



**ERICSA 62ND ANNUAL
TRAINING CONFERENCE & EXPOSITION**

MAY 18-22, 2025

NORFOLK

VIRGINIA

Life of a Military Child Support Case

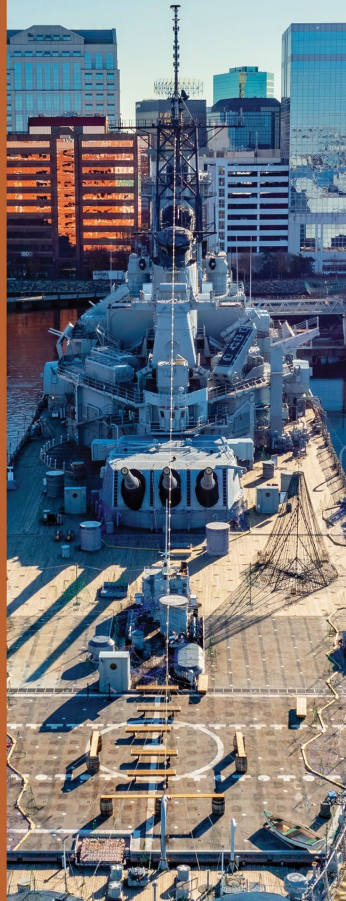


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Agenda

1. Case Introduction: Maria Johnson & Juan Lopez
2. Locating Military Parents
3. Establishing Paternity and Support
4. Enforcement Through DFAS
5. Tricare Enrollment
6. Veterans and Support Collection
7. Q&A





Case Study Introduction

- Maria Johnson and Juan Lopez lived together until recently. They share a daughter, Isabella, age 5. Juan is active-duty Army, stationed at Fort Story in Hampton Roads, Virginia. After their separation, Maria applied for DCSE services. Paternity has not yet been legally established.



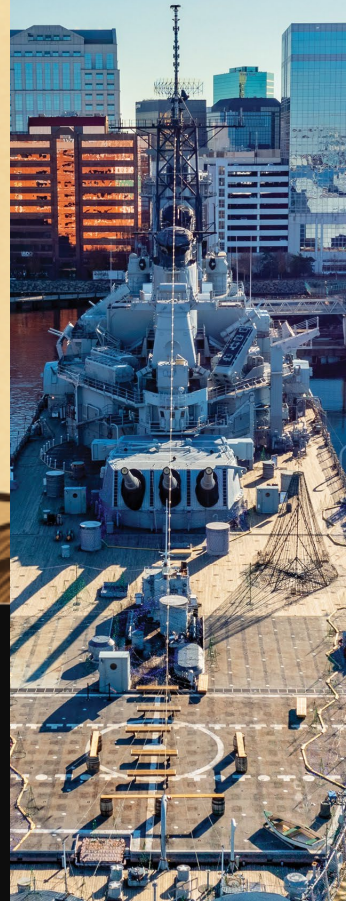
Locating Military Parents

- Maria knows Juan's rank, that he is in the Army, and she has his Social Security Number and date of birth.
 - Instead of Maria signing up for services on MyChild Support Customer Portal, she came into the district office to sign up for services using a paper application.
-



Locating the Military Parent

- **Federal Parent Locator Service (FPLS)**
- **Internal FPLS:** Accessed by DCSE staff via automated interface to search databases like SSA, IRS, SSA wage info, NDNH, and DoD records.
- **External FPLS:** May involve requesting information from federal agencies or utilizing intergovernmental processes when state systems cannot access data directly.
- **Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC)**
 - verify active duty at <https://scra.dmdc.osd.mil>



