



ACTION CORPUS WEEKLY



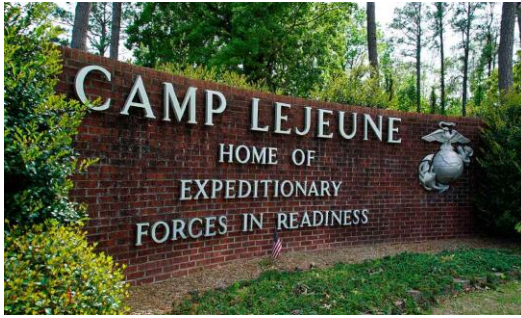
October 31, 2022



Veteran Oral Health Survey: The oral health of our veteran population is chronically underserved. Preventive dental care can significantly impact a veteran's overall health and quality of life, including job security. The VFW is collaborating with the American Institute of Dental Public Health on a survey to evaluate the access, quality, and experiences of oral health care for veterans. This survey may be completed by all veterans and service members. You do not need to be enrolled in VA or TRICARE health programs. [Take the survey.](#)



Annual DOD Suicide Report Released: The Department of Defense (DOD) released the *DOD Annual Report on Suicide in the Military: Calendar Year 2021*. In 2021, 519 service members died by suicide, marking a decrease compared to 2020. Although rates decreased this past year, there is still an upward trend. Young, enlisted males exhibited the highest suicide risk. Military family suicide data from 2020 also included in the report indicates 202 dependents died by suicide, and male spouses exhibited a higher rate than their civilian peers. Firearms were the most common suicide method for both service and family members. [Read the report.](#)



Questions on Camp LeJeune Justice Act: Many veterans have reached out to the VFW regarding the Camp LeJeune provision ([Section 804](#)) of the recently passed PACT Act. Please be advised that there are currently many unknowns as we await implementation. Veterans are encouraged to speak to an accredited veterans service officer before signing any contracts with law firms as this could have an effect on VA benefits and healthcare based on final interpretation. VA regulations are expected in the coming months. For clarification on the impact to your current or future VA benefits, contact an accredited [VFW service officer](#) near you. [Read more.](#)



TRICARE Open Enrollment Season Coming Soon: TRICARE Open Season will run Nov. 14 - Dec. 13, 2022. This is your chance to enroll or change your health care plan for the next year. If you are satisfied with your current plan, no action is necessary, and your coverage will continue automatically for 2023. It is important to note that new retirees have only one year to enroll for TRICARE Prime. Enrollment in TRICARE Prime or Select is not automatic for retirees. [Learn more.](#)



MIA Update: The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency has not announced any new identifications or burial updates this past week.

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As always, we want to hear your advocacy stories. To share your stories or photos with us, simply email them directly to vfwac@vfw.org.

