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DITY Move

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Abstract

The DITY move program got created due to military members complaining about contract movers destroying or stealing their property. The program gave the Soldier an opportunity to move their property without the fear of property damage or loss. It also gave the Soldier flexibility in moving. The Army created a weight limit based on the Soldiers rank, but if the Soldiers property doesn't reach the maximum weight. The Service member will add weight by any means to reach their maximum weight limit. Other Soldiers have added fifty gallon drums of water to their house hold goods to make more money. Service members caught can face punishment under the UCMJ or Court Martial. The charges the Soldier could face can be conspiracy and fraudulent claims under Article 81 and 132.

DITY Move

In my opinion military “ethics” is important for all Soldiers and senior non-commission officers in the military. Three terms in the military are important to leaders; those words are Value, Morals, and Ethics. The definitions of these words are.

Value: To think highly of; highly thought of.

Morals: Capable of distinguishing between right and wrong.

Ethics: Standards of conduct and moral judgment.

The Army developed a standard of ethics that all Soldiers should be proud of. The senior leader should be the role models of ethical behavior for Soldiers to duplicate. For the next several minutes I will talk about a problem that happens in the military quite often. The military to assist the Soldier on their PCS move create the “The do it yourself move” or better known as the “DITY Move”. The problem within this program is many Soldiers attempt to make more money from the government than they should. Soldiers from E-1 to the highest rank in the military are guilty of fraudulent claims.

The DITY move program got created due to military members complaining about contract movers destroying or stealing their property. The program gave the Soldier an opportunity to move their property without the fear of property damage or loss. It also gave the Soldier flexibility in moving. Soldiers are unaware that the government will only reimburse them for 80 percent of the cost of doing a DITY move. However, many senior non-commissioner officers have told their Soldiers they can profit from DITY moves for their own gain.

The Army created a weight limit based on the Soldiers rank, but if the Soldiers property doesn't reach the maximum weight. The service member will add weight by any means to reach their maximum weight limit. Other Soldiers have added fifty gallon drums of water to their house hold goods to make more money. Many Soldiers, PCSing to another post have discovered the finance office have become overwhelmed in paper work and fail to closely monitor the claims coming into the office. The finance office would not do the proper follow-up on money advances without the proper documentation submitted. This error would allow Soldiers to submit numerous DITY move applications.

Service members have stolen thousands of dollars from the government. The government created restrictions and policies to prevent Soldiers from abusing this program. To better monitor the DITY move program, government inspectors should accompany the Soldier in the weigh-in process to ensure proper weigh-in is conducted. Another solution would be; give the Soldier a maximum amount based on their rank. This would prevent Soldiers from getting extra monetary gains on their moves. Service members caught can face punishment under the UCMJ or Court Martial. The charges the Soldier could face can be conspiracy and fraudulent claims under Article 81 and 132. Service members have an inclination to associate a change in standard with a decline of standards. The senior leaders need to ensure all Soldiers get trained and informed on the DITY move program. Leaders should emphasize the duty of being ethical on the submitting of the DITY move application and claim form.

The leader should uphold the Army values which set the standards of our conduct and ensure all Soldiers follow those standards. The Army cannot afford to lose good Soldiers from ethical behavior. The leaders should practice and teach values, morals, and ethics. Should the senior non-commission officers allow any Soldier to take advantage of a program established to assist them on their move? That ethical question is up to you to answer. Think of the consequences before making the wrong choice. Is anybody's military career worth the money?

Conclusion

The DITY move program got created to assist the service member on their PCS move. Soldiers can make a monetary gain on the DITY move. The solutions to prevent Soldiers from making the wrong decision would include, overseeing the weight-in process or instead of setting a minimum or maximum weight limit based on rank. The government should set a maximum amount based on the rank of the Soldiers. This would eliminate Soldiers from increasing the weight or falsifying the weight to get any monetary gain. The unethical decision would cost the Soldiers their military career.

References

Uniform Code of Military Justice

<http://www.ditymovers.com/>

<http://www.helpumove.com/military.htm>