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R 241249Z SEP 13
FM COMCOGARD PSC ARLINGTON VA
TO ALCGPSC
BT
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ALCGPSC 120/13
SUBJ: CASUALTY AND DECEDENT AFFAIRS - BURIAL BENEFIT INCREASE
A. COMDTINST M1770.9, Military Casualties and Decedent Affairs
B. DODI 1344.08, Interment Allowance for Deceased Military Personnel, Change 1
C. COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC 141557Z JUN 07/ALCOAST 298/07
1. Burial benefit allowances increased on 17 April 2013 for regular members and cadets who die on active duty and reserve members who die in the line of duty. The burial benefit is also known as interment allowance.
2. Chapter 2 of Ref A authorizes reimbursement of funeral and burial expenses due to the death of an eligible member. Coast Guard practice is to match the reimbursement limits published in Ref B for the Department of Defense. The new burial benefit reimbursement limits have been posted on the USCG Casualty Matters website at http://www.uscg.mil/psc/psd/fs/Casualty.asp. These new limits are the maximum amounts that may be reimbursed to the Person Authorized to Direct Disposition (PADD) of remains of a deceased member, when the PADD elects to personally arrange some or all of the burial services. The PADD will bear all costs that exceed the maximum reimbursement levels. Recovery and transportation expenses are in addition to the burial benefit.
3. The PADD may release authority to the Coast Guard to make arrangements consistent with the wishes of the family. In this case the Coast Guard will pay all reasonable expenses for a casket of standard quality, mortuary preparation of the remains, funeral and burial. The Coast Guard is not constrained by the burial allowance limits mentioned in paragraph 2, above. These limits only apply for reimbursement to the PADD or other appropriate person. Reasonable contracting procedures are still required while making arrangements consistent with the wishes of the PADD.
4. The burial benefits published in Ref C still apply for deaths from 1 April 2007 through 16 April 2013. Chief, Casualty Matters Program may consider exceptions.
5. Use form DD-1375, Request for Payment of Funeral and Interment Expenses, to file a funeral expense claim. Claim procedures, Statement of Disposition of Remains form, and other Casualty Matters Program information can be found at http://www.uscg.mil/psc/psd/fs/Casualty.asp.
6. Coast Guard Casualty Matters Program POC is LT Sean Arumae, sean.r.arumae(at)uscg.mil, (703) 872-6647.
7. RDML Dave Callahan, Commander, CG Personnel Service Center, sends.
8. Internet release authorized.
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