

Helpful Hints & Resources

Consult the legal assistance office (JAG) at your base to help you update your will (or write a new one).

Your will is important because it:

- Gives your beneficiaries control over your estate,
- Lets you divide your estate as you see fit, and
- Allows a guardian to be named for minor children.

You can also have the JAG office draw up a Power of Attorney for you. A Power of Attorney is a document that lets a designated person act as your legal agent for such matters as:

- Moving household goods,
- Obtaining medical care for your children, and
- Handling your financial affairs.

While you are at it, you should also take care of several other important financial matters.

- Make sure your beneficiary information is correct on your insurance, your bank accounts, and your investments (including Individual Retirement Accounts or IRAs) and that the individual you have designated have access to all the needed accounts and information. If you are married, consider having joint accounts so both you and your spouse have access.
- Discuss your monthly budget and establish an emergency fund to cover several months of unexpected expenses that might occur while you're deployed.
- Consider paying your bills automatically through direct debit or online bill paying while you are gone.

Listed below are some helpful websites for further deployment readiness information:

www.udsgp.oth/op_med/readiness/familychecklist.html

www.otc.army.mil/otcweb/FamilyAgencyChecklist.html

www.bragg.army.mil/16MP/pre-deployeent%20chk-list.htm

www.bragg.army.mil/FSG/deployment.htm

www.bragg.army.mil/FSG/readiness_checklist.htm

www.thenavyway.com/page_1002.html

www.navy.mil/homepages/vfa-81-Pre-Deployment/chapter_vi.htm

www.usafp.org/op_med/readiness/readiness.html

www.gagcnet.mil/legalassistance

www.2xCitizen.usar.army.mil