

WHY RECORD DD-214's?

- DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty is issued to every veteran upon separation of service.
 - Summarizes career, and includes (list is not all inclusive):
Military pay grade (rank)
Last military unit served in
Primary Specialty or Military Operational Specialty (career field)
Total time served to include Foreign Service
Decorations, medals, badges, citations and campaign ribbons earned
Military education and schools attended
Type of separation
Narrative reason for separation/discharge and reenlistment eligibility
 - It's the **most important** document a veteran receives.
 - Also required by Funeral Directors in order to immediately prove eligibility for interment in a VA Cemetery and/or obtain a grave marker and/or provide military honors to a deceased veteran.
- Commonly used by various government agencies, to include Dept. of Veteran's Affairs to secure government benefits.
 - Can also be requested by employers should a veteran indicate, military service.
- Veterans are advised during pre-separation briefings that they should record Copy 4 (Members Copy) at their Register of Deeds office.
- Recording DD-214 is another way of safeguarding the military service record and allows veterans an avenue to quickly get the document if the need arises.
 - If misfiled or lost by veteran, it helps the veteran avoid the inconvenience of having to reach out to the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, MO, which can take a lengthy amount of time.
- Certified copies can be printed for veterans (who have recorded with the Register of Deeds) by coming to our office at NO cost to the veteran.