Establishing Paternity Administratively

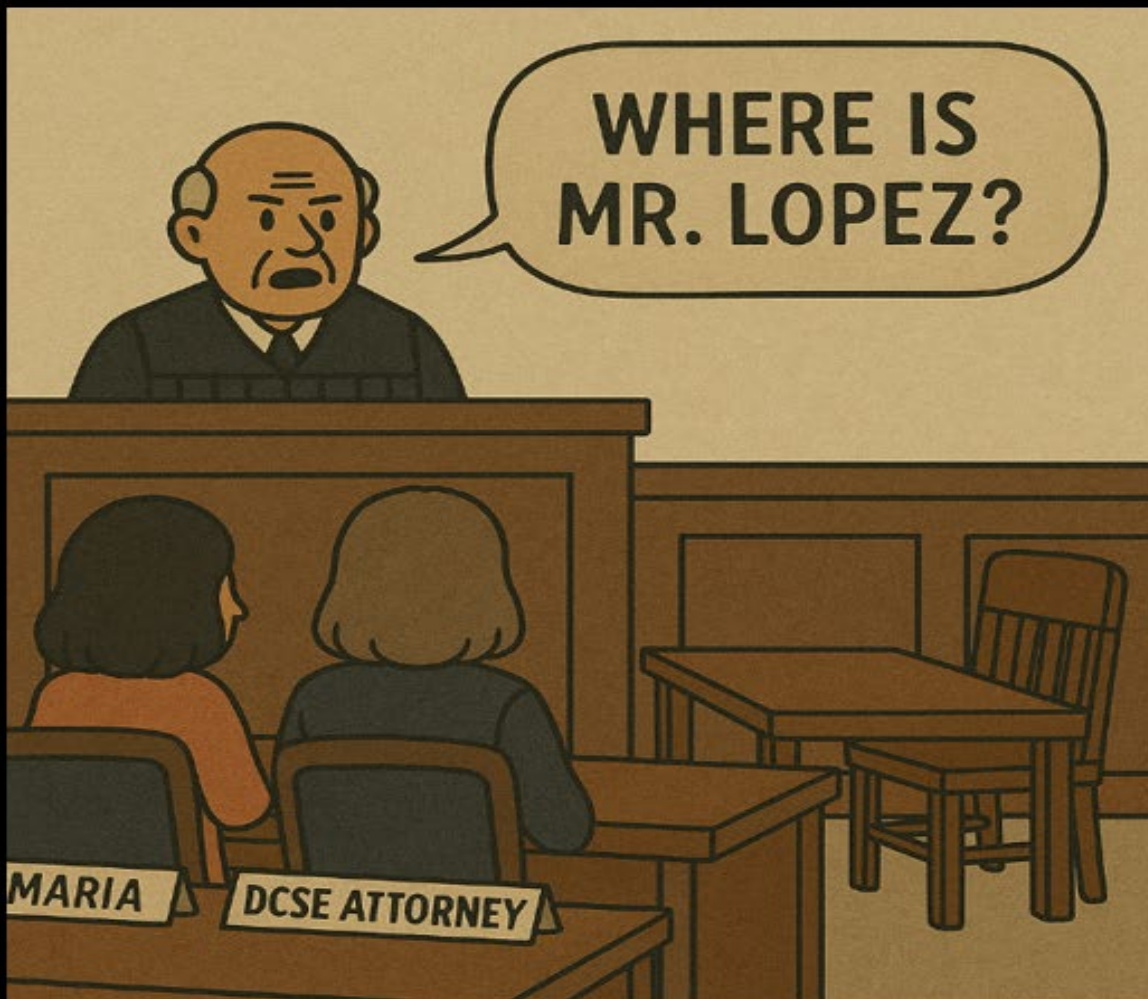
- Juan arrives at the office following the receipt of his administrative summons. The Caseworker inquires about the paternity of Isabella.



Establishing Paternity Administratively

- Acknowledgment of Paternity or Genetic Testing (if paternity is in question)
- The NCP may voluntarily appear at a DCSE office to complete the AOP and/or sign voluntary agreement to complete genetic testing.
- DNA testing can be completed at the DCSE office, or a request can be sent through LabCorp to schedule a testing appointment through a facility based on the NCP's address (in state or out of state)
- *If alleged father fails to respond/cooperate with establishing paternity, DCSE may petition the court for paternity/support establishment.*





Establishing Paternity through the Court

Servicemember Civil Relief Act

- Appointment of GAL for the Servicemember
- Juan's request for a continuance under the SCRA
- Consider Remote Hearings when available
- Reach out to Servicemember and see if he will enter consent order for DNA testing.



