Team! This is a minefield of hazards, and I want Liberty Fighters informed, protected, and navigating these waters smartly.
- Take a career and occupational assessment (this is a smart step at the 48-month point)
<https://dantes.kuder.com/landing-page>
 - DANTES College & Career Planning Counseling Services System is an online education and career planning system that provides the tools needed to build a foundation for lifelong career success. We'll learn what **interests, skills confidence and work values** are and how to apply each to a LIFE plan for you.
 - This website helps us with real-world skills such as how to **write resumes** and **cover letters**, how to **research employers**, and how to **prepare for job interviews**. You can even create an **electronic profile** that you may choose to share online with prospective colleges or employers.
- CLEP Exams for academic pursuits – get smart, and stay smart, on this throughout service time. This is readiness 101. There's more important things to be doing at the 24 month point.
- Research credentialing, internship programs (Skillbridge, O2O, Bunker Labs LLO, etc...) and even academic institutions if planning to become a tried-and-true researcher. Otherwise, "school" as we traditionally think about it is dying before our eyes, so strongly consider the TIME cost and the monetary expenditure/allocation of resources if thinking about giving it to the ivory tower monopoly. Because, information and knowledge, are at our fingertips today: <https://dodskillbridge.usalearning.gov>
- Resumes are dead. Be ready to begin Building a Brand whom others want to ride with.
Real Experience Says yoU Must Experiment Smartly

- Utilize base legal services throughout service time to have updated legal documents (wills, POA's, at every duty location and for every deployment). Discard old, outdated versions as they clutter your program. And clutter slows us down.

RELATIONSHIPS

- Research post service job opportunities, find and develop mentors, become a mentor to others, and conduct informational interviews at all the great locations we'll be stationed around the country...and the world. Meet people, greet people, and offer value, continually, and never stop! (www.mynextmove.org and <https://dantes.kuder.com/home/dashboard> are a great place to begin, NOW!)
- Compile personal and professional reference lists from now until we die. It's just good life business.

Bureaucratic check the blocks as it relates to HEALTH | SELF | WEALTH

- Attend TAP virtually to get a feel for what it offers (<https://www.tapevents.org/courses>)
- Transfer GI Bill eligibility (min 1 month) and understand additional contract/obligation requirements https://benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/factsheets/education/Post-911_Transferability.pdf <https://www.milconnect.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect>
- Explore Credentialing Opportunities Online (COOL) for certifications. Research <https://milgears.osd.mil/Navigator> to better plan the career skills desired to acquire and maintain throughout time in service, not simply at the end! Apply these credentials to the bureaucratic staffs and operational assignments you'll be assigned to. **We need fresh thinking in these units and on the staffs.**

48 months out (Transition Mission begins; planning, preparations, and workups conclude, and you ARE READY because we've considered all that was addressed in intentional, informed planning above!!!)

HEALTH

- Continue managing our Whole Health and begin reviewing your medical record and the VA Disability Claims file folder that's been managed since the first training assignment.
- Begin setting appointments for old ailments and be seen for any new ailments. Early timing and planning is CRITICAL. The system is overburdened, so anticipate that.
- Attend <https://www.tapevents.org/courses> again (applicable modules). Pay more attention this time.
- Life Insurance posturing should already be set, but if not, jump to the WEALTH category below, now, to cover this exposed flank.

SELF

- Post-service life? WHO do you want to be? What do you want to do with your time?
- Where do you want to live? Begin becoming an expert on that(those) housing markets (and job markets, as applicable)
- Begin jockeying for final military assignment, if not already doing so.
- Find a life coach and explore who you are...know who you are and be able to tell a stranger when they ask...it's not our job, or our functional area of expertise.

