

The Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for FY'09, signed by President Bush 14 Oct 2008, includes an increase in the authorized flag recipients. This will impact your mortuary accounts. The change is below:

Subtitle D - Retired Pay and Survivor Benefits

Section 641 -Authorizes the presentation of a burial flag, in the case of a member who dies in service, to: (1) the surviving spouse of the member, when such spouse is not otherwise entitled to a flag as a person designated to direct the disposition of remains; and (2) each child of the member.

6.7.4. Multiple Flag Sequence (With Military Chaplain)

Note: Perform this sequence when finished tucking the flag originally draped on the casket.

6.7.4.1. Once the NPB has the flag and Fold has returned to the position of attention, NPB performs the **“Half Dress”** sequence.

6.7.4.2. NPB extends the flag out (arms inverted, flag resting on arms, holding the flag on opposite sides of the apex, palms up and thumbs/fingers together) with the 90-degree angle pointing toward Fold. Fold takes the flag with their left hand on top and the right hand (fingers extended and joined thumb along the forefinger) underneath (palm up). Fold makes eye contact with the NPB to signal control of the flag.

6.7.4.3. Fold brings the flag a fist distance of their body, level with the second button of their ceremonial blouse. Fold and Cross Mark slowly turn towards each other (at the hip) and Fold extends the flag out towards Cross Mark. Cross Mark meets Fold half way taking the flag by the two 45-degree angles (horns). Cross Mark thumbs need to be along the side of their hands (no blue should be showing outside of the hands). Cross Mark makes eye contact with the Fold signaling they have control of the flag.

6.7.4.4. Cross Mark brings the flag within fist distance of their body, (level with the second button of their ceremonial blouse) simultaneously turning toward Hand-off. Cross Mark and Hand-off turn towards each other (at the hip) and Cross Mark extends the flag out. Hand-off secures the flag from Cross Mark by the 90-degree angle (splitting the Apex) with their fingers together on top of the flag (thumbs underneath). Hand-off makes eye contact with Cross Mark signaling control of the flag.

6.7.4.5. Hand-off brings the flag to their chest and performs the **“Full Dress Sequence”** sequence. Once the Full Dress is complete Hand-Off will execute a three-second right face and hand the flag off to the Military Chaplain. The Chaplain will in-turn hand the flag off to the Next of Kin (NOK).

6.7.4.6. As the Chaplain is handing off the flag to the NOK, a spare will march up to the NPB and hand them the next flag to be handed off. Spare will perform the “**Half Dress Sequence**” with the exception of how they pass the flag off to NPB. Instead of laying the flag on their forearms to pass they will keep the point of the flag in their hands and lay it down so the flat edge is towards the NPB (as if handing it off after a full dress). From this point follow 6.7.4.2. from where Fold has the flag through 6.7.4.6. Repeat for the remaining flags.

6.8. Multiple Flag Sequence (Without Military Chaplain)

Note: Perform this sequence when finished tucking the flag originally draped on the casket.

6.8.1. The NPB will perform the “**Full Dress Sequence**” once the Full Dress is complete NPB will execute a three-second right face and hand the flag off to the OIC/NCOIC.

6.8.2. OIC/NCOIC will in-turn hand off the flag to the NOK. As OIC/NCOIC is handing off the flag, spare will march to NPB and hand them the next flag to be handed off. Spare will perform the “**Half Dress Sequence**” with the exception of how they pass the flag off to NPB. Instead of laying the flag on their forearms to pass they will keep the point of the flag in their hands and lay it down so the flat edge is towards the NPB (as if handing it off after completing a full dress).

6.8.3. The NPB will then perform a “**Full Dress Sequence**” once the Full Dress is complete NPB will execute a three-second right face and hand the flag off to the OIC/NCOIC. Repeat for the remaining flags.