RESOURCES: Websites
Related to Military Family Law Issues

I. BASICS
   a. JURISDICTION/DOMICILE

   b. SERVICEMEMBERS CIVIL RELIEF ACT (SCRA)

      Finding out if a person is in the military
      http://www.dod.mil/dfas/money/garnish/newsbullet.htm

      www.jagcnet.army.mil/TJAGLCS
      click on TJAGLCS publications
      click on JA 260 Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act (Old law, but good
      resource)

      News Article on new law—Servicemembers Civil Relief Act

      http://www.jagcnet.army.mil/legal
      click on Servicemembers Civil Relief Act

      http://www.abanet.org/family/military/scrajudgesguidecklist.pdf
      Primer on SCRA. Intended as a benchbook for judges.
II. CUSTODY ISSUES
   a. UCCJEA
      
      | **www.jagcnet.army.mil/TJAGLCS** |
      | click on **TJAGLCS publications** |
      | click on **50th Legal Assistance Course Deskbook—Family Law Volume** |
      | click on **Chapter Q: UCCJEA in the military** |
      | **http://www.nccusl.org/nccusl/uniformact_factsheets/uniformacts-fs-uccjea.asp** |
      | A list of all states which have enacted the UCCJEA |

   b. Records for use in custody proceedings
      i. Leave and Earnings Statement shows leave used and leave available; time left in the military
         | **http://www.dod.mil/dfas/money/** |
         | click on **military pay** |
         | click on the service branch you are interested in |
         | click on **Reading Your LES** |

      ii. Family Care Plan—required to have spouse
         | Sample Navy Family Care Plans with links. |
         | One of the links is the Department of Defense Instructions on Family Care Plans |

III. MAXIMIZING BENEFITS FOR MILITARY FAMILIES
   a. PENSION BENEFITS
      i. Uniform Former Spouses Protection Act
         | **http://www.dod.mil/dfas/money/garnish/** |
         | Fact sheet and FAQ’s from Defense Finance and Accounting Service on dividing pension as property. Includes sample language for orders, Department of Defense forms required for direct payment from DFAS. |
         | **http://www.jagcnet.army.mil/legal** |
         | click on **Family Law Matters** |
         | click on **USFSPA** |

      ii. Dividing Pension as Marital Property is a State Law Issue
         | **http://www.defenselink.mil/militarypay/retirement/ad/index.html** |
         | Department of Defense website which talks about 3 kinds of calculations for military retirement based upon entry into the service. |
         | **http://www.defenselink.mil/militarypay/retirement/calc/index.html** |
         | Calculators to figure out retirement pay under the 3 different calculations |

      iii. Waiver Military Pension to Receive VA Disability
         | **http://www.dod.mil/dfas/money/garnish/newsbullet.htm** |
         | Concurrent Receipt of Military Pension and VA Disability—new program |
iv. **Combat Related Special Compensation**  
http://www.dod.mil/dfas/money/  
- click on *retired and annuitant pay*  
- click on *CRSC*  

http://www.dod.mil/prhome/mppcrsc.html  
Information on CRSC

v. **THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN**  
Defense Department site explaining Thrift Savings Plan  

The government manual for dividing a Thrift Savings Plan in a divorce.

b. **SURVIVOR BENEFIT PLAN/ANNUITY**  
http://www.dod.mil/dfas/money/retired/sbpindex.htm  
http://www.dod.mil/dfas/money/  
- click on *military pay*  
- click on the service branch you are interested in  
- click on *Health Care and Insurance*  

Department of Defense information on SBP

c. **LIFE INSURANCE**  
http://www.dod.mil/dfas/money/  
- click on *military pay*  
- click on the service branch you are interested in  
- click on *Health Care and Insurance*  

http://www.military.com/ResourcesAlmanac/ResourcesKeyIndex/0,14015,6-mil_status_active-1,00.html  
Info on various military insurance programs

d. **MEDICAL BENEFITS**  
http://www.jagcnet.army.mil/legal  
- click on *Family Law Matters*  
- click on *USFSMA*  

http://www.ncbar.com/lamp/t_usfspa.htm  
Handout on USFSMA written by Col. Mark Sullivan  

http://www.ncbar.com/lamp/l_usfspa.htm  

http://www.dod.mil/dfas/money/  
- click on *military pay*  
- click on the service branch you are interested in  
- click on *Health Care and Insurance*  

http://www.tricare.osd.mil/  
Military medical insurance when military facilities are not used. Called TRICARE.  

http://www.military.com/Resources/Index/0,13926,5-mil_status_active-1,00.html  
Website with many TRICARE links.
e. CHILD SUPPORT

http://www.dod.mil/dfas/money/garnish/
Facts Sheets and FAQ’s from Defense Finance and Accounting Service