WEALTH

- Do you own your time yet? If not, who owns your time and who will own it beyond military service?
- Life Insurance posturing should be GTG. If not, find a guide and survey this landscape BEFORE any additional medical diagnosis are received.
- <https://www.mynextmove.org> for career-focused, "Free" resources to get us exploring.
- Take a career and occupational assessment <https://dantes.kuder.com/landing-page>
 - DANTES College & Career Planning Counseling Services System is an online education and career planning system that equips us with the tools needed to build a foundation for lifelong career success. Learn what [interests, skills confidence, and work values](#) are for you and how to apply them to a career plan for the future.
 - This website also helps you with real-world skills such as how to [write resumes](#) and [cover letters](#), how to [research employers](#), and how to [prepare for job interviews](#). You can even create an [electronic profile](#) that you may choose to share online with prospective colleges or employers.

Bureaucratic Requirements (48 month point when the Mission begins)

- Between Month 30 to Month27, schedule TAP/SFL for in person attendance during Month 24, WITHIN 2 years of retirement only (12-month limit for separation): <https://www.dodtap.mil/login.html> Attend at month 24 from retirement (1 year for separation, so graybeard...take care of our people with this stuff)

24 months out (Liberty Battle begins across the Transition Battlefield Landscape; mission plans begin to change based on battlefield situation. We ARE READY and FMC to engage in the Transition War!!! Will your battle contribute to winning it, or losing?)

HEALTH

- Continue managing your Whole Health and begin polishing the medical record and the VA Disability Claims file folder.
- Continue setting appointments for old ailments and be seen for any new ailments. Early timing and planning REMAINS CRITICAL.
- Continue managing medical documentation on <https://www.tricareonline.com/tol2/prelogin/desktopindex.xhtml>

SELF

- Post-service life? Who do you want to be? What do you want to do?
- Where do you want to live? Begin becoming an expert on that(those) specific housing markets (and job markets, as applicable)
- Begin jockeying for final military assignment, if not already doing so.
- Find a life coach and explore who you are...know who you are and be able to tell a stranger when they ask...it's not your job, or your functional area of expertise.
- Explore personal and spouse/family Life desires (there's more to it than a job)
- Begin developing social media and online skillsets for goals/desires post-service

WEALTH

- Do you own your time yet? If not, who owns your time and who will own it beyond military service?
- Life Insurance posturing should be GTG. If not, find a guide and survey this landscape BEFORE any additional medical diagnosis are received.
- Beware advice to speak to a financial advisor – advisors use your wealth to generate their cash flow. Because you've been cognizant of the systems through which your wealth is accumulated, or squandered away, your entire career, you continue working with your Financial Literacy and Intelligence Guide and your Money Aptitude Coach. If not, find yours in the Liberty Accelerator Program, NOW!!!
- Begin researching cost of living at your post-service destination. Understand state veteran's resources and compliments.

RELATIONSHIPS

- Continue attending socials, mixers, and networking in person and virtually. Continue connecting with potential business opportunities. Continue building and maintaining relationships with your peers, seniors, and subordinates at your final assignment. And watch their flank. Talk about transition challenges, your Transition Mission, and your Liberty Battle. These relationships, good or bad, are your fault. Say it out loud!

Bureaucratic Requirements (24 months, Liberty Battle window)

- Attend, in person, the previously schedule TAP/SFL transition indoctrination event of 3-days in length, with specialty 2-day follow-on tracks (it's a great networking opportunity, and it's just not the same virtually). <https://www.dodtap.mil/login.html> Schedule 3 months sooner. **Pay even more attention this time**, BUT, with a pinch of habanero, take the facilitator's advice on insurance, finances, and jobs with a grain of salt. Do not blame them...it's a government program. **Make friends, build relationships, and know that Liberty Accelerator has you covered.** In addition to "checking this block" and picking up a few insights, this is primarily a RECON you're conducting for Liberty Accelerator, and bringing back to the team all the intelligence collected about how others in the class were trapped or set up for the trap, so we can continue to improve our program and projects to take care of our people! You can also let them know that alternatives exist to help them through the battle. **With free, we get what we pay for!** And with cookie-cutter, made for the masses solutions, the results are mediocre.
- Verify and update, as applicable, the security clearance.
- Print JST Summary and Transcript
- Download your VMET (Verification of Military Education & Training). Verify history for accuracy and what you're planning to leverage for Liberty!
<https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/dwp/index.jsp>
- Register for e-benefits account (www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/homepage)
- If planning to go into business for yourself, reach out to your command ethics counselor and legal counsel to ensure you're GTG with post-government employment business building endeavors prior to separating/retiring. You'll have to route a request chit to cover your ass.
- Route a request chit to your first UCMJ-authorized officer requesting permission to begin preparing business for post-service life.