Calculating Juan's Monthly Gross Income

- New Hire Quarterly Wage Earnings
- Leave & Earning Statement
- DFAS/DOD Tables



Reading Juan's LES



DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE MILITARY LEAVE AND EARNINGS STATEMENT																								
ID	NAME (LAST, FIRST, MI) Lopez, Juan -				SOC SEC NO 000-00-7892	GRADE E6	PAY DATE 20180115	YRS SVC 6	ETS 20260114	BRANCH ARM	ADSN/DSSN 4820	PERIOD COVERED 1-31APRIL25												
ENTITLEMENTS					DEDUCTIONS					ALLOTMENTS					SUMMARY									
TYPE					AMOUNT					TYPE					AMOUNT					- AMT FWD 0.00				
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O	Base Pay \$ 3,897.00					Fed. Taxes: \$386.45					TSP \$500					- TOT ENT \$6,737.56								
	BAS \$ 452.56					FICA \$247.32					CHK Acct \$750					- TOT DED \$4,059.66								
	BAH \$ 2,148.00					Child Support \$600					Ins. \$250					- TOT ALMT \$2000								
	Special Duty Pay \$150.00					Liberty Housing \$2,148					Auto Loan \$500					= NET AMT \$677.89								
						Mid Month Pay: \$677.89										- CRFWD 0.00								
TOTAL \$ 6,737.56					\$4,059.66					\$2000					DIENS 20180115					RET PLAN BRS				
LEAVE		BF BAL	EREND	USED	CR BAL	ETS BAL	LV LOST	LV PAID	USE LOSE	FED TAXES		WAGE PERIOD	WAGE YTD	N/S	EX	ADD'L TAX	TAX YTD							
		15	26	27	28	29	30	31	32			33	34	35	36	37	38							
FICA TAXES		WAGE PERIOD		SOC WAGE YTD		SOC TAX YTD		MED WAGE YTD		MED TAX YTD		STATE TAXES		ST	WAGE PERIOD		WAGE YTD	M/S	EX	TAX YTD				
		39		40		41		42		43		44		45	46		47	48	49					
PAY DATA		BAQ TYPE		BAQ DEPN		VHA ZIP		LENT AMT		SHAKE		STAT	JFTR	DEPN	ID JFTR	BAS TYPE		CHARITY YTD		TFC	PACEN			
		50		51		52		53		54		55	56	57	58	59		60		61	62			
Thrift Savings Plan (TSP)		BASE PAY RATE		BASE PAY CURRENT		SPEC PAY RATE		SPEC PAY CURRENT		DNC PAY RATE		DNC PAY CURRENT		BONUS PAY RATE		BONUS PAY CURRENT								
		63		64		65		66		67		68		69		70								
		CURRENTLY NOT USED				TSP YTD DEDUCTIONS				DEFERRED				EXEMPT				CURRENTLY NOT USED						
		71				72				73				74				75						
REMARKS		YTD ENTITLE \$36,950.24 YTD DEDUCT \$19,203.64																						



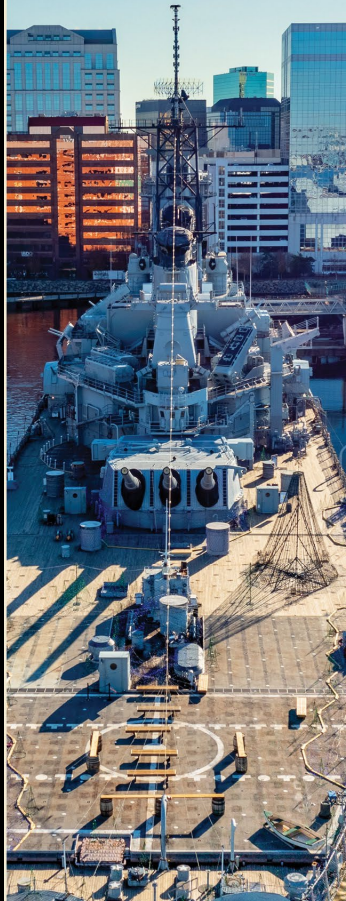
Determine Income without LES

DFAS Pay
Tables

BAH
Calculator

BAS
Table

DFAS
Tables



Cumulative Years of Service (Note 1)

Pay Grade	2 or less	Over 2	Over 3	Over 4	Over 6	Over 8	Over 10
E-9 (Notes 2 & 3)	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,657.30
E-8	0	0	0	0	0	5,449.50	5,690.70
E-7	3,788.10	4,134.30	4,293.00	4,502.10	4,666.50	4,947.60	5,106.30
E-6	3,276.60	3,606.00	3,765.00	3,919.80	4,080.60	4,443.90	4,585.20
E-5	3,220.50	3,466.50	3,637.50	3,802.20	3,959.40	4,142.40	4,234.50
E-4	3,027.30	3,182.10	3,354.90	3,524.70	3,675.60	3,675.60	3,675.60
E-3	2,733.00	2,904.60	3,081.00	3,081.00	3,081.00	3,081.00	3,081.00
E-2	2,599.20	2,599.20	2,599.20	2,599.20	2,599.20	2,599.20	2,599.20
E-1 (Notes 4 & 5)	2,319.00	2,319.00	2,319.00	2,319.00	2,319.00	2,319.00	2,319.00

DFAS Enlisted
Pay Table
Base Pay

Juan is an E5 with
over six years of
service.



BAH Lookup

A member assigned to permanent duty within the 50 United States, who is not furnished Government housing, is eligible for BAH, based on the member's rank, dependency status, and permanent duty station zip code.

[Look up duty station ZIP code \[usps.com\]](#).

ZIP Code *	Year *	Pay Grade *
23451	2025	E-5

Submit



CY: 2 5

ZIP CODE: 2 3 4 5 1

MILITARY HOUSING AREA: NORFOLK/PORTSMOUTH, VA (VA298)

MONTHLY ALLOWANCE:

E 5 with DEPENDENTS:

\$ 2325.00

E 5 without DEPENDENTS:

\$ 1869.00

See [BAH Frequently Asked Questions](#) for more information. For other BAH concerns, contact your service's BAH POC.

