



# ACTION CORPUS WEEKLY



June 13, 2022



## **President Signs Veterans Legislation into Law:**

VFW Washington Office Executive Director Bob Wallace and VFW National Legislative Deputy Director Tammy Barlet were in attendance at the White House as President Biden signed into law three VFW-supported bills. The [Dr. Kate Hendricks Thomas SERVICE Act](#) will expand eligibility for VA mammography screenings to veterans who served in certain areas during specific time periods. The [Making Advances in Mammography and Medical Options for Veterans Act](#) will address provisions of mammograms and breast cancer treatment within VA. Lastly, [Strengthening Oversight for Veterans Act of 2021](#) gives the VA Office of Inspector General the authority to subpoena the attendance and testimony of witnesses as needed. [Watch the bill signing.](#)



**VA** | U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

## **Caregiver Program Reassessments Suspended:**

The Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC) annual reassessments have been suspended by VA. Stipends will not be discharged or reduced during the suspension period. The PCAFC program continues to review its requirements and procedures to ensure the program benefits veterans and caregivers. All other application processes, assessments, appeals, and reviews will continue while the procedures are under evaluation. [Read more.](#)



**VA Implements COVID-19 Protection Levels:** To ensure patient safety, VA has introduced COVID-19 Health Protection Levels to provide clear and accommodating guidelines regarding community spread. Low, medium, and high levels based on the local CDC's community transmission rate are monitored and updated weekly. Notifications will be placed at all facility entrances, and on the local facility website and social media channels. [Read more.](#)



**Beware of Predatory Loans:** Interest rates as high as 189% are impacting military-connected consumers and families who are using certain loans to pay for auto repairs and even pets. In some cases, loan terms appear to violate or sidestep existing laws like the [Military Lending Act](#) (MLA), which caps many consumer loan interest rates at 36% for those serving on active duty. All consumers are reminded to exercise caution when making financial choices. [Read more.](#)



**MIA Update:** The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced three burial updates for service members who have been missing and unaccounted-for from World War II. Returning home for burial with full military honors are:

- **Navy Seaman 1st Class William Brooks, 19**, of Cumberland Gap, Tennessee, was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Brooks. He will be buried in Glen Burnie, Maryland, on July 16, 2022. [Read about Brooks.](#)
- **Navy Fireman 3rd Class Clarence Blaylock, 20**, of Fort Worth, Texas, was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Blaylock. He will be buried at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) in Honolulu, on November 9, 2022. [Read about Blaylock.](#)

-- **Navy Seaman 1st Class Houston Temples, 24**, of Varnado, Louisiana, was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Temples. He will be buried in Bogalusa, Louisiana, on December 7, 2022. [Read about Temples.](#)

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