

- ❖ Office of Military and Veteran Legal Assistance (OMVLA) is a program led by the Office of the Utah Attorney General in conjunction with the Utah Department of Veterans and Military Affairs; a public-private partnership offering pro bono legal assistance and representation to Active Duty, Reserve, and National Guard service members in a variety of civil law matters including:
  - o Military Rights
  - o Property/Landlord
  - o Creditor/Debtor
  - o Consumer Fraud
  - o Naturalization/Immigration
  - Predatory Lending
  - o Employment and Re-employment Rights
  - Wills/Powers of Attorney
- ❖ The program pairs military service members in need of legal assistance with local pro bono private legal counsel for civil matter.
- ❖ Assistance through the program is by referral only. For referral to this program:
  - Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve service members in need of legal assistance should contact their local Judge Advocate General Office.
  - Veterans should contact their local Veterans Service Officers through the Utah Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Service members need to fill out paperwork so that staff can determine if they qualify for our services. Staff will consider several factors in determining qualification for the program:
  - o Military status must be Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard, or if the person is a veteran, they cannot have a dishonorable discharge.
  - O Consider whether or not the person has a legal issue that is covered under the program and examine the merits of the case.
  - o If they qualify, they will be notified by telephone and email that their case has been accepted into the pro bono program and refer them to a private pro bono attorney. Attorneys are volunteers and will represent without charge unless awarded attorney's fees from the opposing party. An attorney assigned to a case is not employed by or otherwise associated with the Utah Attorney General's Office, other than volunteering to assist with the legal problem without charge.

## **.** Contact:

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