18 months out (Your Mission CONTINUES as the BATTLE accelerates, being well on your way...with a Liberty Power Team watching your flanks as the Liberty Battle gets real)

HEALTH

- Medical engagement continues....it's your HEALTH. Own it like a BOSS! Nobody else, except perhaps your spouse, cares as much about it as the individual should, and must.
- Preparations for the VA Disability Claim continues. We've got one shot at getting it right while wearing the rank. If missed, we'll be spending precious time post service, and likely \$, trying to fix what could've been accomplished during service. Choose wisely based on individual goals, needs, and objectives. This decision directly connects to the Wealth pillar, as tax-free cash-flow, as soon as we can get it, provides additional freedom of movement, and flexibility.

SELF

- **How's the family? How are you? Any peers, friends, or colleagues with exposed flanks? Why haven't you reached out to them yet to watch their flank?**

WEALTH

- Hone in on Skillbridge opportunities, and begin positioning yourself to request the deal from the Chain of Command. If so, the Skillbridge internship begins a year from this point (6 months prior to separation/retirement)
- Identify a Veteran Service Office(r) for assistance in compiling the Fully Developed Claim packages for each and every Health ailment documented since the beginning of the career. Now's the time to get REALLY serious about this. It's a lot of work. The "mission" will be fine. Your "MISSION" in life beyond the uniform is more important now. Some sites to get familiar with, but then come back to the Liberty Power Team for detailed, explicit guidance and resources:
<https://benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/factsheets/general/BDDFactSheet.pdf>
<https://benefits/va.gov/vso/varo.asp>
- In addition to a "free" VSO, consider hiring experts affiliated with Liberty Accelerator to assist with compiling the VA Disability Claims package, so as to reduce the likelihood of your having to spend time and money later, post-service, fighting to get ratings that were denied because the "Free" VSO didn't give much care about your individual case. With free, remember, we get what we pay for!
- For retirees, determine if the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) is or is not for your family. This could take weeks or months, and is no small decision. Highly recommend outside assistance with a trusted guide help your spouse determine if SBP will benefit, or hurt your family. The latter seems much more common after assessing the numbers for most families, yet the sheeple continue piling into it because of a lack of intentional, informed planning and decision-making. Don't be forced into something you may not need. Get the work done now. Lastly, it's your spouse's decision to opt out, not the service-

members. So, their informed understanding and knowledge of alternatives to protect the pension income is crucial at this stage. Take no more than 3 months to come to a determination. You will have up until that last day on active duty to decide to opt out. One great open resource I used to get smart on SBP: <https://usvetwealth.com/replace-the-survivor-benefit-plan/> Of course you can lean with your Liberty Power Team any time with any of this SBP analysis. If you don't decide, and do nothing, the government, by law, will opt you in at a cost of 6.5% of the pension pay monthly.

Bureaucratic Requirements

- Communicate (formally, i.e. have an email chain with that assignments/detailer desk) intentions to separate or retire with the detailer/assignment desk. Receive confirmation that all wickets are met with boxes checked and no unexpected surprises are out there. Remember...it's your fault, good or bad. Say it again out loud, right now! **Cannot overstate the importance of doing due diligence at this point.**

- Admin requirements (varies by service branch), pull all forms from the source and familiarize yourself with the retirement/separation package provided by the admin office/personnel clerk. Don't be ambushed by using old, unauthorized and outdated forms from buddies or the command personnel office and your assigned YN: <https://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/forms/> (remember, it's **your** fault):
 - For retirees, after the above Wealth analysis for SBP is completed, visit the admin office and sign the DD Form 2656 SBP opt out paperwork (DD Form 2656, confirm no more recent form exists) and have the admin rep sign acknowledging your signature in Part IV Section XI. Big \$ hinges on getting this right.

