

POLICY OR PRECEDENT

SUBJECT: Transition Requirements for Retiring ARSOF Soldiers Date: 27 Nov 19

POLICY NUMBER: ORIGINATING SECTION: ORIGINATOR: PHONE#:
6-20 AOPE-ATD Mr. Woodard 908-8483

//ORIGINAL SIGNED//

APPROVED BY: LAWRENCE G. FERGUSON, COLONEL, GS, Chief of Staff

SYNOPSIS:

1. Purpose: To establish United States Army Special Operations Command (USASOC) policy and procedures for retiring ARSOF Soldiers and their leadership, which follows a two-year timeline with associated milestones.
2. Scope: This policy is directive in nature and applies to all elements of USASOC Headquarters (HQs), Component Subordinate Commands (CSCs) and Component Subordinate Units (CSUs).
3. General: USASOC, Deputy Chief of Staff (DCS), G-1, established the Army Special Operation Forces (ARSOF) Transition Program in early 2019 as a result of the Commanding General (CG) initiative. The purpose of the ARSOF Transition Program is to provide assistance to transitioning ARSOF Soldiers by clearly charting the path from military to civilian life, and to provide support and access to important information on the various aspects of the transition process.
4. Responsibilities.
 - a. All ARSOF Soldiers are encouraged to begin deliberate transition activities two years prior to retirement IAW the attached timeline. Commanders at all levels will ensure all eligible retiring Soldiers are authorized time during duty hours to fully participate in prescribed transition briefings and workshops, and to complete other requirements IAW applicable regulations.

PRESCRIBING DIRECTIVES: AR 600-81, Soldier for Life – Transition Assistance Program, 17 May 16; AR 635-200, Active Duty Enlisted Administrative Separations, 19 Dec 16; AR 600-8-7, Retirement Services Program, 18 Jan 17; AR 600-8-24, Officer Transfers and Discharges, 12 Apr 06; DoDI 1332.35, Transition Assistance Program (TAP) for Military Personnel, 29 Feb 16.

DISTRIBUTION:

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OTHER POLICIES AFFECTED:

None.

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Commanders will further ensure understanding and compliance of this policy by subordinate leaders supporting eligible Soldiers during their transition.

b. The following transition requirements are mandatory for all retiring ARSOF Soldiers:

(1) 24 months prior to the retirement date, Soldiers will begin the Soldier for Life - Transition Assistance Program (SFL-TAP) and other pre-separation activities.

(2) 18 months prior to the retirement date, retiring Soldiers will attend a Retirement Services briefing with the servicing Retirement Services Office (RSO).

(3) 12 months prior to the retirement date, retiring Soldiers will begin medical transition processes, such as medical records review and scheduling the physical.

(4) 6 months prior to the retirement date, retiring Soldiers will not be required to participate in any deployment activities or contingency operations. During this period, which includes permissive TDY and terminal leave, Soldiers' primary duties will be minimized and they will be afforded maximum time to complete remaining transition activities as they prepare to leave our ranks. They are permitted to explore other transitional programs such as meaningful internships and fellowships, with appropriate approval.

(5) In addition to the above requirements, retiring ARSOF Soldiers are encouraged to participate in the ARSOF Transition Program. This program is voluntary and supplemental to the Army's SFL-TAP. The target population is retiring ARSOF Soldiers in the grade of E-7 through E-8; all others will be serviced on a space-available basis. This program is also available to assist former ARSOF Soldiers who have returned to the conventional Army and others that have already retired, resources permitting.

5. Questions regarding this policy and/or Soldiers wishing to participate in the ARSOF Transition Program should contact the ARSOF Transition Team at 1-833-SOF-LIFE or SOF4LIFE2@socom.mil. Any exceptions to this policy must be routed through the DCS, G-1, ARSOF Transition Division for CG approval.

6. Effective Date: This policy is effective immediately and remains in effect until rescinded.

(END)