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE OF CONTENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preface</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locating Military Personnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service of Process &amp; Obtaining Evidence from Military Personnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establishing Paternity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Determining the Support Obligation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collecting Support from Military Personnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Soldiers’ and Sailors’ Relief Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APPENDICES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appendix A: Addresses for Worldwide Locator Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix B: Sample Letter to Request Locate Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix C: Sample Letter to Request Home Address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix D: Total Pay Chart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix E: BAH Table II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix F: Sample Letter to Request Pay Information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix G: Addresses for Serving Orders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix H: Sample Letter to Request Involuntary Allotment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix I: Additional Sources of Possible Assistance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

www.jagcnet.army.mil/TJAGLCS
  click on TJAGLCS publications
  click on 50th Legal Assistance Course Deskbook—Family Law Volume
  click on Chapter M: Family Support Obligations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE OF CONTENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. References &amp; Websites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. Other Services’ Support Requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. Army Support Requirements: Ar 608-99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. Army Paternity Policy: Ar 608-99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI. Parental Kidnapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII. Requests For Assistance From Government Officials Based On Court Orders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIII. Support Enforcement Through Garnishment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IX. Support Enforcement Through State Wage Assignment Orders.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X. Support Enforcement Through Involuntary Allotments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XI. Support Enforcement Through The Uniformed Services Former Spouses’ Protection Act: 10 U.S.C. § 1048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XII. Garnishment, Involuntary Allotments, And USFSPA Compared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIII. Welfare Reform Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIV. Conclusion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
www.jagcnet.army.mil/TJAGLCS
  click on TJAGLCS publications
  click on 50th Legal Assistance Course Deskbook—Family Law Volume
  click on Chapter C: Defense Finance & Accounting Svc Processing of Legal Actions

http://www.jagcnet.army.mil/legal
  click on Family Law Matters
  click on Child and Family Support
  This is a good overview of support issues and the military.
  Link within this document that will pull up the Army Support Regulation 608-99

i. Understanding military pay
   1. Base pay—understanding pay charts

http://www.defenselink.mil/militarypay/pay/bp/01_activeduty.html
  Active Duty Pay Charts for 2006

http://www.dod.mil/dfas/money/
  click on military pay
  click on the service branch you are interested in
  click on base pay

2. Special pay [professional pay, jump pay, flight pay, etc]

http://www.dod.mil/dfas/money/
  click on military pay
  click on the service branch you are interested in
  click on special pay

3. Entitlements
   a. Basic Allowance for Housing

  Department of Defense site explaining BAH

https://secureapp2.hqda.pentagon.mil/perdiem/bah.html
  Calculate actual BAH based on rank and zip code

   b. Separate Rations [BAS]

  BAS rates for 2006 for officers and enlisted

4. Taxability

  Department of Defense site explaining what is taxable

  Department of Defense Calculator which will calculate tax advantages to the Servicemember and convert the numbers to a civilian wage.

http://www.dod.mil/dfas/money/
- click on military pay
- click on the service branch you are interested in
- click on Reading Your LES

f. SPOUSAL SUPPORT

http://www.dod.mil/dfas/money/garnish/
- Facts Sheets and FAQ's from Defense Finance and Accounting Service

IV. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND THE MILITARY

www.jagcn.net/army.mil/TJAGLCS
- click on TJAGLCS publications
- click on 50th Legal Assistance Course Deskbook—Family Law Volume
- click on Chapter U: Service Response to Domestic Violence
This publication contains many references to Department of Defense Manuals which concern the Family Advocacy Program; child abuse, spousal abuse, sexual abuse and emotional abuse.

http://www.dtic.mil/domesticviolence/
- Defense Task Force on Domestic Violence website.

http://www.bwp.org/resources.htm
- Battered Women’s Justice Project: The Military Response to Violence
- click on Articles
- submit info about you
- click on Military

http://www.defenselink.mil/fapmip/tools.htm
- Family Advocacy Program Commander’s Guide
- Great links to useful documents
- Intended for command response to domestic violence

http://www.ncdsv.org/index.html
- National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence is an excellent resource for information about the military’s response to domestic and sexual violence.

- ABA Seminar held in September 2005 materials

DIVORCE AND FAMILY LAW OVERVIEW………………………………………………….2
Howard I. Lipsey, Associate Justice, Rhode Island Family Court
I. Introduction…………………………………………………………………………………2
II. The Domicile Concept……………………………………………………………………3
III. The Jurisdictional Jungle in Domestic Cases………………………………………..5
IV. Divisible or Bifurcated Divorce……………………………………………………….9
V. Foreign Divorce…………………………………………………………………………11
  Attachment: Should I Get A Divorce Overseas?.............................................14
  Attachment: Counseling On Foreign Divorce………………………………………..21
FAMILY LAW AND THE SERVICEMEMBERS CIVIL RELIEF ACT………………………..25
Col. Mark Sullivan, USAR (Ret.)
I. Introduction
II. Overview of the New Statute…………………………………………………………..25
III. Stay of Proceedings……………………………………………………………………27
IV. Stay or Vacation of Execution of Judgments, Attachments and Garnishments……30
V. Request for Anticipatory Relief………………………………………………………30
VI. Using the SCRA Stay Request in Family Law Cases………………………………30
VII. Internet SCRA Resources…………………………………………………………….32
  Attachment: Summary of SCRA………………………………………………………34
  Attachment: Sample Motion…………………………………………………………….38
  Attachment: Flow Chart for Opposing “Additional Stay”…………………………40
  Attachment: SCRA: A Judge’s Checklist……………………………………………..42