- Acquire the pre-retirement (or separation) package from the command admin representative (CPC – Command Pass Coordinator for USNavy); this list of requirements is no joke. Start early and remain engaged from now through the 6-month point:
 - Determine what necessary documents are required and begin assembling them; plan to have them all assembled by the 12 month point, and AT THE LATEST the 6 month checkpoint

 - Retrieve a blank version of the DD Form 2656 from the DFAS forms website: <https://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/forms/>

12 to 9 months out (Your Mission BATTLE CONTINUES; Your Liberty Power Team is watching the flanks as the Liberty Battle rages...and your equipped, motivated, and can see the hill...it's time to charge it, and have your FLAG READY TO PLANT IN VICTORY a year from now)

HEALTH

- Medical engagement continues....it's your WHOLE HEALTH. Own it and drive these appointments yourself. You're a BOSS! Document and build records and supporting/substantiating information for each and every ailment.
- Preparations for the VA Disability Claim continues. This is a critical time period, for the BDD window opens in six months (at the 180 day mark). Choose wisely based on individual goals, needs, and objectives. Consider hiring expertise at this point. The Liberty Accelerator Program has vetted professionals who can/will watch your VA Disability Claim flank. Go it alone at your peril.
- Collect copies of medical and dental records (again).
- Review health, dental, vision insurance needs and eligibility (TRICARE, TAMP, VA, private providers, etc..)
- Schedule the DOD or VA out-processing medical exam (this is a bit tricky. Lean on a Liberty Power Team)

SELF

- **Checkpoint: How are YOU doing?**

WEALTH

- Pick and be accepted to a Skillbridge assignment, to begin in six months and spend your last six months contributing to something else, not DOD. (**See CAPTSTONE note below**)

RELATIONSHIPS

- Continue attending socials, networking mixers, and the like. Job fairs work, too, just to practice being in a different culture. Depends on what you want to do as to where you'll spend your time. Links back to your post-service "Why?", Your Health, and Your Wealth posturing to this point. Planning years, or decades, ago makes this much, much easier.

