



DAVE YOST
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL



Help for Active-Duty Military, Veterans and Their Families

The office of Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost has programs and resources designed to address the unique issues faced by current and former service members and their families.

Consumer protection

The Consumer Protection Section provides information so active-duty personnel and veterans can better protect themselves from consumer scams. Our office can assist those who may have fallen victim to scams, such as those targeting debt collection, the elderly, credit repair and foreclosure assistance.

Civil rights

Ohio civil rights laws protect active-duty personnel and veterans from discrimination based on military status in employment, housing and public accommodations. Additionally, should a veteran need the use of an animal assistant because of a disability, Ohio law generally prohibits denying the use of that animal assistant in employment, housing and public accommodations.

Legal assistance for active-duty and mobilized military

The Ohio Attorney General's Office provides free legal services for various issues, such as the Service Members Civil Relief Act and the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-Employment Rights Act of 1994. Our office can also help with creating wills and powers of attorney. These legal services are provided to active-duty and mobilized military personnel and their families.



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Identity theft

Identity theft is commonly reported by service members before, during and after deployment. The Attorney General's Office houses an Identity Theft Unit that can assist active-duty military, veterans and their families. The unit can help in working with credit reporting agencies, creditors, collectors and other entities. Service members also have the option to place an "Active-Duty Alert" on their credit report to reduce the risk of identity theft.

Charitable

The Attorney General's Office regulates charities in the state. Because many Ohioans financially contribute to veterans organizations, our office is vigilant in prosecuting con artists who attempt to exploit this area. Be sure to research charities before making donations to ensure that the charity is a valid organization. If service members wish to start a charity, our office can provide information on how to begin the process and how to register the charity.

Collections

The Attorney General's Office is required by statute to collect debts owed to state agencies, including state universities and hospitals. If attempts are being made to collect debts owed to state agencies by family members on active duty, our office will work with the military member or his/her spouse to create a payment plan that won't burden the family.

Additional services

Aside from direct services, our office also can provide information about possible additional resources. For example, if service members have questions about paying Ohio income taxes while on active duty, they can contact our office and we can provide resources for locating that information. If service members have questions about utility payments and/or shut-off, our office can provide information regarding the law as well as helpful resources.



If you have questions about services that our office provides for current and former service members and their families, call 800-282-0515.