

## MILPERSMAN 1741-020

### GOVERNMENT LIFE INSURANCE

<b>Responsible Office</b>	NAVPERSCOM (PERS-00C)	Phone:	DSN	882-2501
			COM	(901) 874-2501
		TOLL FREE WITHIN U.S.		(800) 368-3202
NAVPERSCOM CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER		Phone:	Toll Free	1-866-U ASK NPC

<b>References</b>	(a) 38 U.S.C. §1965-§1980 (b) BUPERSINST 1001.39F (c) 38 CFR §9.1 (d) 10 U.S.C. §12731
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1. **Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI)**. SGLI is a life insurance policy purchased by the Veterans' Administration from a commercial life insurance company which is available to eligible members of the United States Navy up to a maximum of \$400,000. The Office of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance administers the SGLI Program and is governed by reference (a). The Servicemembers' and Veterans' Group Life Insurance Handbook also discusses the program in detail at:

[https://www.benefits.va.gov/INSURANCE/resources/handbook\\_ins.asp](https://www.benefits.va.gov/INSURANCE/resources/handbook_ins.asp).

2. **SGLI Coverage**. Eligible members, as outlined below, are automatically insured for \$400,000, unless otherwise reduced or declined by the member. Additional details about Government life insurance for Reserve members may be found in reference (b).

- a. Service members on active duty in the Regular Navy.
- b. Navy Reserve members performing active duty, active duty for training (ADT), or inactive duty training (IDT).
- c. Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) midshipmen - Fully covered while on training cruises only.
- d. Naval Academy midshipmen - Covered on a full-time basis.

e. Navy Reserve members (pay or non-pay) who are assigned to a unit in which they may be required to perform active duty or ADT, and will be scheduled to perform at least 12 drills annually that are covered on a full-time basis. Entitlement to coverage is affected if a member becomes medically disabled or is transferred to a unit that is not scheduled to perform at least 12 drills per year.

f. **Other members of the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR)** - Covered only during the period of their ADT.

3. **SGLI Online Enrollment System (SOES)**. In April 2017, the Chief of Naval Operations announced the activation of the SGLI Online Enrollment System. SOES is designated as the system of record for SGLI elections and beneficiary designations, and all data entered in SOES will be maintained within the system. Effective immediately, Sailors will conduct actions described in subsequent paragraphs using the SOES System. Use of the SGLV 8286 Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Election and Certificate may occur outside SOES under the following circumstances:

a. Sailor is unable to access the system due to computer accessibility, limited bandwidth, or system maintenance;

b. Sailor is unable to enter desired beneficiary information due to system limitations (i.e., Sailor wishes to enter information regarding a trust or trustee, custodial account, or pre-existing data is incorrect); or

c. Other circumstances in which entry into SOES is not possible.

Sailors not using the SOES System should ensure the SGLV 8286 is signed, witnessed, and submitted into the official military personnel file (OMPF). If needed, an SGLV 8286 may be accessed by using the following Web address: <http://www.benefits.va.gov/INSURANCE/resources-forms.asp>.

**Note: Inclusion in the OMPF is only required if an SGLV 8286 is signed outside SOES. Coverage and elections made in SOES are retained within the system and should not be submitted to the OMPF.**

4. **Reducing or Declining Coverage.** Members may decline coverage or request reduced coverage in any increment of \$10,000 by entering SOES and making such elections. Members are encouraged to check future leave and earnings statement (LES) to verify the subsequent changes in premium. If member is married, the member's spouse will be automatically notified in writing if the member elects other than the maximum amount of coverage.

5. **Designation of Beneficiaries.** Members may designate any person(s) as their beneficiary(ies). If the member is married and designates any individual other than his or her spouse or child, the spouse will be automatically notified in writing. Should multiple beneficiaries be named, SOES will require the member to clearly specify the amount designated for each.

6. **Accelerated Benefit Option (ABO).** If the insured member has been certified by a physician as "terminally ill," the member may elect the ABO under SGLI or Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI). **The member may receive a lump sum payment of up to 50 percent of his or her SGLI or VGLI coverage.** "Terminally ill" is defined as having a medical prognosis of a life expectancy of 9 months or less. Only the insured can apply for payment under the ABO. Accepting this benefit reduces the subsequent amount awarded at death. Details for members considering this option are available in reference (a), §1980 or the VA's SGLI Handbook.

