

MILPERSMAN 1300-1000

MILITARY COUPLE AND SINGLE PARENT ASSIGNMENT POLICY

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1. **Policy**. Chief of Naval Personnel (CHNAVPERS) supports the collocation of Navy members married to other military members. Every reasonable effort will be made for military couples to move together/serve together whenever possible.

a. Assignments will normally be made to fill valid Navy requirements, considering the needs of the military family as well as the manning of the losing and gaining activities; therefore, collocation/immediate reassignment may not always be possible.

b. Collocation of Navy members with members of other uniformed services or services of other countries are much more difficult and may not always be possible. Spouse collocation policy does not provide for assignment to duty near a civilian spouse, including civilian government employees.

c. Generally collocation assignments, in the continental United States (CONUS), are to the following fleet concentration areas: Kings Bay/Jacksonville, FL; Norfolk, VA; San Diego, CA; Washington, DC; and the Pacific Northwest (PACNORWEST). In PACNORWEST only the pairings of Whidbey Island/Everett and Bremerton/Bangor constitute collocation. While there is no established maximum distance between duty stations for collocation, 90 driving miles should be used as a guide when considering collocation requests outside of fleet concentration areas.

2. **Requests**. Military couples desiring collocation must separately submit a request to their detailers with command endorsement, noting their military couple status and including the name, rank/rate, and service of spouse; and number of current dependents.

a. **Officer** requests should be submitted on NAVPERS 1301/85 (Rev. 8-05), Officer Personnel Action Request.

b. **Enlisted** requests should be submitted on NAVPERS 1306/7 (Rev. 1-03), Enlisted Personnel Action Request.

c. **Agreement Required.** Each member must submit a copy of their spouse's request with their request to expedite communication between the respective detailers. Both members must be in agreement that collocation is desired. If not in agreement, each member will be detailed in per his or her desires, consistent with needs of the Navy.

d. **Collocation - High Priority.** When requested, spouse collocation becomes the highest priority and main duty preference consistent with needs of the Navy.

e. **Collocation - Not always Possible.** Members should be aware that due to the difficulties involved in spouse collocation, fulfilling duty preferences for geographical location or type of duty/unit may not be possible.

f. **Couples not presently Collocated.** Military couples not presently collocated, recently married, or not previously identified as a "military couple," can request reassignment consideration to achieve collocation, providing the following criteria are met:

(1) Member requesting to be transferred has completed at least 1 year on board current duty station at the time of the transfer and, if required, a contact relief is available. Every effort will be made to achieve collocation within 1 year of request; however, requirements regarding prescribed sea tours, obligated service/retainability, recently acquired skills, and training will all be considerations in processing of the request.

(2) Neither member is currently under orders to go into a training status. If one or both members are going into a training status, requests will be kept on file to facilitate spouse collocation at the completion of the training assignment.

(3) A valid billet/requisition for which the member is qualified is available.

(a) Sea/shore rotations will be maintained whenever possible.

(b) When both members are eligible for sea duty, the spouse with the least amount of sea duty will normally be assigned sea duty; however, military couples comprised of new accession or first-term members may be involuntarily assigned to simultaneous sea duty.

(c) Military couples with dependents are required to maintain a current, workable dependent care plan.

g. Outside Continental United States (OCONUS). When one member is already on an OCONUS Department of Defense (DoD) tour, that member's projected rotation date (PRD) will be extended to match the PRD of the joining spouse.

h. Changes after Orders Issued. Issued orders may remain in effect when a marriage occurs/requests for modification have been submitted.

(1) Modification will be considered if it will not result in a gapped billet, adversely affect the gaining command's readiness, or preclude use of recently acquired skill/training.

(2) If the member is required to execute orders, collocation action will be considered after 1 year, if collocation is still desired.

i. Collocation after Training. Members requesting training must be advised that they may **not** be eligible for spouse collocation consideration in conjunction with this training assignment. Members completing training will be assigned to an appropriate tour for these newly acquired skills, which may preclude or limit spouse collocation consideration for the duration of this post-training assignment.

3. Restrictions. Military couples will not be permanently assigned to the same ship or the same shipboard deployable command (e.g., tender with multiple unit identification codes (UICs) or carrier and its associated carrier air wing).

a. Same Reporting Senior. Members will not be assigned to the same command ashore with the same reporting senior without the gaining commanding officer's (CO's) concurrence.