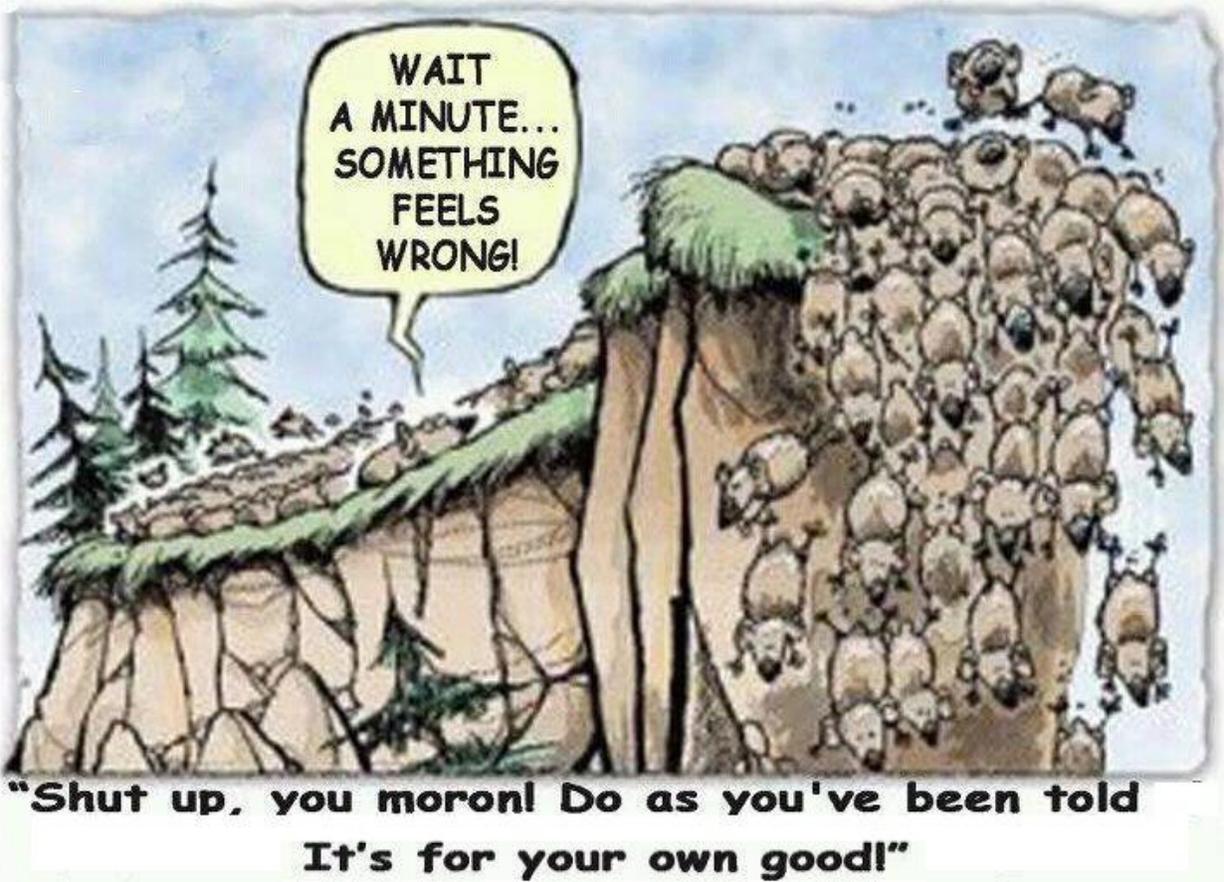
Bureaucratic Requirements

- Complete the CAPTSTONE with your CCC, FFSC rep, SFL/TAP Coordinator or transition counselor. The 12-month check in the block here puts us in the clear to apply for Skillbridge
- Submit retirement request via personnel system (NSIPS for Navy) if requested retirement date does NOT coincide with Projected Rotation Date (submit at the 6-9 month point if PRD does align with requested retirement date).

- Register for Burn Pit Registry, as applicable
<https://veteran.mobilehealth.va.gov/AHBurnPitRegistry/#page/home>
- Request terminal leave, house hunting TAD, job hunting leave, Skillbridge participation, internships and college program admission (could be earlier than 12 months, depending on the timeline. Every individual's is unique and should be in a project planning calendar or project schedule)
- Obtain an electronic copy of the medical record.
- Coordinate with TRICARE and the Local MTF to determine requirements if Skillbridge takes you away from the final permanent duty station; this is crucial for getting the services you need at your Skillbridge duty location.
- Acquire the pre-retirement package from the command admin representative (CPC – Command Pass Coordinator for USNavy); this list of requirements is no joke. Start early and remain engaged from now through the 6-month point
 - Determine what necessary documents are required and begin assembling them
 - Retrieve a blank version of the DD Form 2656 from the DFAS forms website:
<https://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/forms/>

9-6 months continue being vigilant with the above, and merry it all up to what follows below...focus both eyes on the Transition Battlefield landscape and watch out for ambushes, torpedoes, and boobytraps.

Don't be enlisted to the status quo by being a sheeple.



6 months out (Your Battle CONTINUES; The Liberty Power Team is cheering you on as you're BATTLING LIKE A WARRIOR does, as that Liberty Battle rages... you equipped, motivated, and are ascending the hill, using air power, sea power, and space power to overwhelm the enemy....crest that mountain! You know the enemies because of intentional, informed preparations, planning, and workups. Your FLAG IS READY TO DECLARE VICTORY in six months. Don't quit!!!

HEALTH

- Most, not all, medical engagement should be complete concerning preparation for the VA Disability Claim.
- Submit the VA Disability Claim 180 days out from separation/retirement via the BDD program. Attend any C&P exams, as scheduling and attending these happened over the past six months and planning for them started at the 18-12 month point
- Collect copies of medical and dental records (again) everywhere you go, especially outside of the military medical system!
- Review health, dental, vision insurance needs and eligibility (TRICARE, TAMP, VA, private providers, etc..)