7. **Termination of SGLI**

a. Per reference (a), termination of SGLI occurs on:

(1) The 120th day after separation from active duty or ADT under calls or orders that specify a period of 31 days or more, unless the member returns to an active status in the Navy Reserve, and on the 120th day after the member is separated from a drilling status for members of the Selected Reserve, or nonpay members assigned to a Reserve unit which performs at least 12 drills annually as outlined in paragraph 2e;

(2) The end of the 31st day of a continuous period of time when the member is:

(a) Absent without leave;

(b) Confined by civil authorities under a sentence adjudged by a civilian court; or

(c) Confined by military authorities under a sentence by court-martial involving total forfeiture of pay and allowances; or

(3) The last day of the month in which written notice to discontinue coverage is filed.

b. SGLI is forfeited when an insured member is guilty of mutiny, treason, spying, desertion, or refuses (because of conscientious objections) to perform service in the Armed Forces of the United States or to wear the uniform of such forces.

c. No insurance will be payable for death inflicted as a lawful punishment for crime or for military or naval offense, except when inflicted by an enemy of the United States.

#### 8. Restoration of SGLI Coverage

a. Service members who decline or elect to reduce coverage or seek to become insured or increase their coverage must request restoration through SOES. Members are advised this request may require review and approval at the Office of Servicemen's Group Life Insurance (OSGLI) level.

b. Coverage terms are automatically restored if benefit was terminated due to:

(1) Unauthorized absence in excess of 31 days;

(2) Confinement by civilian authorities under a sentence adjudged by a civilian court; or

(3) Military confinement involving total forfeiture of pay.

9. Extension of SGLI Coverage for Disability. A Service member with current full time SGLI coverage and considered totally disabled (as defined in reference (c)) at the time of separation or release from active duty is eligible for coverage extension. Coverage will be provided for 2 years from the date of separation or release, or to the date the insured ceases to be totally disabled (whichever is earlier), but in no event prior to 120 days after separation or release.

10. **SGLI Part-Time Coverage**. Part-time coverage is provided for Reserve Sailors who:

a. Are not eligible for full time coverage and execute a set of active duty orders for less than 31 days. The Sailor is fully covered during the active duty timeframe.

b. Perform inactive duty training scheduled in advance. The Sailor is covered during the execution of inactive duty training orders.

c. Are in route directly to or from the location of a period of active or inactive duty.

d. Are NROTC midshipmen while on training cruises.

11. **SGLI-to-VGLI Conversion**. Per reference (a), the conversion privilege is as follows:

a. Members with full-time SGLI coverage at the time of separation or release are eligible for VGLI in the same or lesser amount held at the time of separation or release, or conversion to an individual policy with a participating commercial company. A member electing to convert to VGLI must apply for coverage within 1 year and 120 days. If the member applies within 120 days after separation or release, VGLI is issued, regardless of the member's state of health, with coverage made effective on the 121st day. If an application is not submitted within the 120-day period, medical evidence of insurability is required. In this case, VGLI will be effective the date an acceptable application and premium is received in the OSGLI. Members who are totally disabled at the time of separation may purchase VGLI while remaining totally disabled up to 1 year following separation. The effective date of VGLI will be at the end of the 1-year period following separation, or the date the disability ends, whichever is earlier. See paragraph 16 for additional information regarding VGLI;

b. While insured under part-time coverage, members who incur a disability or aggravate a preexisting disability during a Reserve active or inactive period can convert their SGLI coverage to VGLI coverage within the 120-day period following the period during which the disability incurred. Proof of disability must be submitted together with an application and initial premium; and

c. Conversion to VGLI cannot be accomplished in SOES. Members must apply directly to the VA for conversion to VGLI online at: [www.benefits.va.gov/insurance/apply-for-vgli.asp](http://www.benefits.va.gov/insurance/apply-for-vgli.asp) or by mail using SGLV 8714 Application for Veterans' Group Life Insurance. SGLV may be accessed by using the following Web address: <http://www.benefits.va.gov/INSURANCE/resources-forms.asp>.

12. **Financial Counseling.** The VA offers free professional financial counseling through FinancialPoint®. Additional information is available through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Web site at: <http://www.benefits.va.gov/insurance/bfcs.asp>.

13. **Use of SGLV 8286 Election Form.** Certain situations, such as those listed in paragraph 3, may require the use of the SGLV 8286. Sailors who require an emergent change in coverage, or beneficiaries who cannot immediately access SOES may elect to fill out a paper copy of the SGLV 8286, which should be witnessed, signed, and submitted to the OMPF. Commands should also retain this form until the Sailor is able to indicate his/her elections within SOES.

14. **SGLI Coverage for Retired Reservists**

a. A member assigned to the Retired Reserve or eligible for assignment to the Retired Reserve, qualifies for coverage under the VGLI Program in increments of \$10,000 up to the maximum coverage of \$400,000, provided that the member:

(1) Has not received the first increment of retired pay;

(2) Has not reached his or her 61st birthday;

(3) Has completed at least 20 years of satisfactory service creditable for Reserve retired pay under reference (d), subchapter III; and

(4) Submits a completed SGLV 8714 Application for Veterans' Group Life Insurance and the required premium to the following address:

<p><b>Office of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance</b> <b>290 W. Mt. Pleasant Avenue</b> <b>Livingston, NJ 07039-2747</b></p>
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b. Application for this coverage must be made within 120 days from transfer to the Retired Reserve or release from the Selected Reserve.

c. Termination of insurance occurs upon receipt of the first increment of retired pay, or the 61st birthday, whichever occurs first.