(1) Unusual circumstances may result in a couple being temporarily assigned to the same afloat activity.

(2) This paragraph does not require transfer of the members to rectify such a temporary situation.

b. **Same Ship/Shipboard Embarking Command.** In the case of a member on shipboard duty who marries another member assigned to the same ship or the same shipboard embarking command, the member who has completed the larger percentage of the prescribed sea duty tour (PST) will normally be reassigned as soon as possible; however, adverse impact on the ship's readiness may necessitate the transfer of the other spouse.

c. **Involuntary Assignment.** Military couples will **not** normally be involuntarily assigned to a simultaneous sea duty tour (Type Duty Code "2" or "4") and permanent shift working duty assignments.

(1) Military couples comprised of first-term members or initial accessions may require assignment to simultaneous sea duty consistent with needs of the Navy and the member's training.

(2) Members who get married while on sea duty will be required to complete their sea tour, unless assigned to the same ship or the same shipboard embarked command.

d. **One on Sea Duty/One on Shore Duty.** Whenever possible, one member will be on sea duty while the spouse is on shore duty and their PRDs will be matched to facilitate future collocation requests.

(1) PRDs will reflect a 36-month rotation, regardless of PST or normal shore tour (NST).

(2) It is imperative that military couples maintain a current, workable dependent-care plan, which can be utilized when needed.

e. **Simultaneous Sea Duty.** Members requesting spouse collocation that results in simultaneous sea duty must forward a copy of the following NAVPERS 1070/613 (7-06), Administrative Remarks entry with their spouse collocation request. A copy is to be retained in the member's service record.

Date: "I have read and understand the military couple assignment policy contained in MILPERSMAN 1300-1000. I understand that simultaneous sea duty (Type Duty Code "2" or "4") with my spouse requires me to complete the normal tour length of my assignment. If applicable, my spouse and I have developed a dependent-care plan which will be utilized when necessary."

Member's Signature

Witnessed by: _____
C. J. WIRTZ
LCDR, USN, Personnel Officer

4. Options if Assignment within Immediate Area of Spouse is not Available. In the event reassignment of applicant to area of spouse is not feasible and spouse's reassignment is not desired (or also not feasible), Navy Personnel Command (NAVPERSCOM) will normally disapprove applicant's request. The following options may be offered:

a. Resubmission in 6 months for reconsideration.

b. Assignment to the nearest available requirement within area of spouse's present assignment. **NOTE:** Acceptance of this option will require that applicant serve a minimum 24-month tour at the activity and would, therefore, not be eligible for reassignment during that period in the event a requirement nearer to spouse's duty station becomes available.

5. Assignment of Husband and Wife to Isolated Duty Stations.

The assignment of married Navy couples to isolated duty stations where an unaccompanied tour is directed may be authorized on a voluntary basis (except Diego Garcia).

a. Such assignment is with the understanding that both husband and wife will be treated as individual servicemembers, and quarters for joint residence may not be available.

b. Isolated duty areas are dependent-restricted, and dependent children are not authorized.

c. Requests for collocation will not be considered unless the members are married at the time of request. Exceptions may be granted in those rare cases when members engaged to be married are assigned to a command where marriage is not allowed

(e.g., Diego Garcia), and the couple desires collocation on their follow-on tour.

6. **Reassignment to Different Activities**. Requests for reassignment from members of an immediate family serving together on active duty at the same activity who no longer desire to serve together shall receive favorable consideration, provided there are no overriding military needs for the retention in the same unit.

a. Requests for reassignments to be separated from a member of the same family shall reference this article.

(1) **Officer** requests should be submitted on NAVPERS 1301/85.

(2) **Enlisted** requests should be submitted on NAVPERS 1306/7.

b Unless specifically requested, members of an immediate family serving together shall not be reassigned until they become eligible for normal rotation, or until their reassignment is required to meet needs of the service.

7. **Single Parents**. Single parents are assigned utilizing the same procedures as other servicemembers.

a. NAVPERSCOM recognizes the unique situations that occur when single parents are assigned to some types of duty/duty locations; however, a preferential assignment policy regarding single parents would be discriminatory toward other members.

b. When it is determined that assignment to sea duty would involve hardship not normally encountered by other members of the Naval Service, a request for discharge/release to inactive duty may be submitted.

(1) For **hardship discharges**, refer to MILPERSMAN 1910-110.

(2) For **parenthood discharges** refer to MILPERSMAN 1910-124.