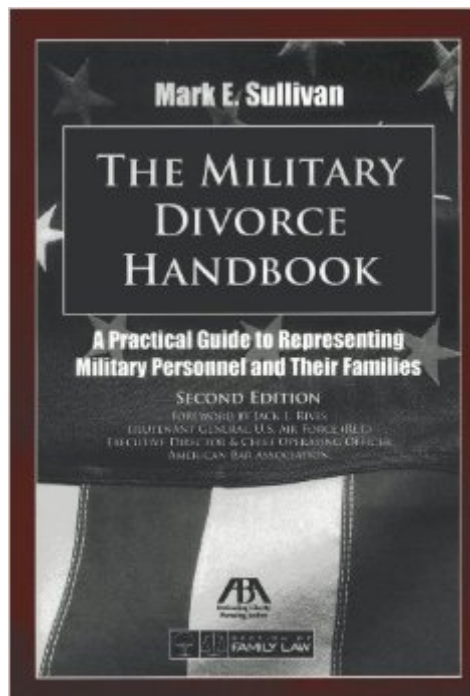


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# The Military Divorce Handbook: A Practical Guide To Representing Military Personnel And Their Families



## Synopsis

Handling divorce and family law cases involving service members has never been more timely, and the unique factors involved in representing these cases will affect nearly all family and general practice lawyers. This practical resource covers all aspects of representing service members and their spouses in divorce in an accessible, easy-to-use format, and includes numerous Practice Tips, forms and appendices. Topics include the Service members Civil Relief Act, custody, domestic violence, tax issues, and the division of military retirement benefits. Includes forms CD-ROM.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I highly recommend this book to all wives in the process of a military divorce or are already divorced. This book was like my bible when I got my divorce. It really protected me. Please try and get one, you will not regret it.

Mark Sullivan writes a book here that will serve you well if you are contemplating or going through a divorce and you are associated with the military. It's pricy when you look at the cost. However, consider the \$300 to \$600 per hour a lawyer will charge for advice (or just to listen to you bash your opponant) and it works out to approximately 15 minutes. Military divorce is intricate in its rules, varies immensely by state and of course there are the unique custody issues and retirement benefits to consider. Throw DFAS rules into it, the UFSPA, the Supreme Court and a lot of district court judges that know little about the military and you have a perfect recipe for a bad, unfair and perhaps unenforceable divorce settlement. You may end up back in court 10 years later fighting the same

battles (and spending twice the money). Mr. Sullivan lays out the issues fairly and clearly. He takes the perspective of both sides. He applies the federal and state laws and objectively shows you your options/approaches. Whether you are a military serviceman/servicewoman or a military spouse, this book is worth every penny. Believe it.

If you're going through a military divorce and looking for an attorney, you should get one who knows of and has this book. It's the "bible" of military divorce. I'm not an attorney--I'm a military spouse going through a military divorce and I bought this book for myself (the book is just as valuable to the service member). Like another reviewer said, it's a bit pricey, but when you consider how much time you're being charged by your attorney and how many thousands of dollars are at stake, it's well worth the money. When you're done with it, you can share this valuable book with any friends who may need it or you can donate it to a library (better yet, a library on a military base). If you're a non-lawyer, some parts may be a bit over your head as far as the legalese goes, but at least you'll know what issues about which you need to ask your attorney and make sure he is aware of. While this book does cite precedent (cases) from various states around the country, it is not a book that details individual state law. If you want a book on divorce law in general for whichever state in which you file, you'll have to find it elsewhere. However, this book will spell out your options regarding in which state you wish to file (military members have more options on choosing the state--the state in which one is stationed, where the spouse is living, home of record, etc.). It's a great book and I am very happy to have found it. Thank you to the authors for writing it. To all the service members and their families who need it--good luck, God bless, and thanks you \*all\* for your service.

Great resource for any family law attorney who gets any military client. If you work in a town close to a military installation, it's a must. If you get a client who has any military benefits that could possibly be subject to division, save yourself (and your client) several (billable) hours of research and just get a copy. I've been a military attorney for over 10 years now, and I bought this because frankly, it's the Bible of military divorce. I'm very familiar with retirement and separation entitlements, but this book helped me make better sense of even my own benefits. It covers everything from SCRA, USFPA, DFAS requirements, transitional TRICARE, SDP and TSP division rules, SBP issues, and more. \*\*Professional recommendation: if you're in private practice and you have a military or former military client (particularly retirees) and you can't identify ALL of those acronyms, click "Buy Now" immediately and take a huge step toward preventing your own future malpractice.\*\*

This box is very good but for how comprehensive it is, I wish it would've included Social Security Disability and Veterans Disability and how they are affected in a divorce situation. Don't expect to understand this book though if you don't know some legalese. It's meant for lawyers.

I practice law in an area heavily populated with active duty members of the United States military, as well as retired military servicemembers. Accordingly, in about 50% of the divorces I handle, there is an issue related to the military. The Military Divorce Handbook is my go-to. As no situation is the same, I find myself referring to this handbook often to make sure I am giving my clients accurate advice. It has never steered me wrong. Also, a few years ago, I attended a CLE presentation by Mark Sullivan. He is the most knowledgeable in his field. This book allows attorneys to tap into that resource directly.

Another book written by an attorney for attorney's who represent former spouses. But, I strongly urge all military member's who are thinking of or already going through a divorce to read this very long book page by page to help yourself understand how not to get shafted as your attorney will most likely not be that familiar with how to help you keep as much as you can of YOUR hard earned military retainer/retirement pay. Also, this book covers SBP and disability waivers in detail and how former spouses gain these benefits to the detriment of the service member. So, this is a must read for military members.

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