

## April Top 10 Tuesday Q & A

**Q:** For SRB Eligibility, what is "active service" based on? (example, someone with prior service?)

**A:** Active Service is a member's Active Duty time computed from their Active Duty Base Date (ADBD) including all prior service. If they are a Reservist, make sure a SOCS is completed to determine their "Active Time".

**Q:** What's the difference between zone A and zone B?

**A:** COMDTINST M7220.2: Zone A is defined as the period from 17 months through 6 years of active service. Zone B is defined as the period from 6 through 10 years of active service. Zone C is defined as the period from 10 through 14 years of active service.

**Q:** For a member to receive the full bonus (SRB) they must reenlist on their EOE, correct?

**A:** Yes, with the exception of 1.B.5.m. of the Bonus Manual, which allows a member to reenlist no more than 7 days early if their EOE falls on a Friday, Saturday, Sunday or holiday. These members can reenlist within 7 days of their EOE and still receive a full SRB entitlement. Please also be aware of Article 1.B.5.f and its impact on extensions 24 months or less that have not begun. Please also note that Article 1.B.5.f should only be used if a member is first eligible to reenlist.

**Q:** Should BCMR be contacted prior to CG-1331 in regards to those members that were counseled AFTER their 6yr Anniversary for a correction as a contract cannot be entered into DA after the fact? Or should we get the SPO to enter the Contract?

**A:** We recommend that you take the issue to CG-1331 first, before going the BCMR route. CG-1331 may issue a waiver or provide other suggestions.

**\*Comment from PSC-BOPS:** CG-1331 would normally respond to a BCMR on this topic. PRRB is the first step, BCMR is the second step.

**Q:** If we already contacted BCMR for a correction, should we still go through CG-1331?

**A:** It wouldn't hurt to contact them about the issue, but make sure you tell them that you have already submitted a BCMR.

**Q:** Can an E6 or E7 have the SRB if they met the requirements?

**A:** Yes. It says E5 or above for Zone B.

**Q:** Are Yeomen getting bonuses anytime soon?

**A:** They haven't gotten one since 1983 and we don't see them coming back.

**Q:** So for clarification only E5 and above can receive a bonus? Did I hear that right?

**A:** That only applies to Zone B SRBs. You can be an E4 or above or even an E3 with a designator and receive a Zone A SRB per the authorizing ALCOAST, if applicable.

**Q:** Are there any issues with the 2K enlistment bonus you receive from graduating boot camp?

**A:** Not that we are aware of. As long as the TRACENs are submitting them, they are being paid.

**Q:** Since you were bringing up the Friday, Saturday, and Sunday Reenlistment to change the date if your EOE lands on that date, does the same go for Discharges to change the date?

**A:** It is common practice to move up a DISCHARGE date from a weekend specifically for the fact that if the member's change their mind and decide to Reenlist within 24 hours (to avoid a break in service), no one will be around to administer the oath. If you are referring to the exception of 1.B.5.m, it only applies to EOE's.

**Q:** So it's not mandatory?

**A:** The benefit of 1.B.5.m is to allow the member to receive the full SRB entitlement versus being deducted one month for an unfortunate EOE date. However, it is not mandatory.

**Q:** How are bonuses recouped if the person spent the money?

**A:** Bonuses are recouped the same way for everyone regardless if they've spent the money or not. If the member is separating (or going to the IRR), the PPC Separations branch will take as much as possible from their final separation pay. If they still have a debt remaining, it will be considered an Out of Service debt and will be transferred to the CG Finance Center. They give you 90 days to pay the debt in full and also tack on some additional fees. FINCEN does not take payment plans, but they won't turn any money away. Also, if you pay FINCEN in full before being sent to Treasury, they will sometimes waive fees. If the balance isn't paid in full by the 91<sup>st</sup> day, the UNPAID debt balance is then sent to Treasury. Treasury adds additional fees and will tap your tax returns, future travel claims, etc. It will also destroy your credit.

**Q:** What is next month's topic?

**A:** Reserve Orders