

Sasso Guerrero & Henderlite Clarifies Military Divorce Procedures for Service Member Families

June 19, 2026

JACKSONVILLE, FL - June 19, 2026 -
Sasso Guerrero & Henderlite, a Jacksonville-based family law firm, is providing essential guidance on the distinct legal framework governing military divorces compared to civilian proceedings. The firm emphasizes that service members and their spouses face unique jurisdictional requirements and federal regulations that significantly impact divorce timelines and outcomes.

Military divorces incorporate both state family law and federal statutes, creating a complex legal landscape that differs substantially from standard civilian cases. Service members stationed at installations such as NAS Jacksonville and Naval Station Mayport must navigate specific residency requirements that can affect where divorce proceedings occur. Unlike civilian divorces, military cases may involve multiple jurisdictions when spouses reside in different states due to military assignments.

The Servicemembers Civil Relief Act provides crucial protections for active-duty personnel during legal proceedings. This federal law allows service members to request stays in divorce proceedings when military

duties prevent court participation. Additionally, deployment schedules and training obligations can extend divorce timelines beyond typical civilian case durations.

"Understanding the intersection of federal military regulations with Florida family law requires specialized knowledge that many attorneys lack," states Jay Henderlite, managing partner at Sasso Guerrero & Henderlite. "Service members need representation that comprehends how the Uniformed Services Former Spouses' Protection Act affects retirement benefit division and how military health benefits continue or terminate after divorce."

Military retirement benefits present particular complexities absent in civilian divorces. Federal law permits state courts to divide military retired pay as marital property, but specific formulas and timing considerations apply. The 10/10 rule, which requires ten years of marriage overlapping with ten years of military service for direct retirement payment to former spouses, exemplifies regulations unique to military cases.

Child custody arrangements in military divorces require additional considerations regarding deployment possibilities and permanent change of station orders. Courts must balance the best interests of children with the realities of military service obligations. Parenting plans often include provisions for virtual visitation during deployments and detailed arrangements for leave periods.

The firm's military divorce overview addresses how Basic Allowance for Housing and other military allowances factor into support calculations differently than civilian income sources. Military families also face decisions about continued commissary and exchange privileges, Tricare health coverage eligibility, and survivor benefit plan elections that civilian divorcing couples never encounter.

Geographic challenges compound military divorce complexity when service members receive transfer orders during proceedings. Interstate custody modifications and enforcement become critical issues when military parents relocate across state lines or internationally. These situations require attorneys familiar with both the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act and military family dynamics.

Sasso Guerrero & Henderlite serves military families throughout Northeast Florida, including Clay, Duval, Nassau, and St. Johns counties. The firm's three Board Certified Marital & Family Law Experts provide comprehensive family law services including divorce, child custody, support modifications, and prenuptial agreements. The practice also handles criminal law matters, offering defense representation for domestic violence, DUI, and other charges affecting military and civilian clients alike.

###

For more information about Sasso Guerrero & Henderlite, contact the company here:Sasso Guerrero

& HenderliteJay Henderlite(904) 619-1386info@familylawyerjax.comSouthside:9191 R.G. Skinner Parkway, Suite 703Jacksonville, FL 32256

Sasso Guerrero & Henderlite

Sasso Guerrero & Henderlite is a Jacksonville law firm representing clients in divorce, family law, and domestic violence cases. With three Board-Certified partners, the firm handles custody, support, alimony, and property division with dedication.

Website: https://familylawyerjax.com/

Email: info@familylawyerjax.com

Phone: (904) 619-1386

