



Jan. 27, 2016

BEHIND THE BADGE

OFFICIAL INFORMATION SOURCE FOR THE AIR FORCE RECRUITING PROFESSIONAL



Armed Forces Bowl

Members of the 344th Recruiting Squadron stand with Gen. Mark A. Welsh III, Air Force chief of staff, at the Armed Forces Bowl in Fort Worth, Texas, Dec. 29. Welsh accepted an award from bowl officials at halftime. He then swore in 25 Delayed Entry Program members from each service, with the Air Force being the lead formation. From left are Capt. Deanna Franzen, 344th RCS Operations commander; Tech. Sgt. David Tarver, Bedford, Texas; Staff Sgt. Nicolas Ablay, Sherman, Texas; Tech. Sgt. Jesus Cerrillo, Denton, Texas; Tech. Sgt. Louie Lozano, Bedford; Welsh; Lt. Col. Robert Firman, 344th RCS commander; Staff Sgt. Adam Konstanzer, Fort Worth; Staff Sgt. Austin Perez, Cedar Hill, Texas; Staff Sgt. Timothy Crowsey, Dallas; and Master Sgt. Alpha Tyler, C-Flight chief. The game, played at Amon G. Carter Stadium, featured the Air Force Falcons against the California Golden Bears. California won, 55-36. (U.S. Air Force photo)

Relief act helps with financial/legal obligations

By Maj. David Coggin
Air Force Recruiting Service Staff Judge Advocate

The Servicemembers Civil Relief Act was passed to provide protection to service members who have difficulty meeting their financial and legal obligations because of their military service.

As part of that protection, the SCRA allows service members required to PCS or deploy with military orders to terminate automotive or residential leases early. The SCRA affords you this right regardless of what your lease says.

Residential Leases – Your deployment must be for at least 90 days for you to terminate your residential lease. To do so, provide the landlord (1) written notice (verbal notice is not sufficient), and (2) a copy of your orders; if you don't have orders yet, a letter from your commander also works.

Your termination notice will be effective “30 days after the first date on which the next rental payment is due and payable after the date on which the notice is delivered.” In other words, if you want to terminate your lease at the end of June (for example), you must provide notice to your landlord before your June 1 rent is due. If you don't provide notice until after you've paid June's rent, your lease won't end until the end of July.

Both your written notice AND your orders/letter from

your commander must be provided to your landlord for the notice to be legally complete. Using the above example, if you provide your written notice on May 29 but don't provide your orders/commander letter until June 3, your termination notice is not legally complete until June 3, and your lease will therefore terminate at the end of July.

Your landlord must not demand any type of penalty for early termination, and refund your security deposit (minus any damages) within 30 days of the date the lease was terminated.

Automotive Leases – Your deployment must be for at least 180 days in order for you to terminate your automotive lease. You may also terminate the lease if you're moving from stateside to overseas, or vice versa. Finally, you may terminate a lease that you entered into prior to coming onto active duty at any time. These rights apply to vehicles used by both you and your dependents.

As with residential leases, you must provide written notice along with your orders or a letter from your commander. Automotive lease terminations are effective on the date the notice and orders/commander letter are provided to the lessor, along with the vehicle.

Have questions? Call or email me at 210-565-4736, david.coggin@us.af.mil, or Master Sgt. Lashundra Howard at 210-565-4734, lashundra.howard@us.af.mil.



Meeting a legend

Three members of the Delayed Entry Program from the 369th Recruiting Squadron attended a Veteran Appreciation luncheon at Bob Hope Patriotic Hall in Los Angeles, Jan. 16. While there they met retired Air Force Lt. Col. Robert Friend, Tuskegee Airman and one of the last surviving Red Tail pilots. From left are Jaime Gallegos and Aries Perez, who are leaving for Basic Military Training in May; Friend; and Ethan McFarland, who heads to BMT in March. (U.S. Air Force photo)



In appreciation

Tech. Sgt. Brandon Wigginton, 369th Recruiting Squadron, stands with staff members of Taste Chicago in Burbank, California, Jan. 20, after presenting certificates of appreciation for catering the squadron holiday party. From left are Augstin Ordaz, chef; Liz Martinez, manager; Wigginton; and Alejandro Sanchez, chef. Taste Chicago is owned by actor Joe Mantegna. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Silver badge

Staff Sgt. Jonathan Chan, 338th Recruiting Squadron B-Flight recruiter, receives his first silver badge out of cycle from Senior Master Sgt. David Jackson, 338th RCS production superintendent, in Athens, Ohio, Jan. 22. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Recruiting salutes

Master Sgt. William Hierholzer, left, and Staff Sgt. Paul Krywinski, right, of the 344th Recruiting Squadron G-Flight, were with their commander, Lt. Col. Robert Firman, when he presented an Air Force Recruiting Salutes plaque Jan. 11 to the Lonestar 92.9/Four R Broadcasting morning show crew for their contributions to the recruiting mission in San Angelo, Texas. Hierholzer conducts a 15-minute radio segment entitled “Good Morning Goodfellow” every Monday morning. He highlights Air Force specialties, local people leaving for Basic Military Training, and information about the base. The show is provided free of charge to the Air Force. From left are Hierholzer; Aaron Wright, morning show producer/host; Firman; Natty Ray and Brice Marcum, morning show hosts; and Krywinski. (U.S. Air Force photo)



