


|   |                          |   |              |                  |              |
|---|--------------------------|---|--------------|------------------|--------------|
|  | <b>Agency Name</b>       | Office of Family Support (OFS)          |              |                  |              |
|   | <b>Chapter No./Name</b>  | 09 – Support Enforcement Services (SES) |              |                  |              |
|   | <b>Part No./Name</b>     | M. Military                             |              |                  |              |
|   | <b>Section No./Name</b>  | M-100 Military Noncustodial Parent      |              |                  |              |
|   | <b>Document No./Name</b> | M-110 Overview                          |              |                  |              |
|   | <b>Dates</b>             | <b>Issue</b>                            | June 1, 2008 | <b>Effective</b> | June 1, 2008 |

\* The purpose of this overview is to assist when one of the parents in a case is an active duty member of the Armed Services. The overview will identify and discuss tools that have been used successfully to cope with common difficulties in child support enforcement cases involving military personnel.

The information contained in this section was provided by the [Administrative and Civil Law Division, United States Army, Judge Advocate General's Corp \(JAG\)](#). In preparation and review of the various branches of the Armed Services, the [Department of Defense \(DOD\)](#) addresses some problems which are unique to dealing with the military including:

- Locating the NCP who is a member of the military,
- Establishing paternity and an obligation for child support, and
- Enforcing the order.

## M-111 MILITARY PERSONNEL

There are at least three helpful hints for dealing with the military on civil matters such as child support enforcement. First, ask for help; do not insist on it. Invoking your civilian authority and making demands will often meet resistance. Respect is significant in all military matters. If you show respect for both military personnel and their mission, they will generally show you and your mission the same level of respect.

Second, be prepared to recognize that there are some valid limitations on the military's abilities to respond to your requests. To illustrate, some military information - such as ship schedules and the dates or locations of military exercises - is routinely classified and cannot be revealed. National security does require some secrecy. Nonetheless, there are well-established ways that you can ask for and expect to receive the military's help in communicating with members of any active unit.

Third, use the military command structure to your advantage. Contact the service member first. Then, if necessary, contact the service member's commander or the commander's representative. If you still do not get an acceptable response, then contact the commander's superior and make sure you highlight all your previous attempts to use other points of contact. You will frequently find superiors who will push to resolve personal matters like child support before they interfere with military duties.

More information may be located in the quick guide [Working with the Military as an Employer](#). \*\*