SELF

- **Checkpoint: How are YOU doing?**

WEALTH

- A trip to a Legal Center may prove beneficial to get updated copies of wills, POAs, etc at a cheap price.
- Start the Skillbridge assignment, investing in your future. (**See CAPSTONE note below**)

RELATIONSHIPS

- Continue attending socials, networking mixers, and the like. Job fairs work, too, just to practice being in a different culture. Depends on what you want to do as to where you'll spend your time. Links back to your post-service "Why?", Your Health, and Your Wealth posturing to this point. **Planning years, or decades, ago makes this much, much easier.**

Bureaucratic Requirements (6 month checkpoint)

- Begin reviewing the DD214. This is a critical path project item. Don't screw it up. Your Liberty Power Team is available to help. Things to confirm (e.g., correct name, SSN, dates, awards, schools, RE codes, deployments and the like, etc...). If you don't know, ask. NEVER ASSUME (and make an **ass** out of **u** and **me**)
- Orders should be in hand soon if not yet received. Contact the assignment/detailing desk and start getting serious with them and admin if orders aren't in hand!
- Once orders received, schedule the move (www.move.mil) and revisit the relocation assistance center to submit the final move application (if not able to do this online).
- Submit Separation/Retirement Package to Personnel Command desk if Skillbridge participant, o/w this happens later (**timeline varies**)

3 months out (Your Mission CONTINUES; The Liberty Power Team is watching you BATTLE LIKE A WARRIOR does, as that Liberty Battle rages... you equipped, motivated, and continue scaling the mountain...the peak is within site! Time to employ hand-to-hand combat techniques!

Your FLAG IS FLYING HIGH. Get ready to drive your GUIDON into the ground. We're proud of you!



HEALTH

- All medical engagement should be complete concerning preparation for the VA Disability Claim. Continue medical visits as needed/required to maintain peak health.
- Decide on future veteran status health, dental, vision insurance needs and apply for the right options for you and your family (TRICARE, TAMP, VA, private providers, etc..)
- Schedule and get an HIV test done. Keep the documentation for your separation processing.

SELF

- **Checkpoint: How is your Self?**

WEALTH

- **Checkpoint: How is your Wealth?**

RELATIONSHIPS

- Continue attending socials, networking mixers, and the like. Job fairs work, too, just to practice being in a different culture. Depends on what you want to do as to where you'll spend your time. Links back to your post-service "Why?", Your Health, and Your Wealth posturing to this point. Planning years, or decades, ago makes this much, much easier.

Bureaucratic Requirements

- Verify final copy of DD214 (varies by service on when and how, but ask the question of your admin team)
- Obtain Certificate of Eligibility (COE) from VA
- Obtain security clearance form
- Utilize terminal leave, as applicable
- If job-seeking, begin applying for jobs and interviewing
- Review/update Page 2 information (retirees)

60-30 days out (new life is right around the corner)

Your FLAG IS STILL FLYING HIGH. STAY ready to drive your GUIDON into the ground). We're proud of you! That ship is preparing to return to port, that tank to the garrison, and that plane to the hangar.

HEALTH – there's still work to do!

- C&P Exam with VA should be complete by now. You'll have been calling weekly since the 6 month point if not and raising all kinds of hell at this point.
- Contact TRICARE and enroll in TAMP or RETIREE TRICARE (there is a 90-day window post retirement to enroll, but just get it done now)
- Enroll in FEDVIP or another Dental and Vision insurance plan. Neither Dental nor Vision extend beyond your Victory Day...the last day of active duty. So cover this flank!
- Get a final copy of medical and dental records and pull out the "new stuff" to combine with your master file.
 - If seen for additional ailments after filing the disability claim, use to file additional claims.
- Create copies of these records, keep one with you, one somewhere else, and one at a third location, stored in fireproof containers and clearly labeled/marked. Your future self and family will thank you!