15. **FSGLI**. Family coverage under the SGLI Program became effective 1 November 2001. Program details, including the procedures for filing a claim, are contained in MILPERSMAN 1741-030.

16. **VGLI**. VGLI is a 5-year renewable term policy which has no cash, loan, paid-up, or extended values. Application, designation of beneficiaries, and settlement options should be made on SGLV 8714. Refer to paragraph 11 for timing requirements regarding application for conversion from SGLI to VGLI.

a. **Eligibility**. VGLI is available to the following:

(1) Service members who are released from active duty or ADT under calls or orders that do not specify a period of 31 days or less;

(2) Members of the Ready Reserve insured under SGLI who are separated, retired, or released from assignment;

(3) Individuals assigned to the IRR (must provide orders); and

(4) Members with part-time SGLI who suffer an injury or disability while in the performance of their duty (to include travel to and from duty location) which renders them uninsurable at standard premium rates.

b. **Conversion**. Members may convert VGLI coverage to a participating commercial company at any time, provided VGLI premiums are paid up to the date of conversion.

c. For claim submittal and payment information, effective dates of coverage, and any additional information, refer to the Department of Veterans' Affairs Web site at: <http://www.insurance.va.gov/sgliSite/vgli/vgliFaq.htm>.

17. **Combined SGLI and VGLI.** Any member insured under VGLI who again becomes eligible for coverage under SGLI (i.e., separated individuals who reenlist for military service) may not exceed the maximum amount of \$400,000 of combined coverage. These members may elect to be completely covered under SGLI, or (within 60 days after becoming so insured) may convert any or all of the VGLI coverage to an individual private policy. However, if the member dies within the 60-day period before converting, VGLI will be payable only in an amount which (when added to the amount of SGLI payable) must not exceed \$400,000.

18. **Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance**

a. The Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance Program was established in 1951 to meet the insurance needs of certain veterans with Service-connected disabilities.

b. **Eligibility Conditions:**

(1) Must have been released under other than dishonorable conditions on or after April 25, 1951;

(2) Must have received a rating for service-connected disability;

(3) Must be in good health, except for any service-connected conditions; and

(4) Must apply within 2 years of being granted a service connection for a disability.

c. Complete program details and applications can be found on the Department of Veterans' Affairs Web site at: <http://www.insurance.va.gov/gli/buying/SDVI.htm>

19. **Command Responsibility.** Commands will ensure members are well informed of the benefits provided for members and their families through the SGLI, FSGLI, and VGLI Programs detailed within this article. Encourage members who reduce, increase, or decline coverage to check his or her LES to verify the change is reflected in collected premiums.



20. **Spouse Notification**. Spousal notification letters are automatically generated through SOES, based on data available in DEERS. Should a member require emergent actions outlined in paragraph 13, the command must issue the spousal notification letter if the hard copy election form meets the criteria outlined in paragraphs 4 or 5. Exhibit 1 is a sample letter for use in these infrequent instances.

**EXHIBIT 1**

**SAMPLE SPOUSE NOTIFICATION LETTER**

(Use proper letter format.)

**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
Navy Recruiting District Columbia  
1835 Assembly Street  
Strom Thurmond Federal Building  
Columbia, SC 29201-2480**

1770  
Ser CO 15/  
3 Jul 08

From: Commanding Officer, Navy Recruiting District Columbia,  
1835 Assembly Street, Strom Thurmond Federal Building,  
Columbia, SC 29201-2480

To: Mr. Oliver O'Toole  
938 Tankerhurst Drive  
Waco, TX 55555

Subj: SERVICEMEMBER'S GROUP LIFE INSURANCE (SGLI) CHANGE IN COVERAGE

1. Our records indicate that you are the spouse of Petty Officer Pauline Williams O'Toole. Per 38 U.S.C. Code, Chapter 19, we are notifying you that on 1 July 2011, Petty Officer O'Toole (declined Servicemember's Group Life Insurance (SGLI)/elected an amount of coverage less than the maximum amount offered under the Servicemember's Group Life Insurance (SGLI) Program/has designated another/additional beneficiary(ies) under the Servicemember's Group Life Insurance (SGLI) Program).

2. By law, your spouse is entitled to make the above election. We are required by the same law to inform you of the decision, but we may not disclose any other particulars, other than those stated above. Your spouse has been made aware that this letter was generated and sent. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please call 1-800-368-3202 or write to the office below:

Navy Casualty Assistance Division (PERS-00C)  
5720 Integrity Drive  
Millington, TN 38055-6200

C. A. CAPTAIN

Copy to:  
PERS-313