BAH Lookup Basic Allowance for Housing

Juan, an E5,
resides in the
23451 zip-
code area



Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS)

DoD FMR, Vol. 7A, Chapter 25

	OFFICERS	ENLISTED
January 1, 2025	\$320.78	\$465.77
January 1, 2024	\$316.98	\$460.25
January 1, 2023	\$311.68	\$452.56

Juan receives \$465.77 in BAS

BAS
Basic Allowance
for Subsistence



Establishing a Support Order: Administrative/Court

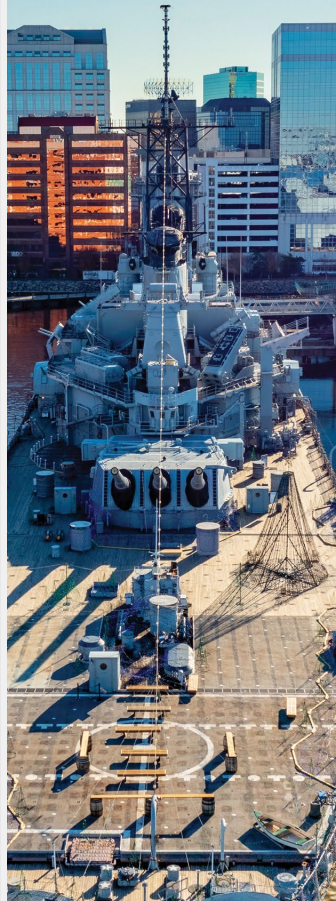
- Must adhere to the Servicemember Civil Relief Act:
- Did Juan participate in the proceeding?
 - Administratively, did Juan complete and return a financial statement
 - Did he sign an SCRA waiver or statement that he participated in the administrative action
 - Did Juan participate in the court action: Communicate with the court or make an appearance.
- Did Juan request a stay of proceeding in accordance with the SCRA requirements?
- Appointment of Guardian Ad Litem (GAL)



DFAS Garnishment Overview

- IWO sent to DFAS Cleveland Garnishment applies to:
 - Base Pay
 - Special Pay
 - Incentive Pay
- Does **not** apply to BAH/BAS
- Do **NOT** send NMSN to DFAS
- Delays: 30–60 days from IWO receipt to first payment
- Coast Guard: Forward IWO to USCG Pay & Personnel Center, 444 SE Quincy Street, Topeka, KS 66683-3591

Family Support Status	Arrears < 12 Weeks	Arrears ≥ 12 Weeks
Supports another spouse or dependent	50%	55%
Does NOT support another spouse or dependent	60%	65%



Enrolling Isabel in Tricare



TRICARE eligibility depends on Isabel being listed in DEERS (Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System).

Juan must enroll Isabel by visiting a RAPIDS (Real-time Automated Personnel Identification System) site.

Steps for Enrollment:

Juan provides birth certificate or paternity order.

Visits nearest RAPIDS ID Card/DEERS enrollment center.

Adds Isabel to DEERS.

TRICARE enrollment follows automatically once listed in DEERS.

Important Note:

There is no need to send a National Medical Support Notice (NMSN) to DFAS.

TRICARE is not enforced through traditional medical support enforcement methods. Listing the child in DEERS is sufficient to establish eligibility for coverage.

RAPIDS Center Locator:

<https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco>

Appointments often required.

Practice Tip:

Caseworkers may assist custodial parent in obtaining necessary legal docs to ensure DEERS enrollment





Other Enforcement Method

- State and federal tax refund offset
- Liens
- Order to withhold
 - Thrift Savings Plan (TSP)
 - Bank Account
- Passport Denial
- Driver's license suspension
- Court action



Collecting Support from Veterans

- Scenario: Juan retires and receives VA disability:
- VA benefits not traditionally garnished from the VA
- Garnish VA Benefits from Veteran's Bank Account
- Maria may apply for apportionment using VA Form 21-0788.
- Concurrent Retirement and Disability Pay (CRDP) - Income
- Combat-Related Special - Income Compensation (CRSC)
- Post 9-11 GI Bill (BAH at E5 with Dependents) - Income



Summary: Maria & Juan's Case Path

1. Locate Juan using DMDC and FPLS
 2. Adhere to SCRA when establishing Paternity and Support
 3. General Rule: Military Pay and Allowances are included as income
 4. Garnish through DFAS
 5. Enroll Isabel in Tricare through DEERS
 6. VA Disability is income and is garnishable through Veteran's Bank Account
-

SUMMARY



Key Resources

[DFAS Resource Manual](#)

[Military Family Handbook](#)

[Working with the Military on Child Support Matters Training Guide](#)

[Tricare](#)





Questions