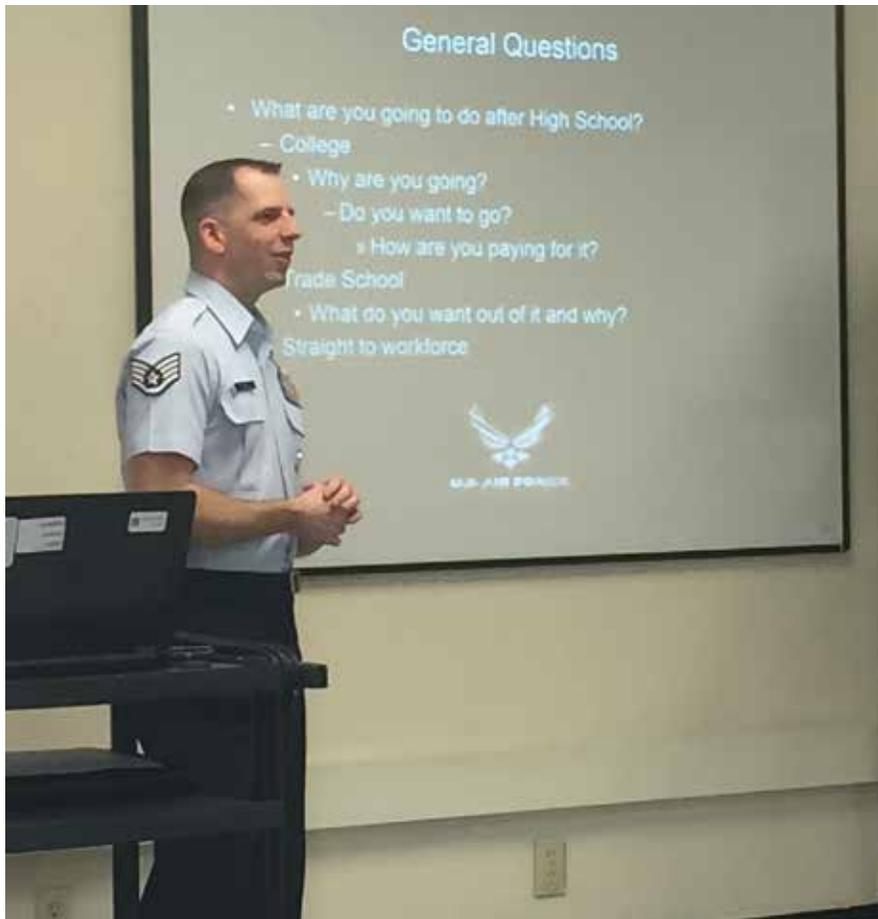
Air Force presence

Staff Sgt. Kevin Christensen, 344th Recruiting Squadron D-Flight, stands with students after conducting a presentation to more than 250 juniors and seniors at Ellison High School in Ellison, Texas, Jan. 14. The visit resulted in more than 70 qualified leads. He presented a certificate of appreciation to the teacher for her support. Christensen is based in the Harker Heights/Killeen, Texas, area. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Drill meet

Tech. Sgt. Jesse Hegeman, 317th Recruiting Squadron B-Flight, and Naomi Dunbar, Indian River High School principal, sit surrounded by members of the Indian River High School Junior ROTC unit in Chesapeake, Virginia, Dec. 12. The cadets took first place in the Chesapeake School District Regional Air Force JROTC Drill Meet, thanks to Hegeman's assistance and mentorship. (U.S. Air Force photo)



School presentation

Staff Sgt. Zachariah Grube, 344th Recruiting Squadron F-Flight recruiter based in Longview, Texas, conducts a classroom presentation at Pittsburg High School near Tyler, Texas, Jan. 14. It was Grube's first presentation at the school. More than 200 juniors and seniors attended, with more than 75 leads. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Teambuilding

Staff Sgt. Curtis Creech, 339th Recruiting Squadron, hosted a teambuilding event with his Delayed Entry Program members at Lone Wolf Paintball in Clinton Township, Michigan, Jan. 20. Creech said "It was an absolute success and really brought some of my DEP members closer together which was the point of the event. I believe that making my DEP feel like they're a part of a tight-knit team is critical to keeping them all motivated for Basic Military Training. Creech is wearing the BDU pants and his wife, Melanie, is next to him in the ABU pants. (U.S. Air Force photo)

A diamond is forever

Master Sgt. Juan P. Villa, 345th Recruiting Squadron Support Flight chief, has been selected to attend the Air Force First Sergeant Academy in September. He is the sole selectee from Air Force Recruiting Service. (U.S. Air Force photo)