SELF

- **Should be all set!**

WEALTH

- **Should be all set!**

RELATIONSHIPS – You'll always be nurturing these!

- Continue attending socials, networking mixers, and the like. Job fairs work, too, just to practice being in a different culture. Depends on what you want to do as to where you'll spend your time. Links back to your post-service "Why?", Your Health, and Your Wealth posturing to this point. Planning years, or decades, ago makes this much, much easier.
- You're a social butterfly!

Bureaucratic Requirements (60-30 days out) (if separating, you're gonna see this go away. Retirees, sorry, but you know the drill!)

- Obtain final copy of DD214 (varies by service. For USN, available on Last Day of AD as I understand it)
- Set up appointments via DEERS for retiree and dependent ID Cards

- Change MyPay email address to a PRIVATE address from your .mil email, otherwise there's gonna be heartache getting access to your earnings statement!!!
- Turn in government property (laptop; equipment; phone; ID card; keys; passes)?
- Admin requirements (varies by service branch), pull all forms from the source. Don't be ambushed by using old, unauthorized and outdated forms from your buddies or the command personnel office and your assigned YN (remember, it's your fault, good or bad): <https://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/forms/>

How to Apply for RETIREMENT:

<https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/apply/how-to-apply/>

The retirement package received at the 12-month mark is now prepared for final submission, due back to the personnel office No Later Than the 45-day mark:

- *MOST IMPORTANT DOCUMENT PREPARING FOR RETIREMENT* The Data For Payment of Retired Personnel (DD Form 2656); Instructions are available at the back of the document, 3 pages of them:
 - Part I: Retired Pay Information on page 1
 - Part I cont...: Veteran's Disability Compensation Information on Page 2
 - Part II: Blended Retirement System participants complete page 3, as applicable
 - **CAUTION** Timing and sequence here is critically important if OPTING OUT OF SBP or if only taking Child SBP or does not elect the full spouse SBP coverage amount. Read the form carefully, and follow these explicit directions:
 - **CAUTION** Part III: Survivor Benefit Plan Page 4 – fill this page out after a serious financial analysis was completed a year to 18 months ago. Know what you need, and what you don't.
 - **CAUTION** Part IV: Survivor Benefit Plan CERTIFICATION Page 5 - For retirees, the servicemember MUST HAVE already signed Part IV/Section XI Certification in front of their Unit Admin representative, and ONLY THEN WILL THE SERVICEMEMBER move on to Part V, next:
 - **CAUTION** Part V: Survivor Benefit Plan SPOUSE SBP CONCURRENCE section is, with a Notary Public present, completed by the spouse (in the presence of a Notary Public), in PART V Section XII - **sign and notarize four copies** of the SBP opt out paperwork (DDForm 2656, Oct2018, confirm no more recent form exists by visiting the website link above in this section).

At Victory Day...embrace your LIBERTY! Feel the FREEDOM!



Was that a sunrise...or a sunset? What's your perspective?

How about that tree? What does it represent to you?

Post Victory Day (yes, dangers still lurk on the Transition Battlefield Landscape, even if you perceive the battle to be over; it's not...it continues):

- Ensure TRICARE enrollment was completed and transferred in DEERS
<https://milconnect.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect>
- Ensure Dental and Vision Insurance plans are active and have started
- Obtain and review the VA Decision Letter (ideally already have this before Victory Day)
- Enroll in VA HealthCare (appointment via VA PCM) <https://www.va.gov/health-care/how-to-apply>
- Review retirement account statement for accuracy (taxes, SBP, healthcare allotment)

The Liberty Accelerator Program has tools, techniques, and support beyond Victory Day, with checkpoints at the one-week mark, the one month mark, the three month node, the 6 month checkpoint and a year beyond. We'll stay teamed up for life if you so choose, taking care of you, your family and watching your flanks for the duration of the dash.

So...are you in?

Liberty Accelerator on:

- [YouTube](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Facebook](#)

Websites:

<https://www.jarrodsmith.com>

<https://www.jarrodsmith.com/cog>

<https://www.jarrodsmith.com/advantage>