

**[§ 722. Repealed. Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title V, § 502(h)(1), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2103]**

Section, added Pub. L. 109-364, div. A, title V, § 507(a)(1)(A), Oct. 17, 2006, 120 Stat. 2180, related to grade of Attending Physician to the Congress.

**CHAPTER 43—RANK AND COMMAND**

- Sec.
- 741. Rank: commissioned officers of the armed forces.
- 742. Rank: warrant officers.
- 743. Rank: Chief of Staff of the Army; Chief of Naval Operations; Chief of Staff of the Air Force; Commandant of the Marine Corps.
- [744, 745. Repealed.]
- 747. Command: when different commands of Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard join.
- 749. Command: commissioned officers in same grade or corresponding grades on duty at same place.
- 750. Command: retired officers.

**AMENDMENTS**

2016—Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title V, § 502(i)(2), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2103, struck out item 744 “Physician to White House: assignment; grade”.

1991—Pub. L. 102-190, div. A, title XI, § 1114(c), Dec. 5, 1991, 105 Stat. 1502, added item 742 and struck out item 745 “Warrant officers: rank”.

1987—Pub. L. 100-180, div. A, title XIII, § 1314(b)(5)(B), Dec. 4, 1987, 101 Stat. 1175, inserted “; Commandant of the Marine Corps” after “Air Force” in item 743.

1980—Pub. L. 96-513, title V, § 501(10)(A), Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2908, as amended Pub. L. 97-22, § 10(a)(1), July 10, 1981, 95 Stat. 136, substituted “armed forces” for “Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps” in item 741.

Pub. L. 96-513, title V, § 501(10)(B), Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2908, added item 750.

1968—Pub. L. 90-235, § 5(a)(1)(B), Jan. 2, 1968, 81 Stat. 761, added items 747 and 749.

1958—Pub. L. 85-861, § 1(19), Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1442, struck out item 742 “Rank: officers of regular and reserve components”.

**§ 741. Rank: commissioned officers of the armed forces**

(a) Among the grades listed below, the grades of general and admiral are equivalent and are senior to other grades and the grades of second lieutenant and ensign are equivalent and are junior to other grades. Intermediate grades rank in the order listed as follows:

<i>Army, Air Force, and Marine Corps</i>	<i>Navy and Coast Guard</i>
General .....	Admiral.
Lieutenant general ..	Vice admiral.
Major general .....	Rear admiral.
Brigadier general .....	Rear admiral (lower half).
Colonel .....	Captain.
Lieutenant colonel ..	Commander.
Major .....	Lieutenant commander.
Captain .....	Lieutenant.
First lieutenant .....	Lieutenant (junior grade).
Second lieutenant ....	Ensign.

(b) Rank among officers of the same grade or of equivalent grades is determined by comparing dates of rank. An officer whose date of rank is earlier than the date of rank of another officer of the same or equivalent grade is senior to that officer.

(c) Rank among officers of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps of the same grade

or of equivalent grades who have the same date of rank is determined by regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense which shall apply uniformly among the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

(d)(1) The date of rank of an officer of the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps who holds a grade as the result of an original appointment shall be determined by the Secretary of the military department concerned at the time of such appointment. The date of rank of an officer of the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps who holds a grade as the result of an original appointment and who at the time of such appointment was awarded service credit for prior commissioned service or constructive credit for advanced education or training, or special experience shall be determined so as to reflect such prior commissioned service or constructive service. Determinations by the Secretary concerned under this paragraph shall be made under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense which shall apply uniformly among the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

(2) Except as otherwise provided by law, the date of rank of an officer who holds a grade as the result of a promotion is the date of his appointment to that grade.

(3) Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense, which shall apply uniformly among the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps, the date of rank of a reserve commissioned officer (other than a warrant officer) of the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps who is to be placed on the active-duty list and who has not been on continuous active duty since his original appointment as a reserve commissioned officer in a grade above chief warrant officer, W-5, or who is transferred from an inactive status to an active status and placed on the active-duty list or the reserve active-status list may, effective on the date on which he is placed on the active-duty list or reserve active-status list, be changed by the Secretary concerned to a later date to reflect such officer’s qualifications and experience. The authority to change the date of rank of a reserve officer who is placed on the active-duty list to a later date does not apply in the case of an officer who (A) has served continuously in the Selected Reserve of the Ready Reserve since the officer’s last promotion, or (B) is placed on the active-duty list while on a promotion list as described in section 14317(b) of this title.

(4)(A) The Secretary concerned may adjust the date of rank of an officer appointed under section 624(a) of this title to a higher grade that is not a general officer or flag officer grade if the appointment of that officer to that grade is delayed from the date on which (as determined by the Secretary) it would otherwise have been made by reason of unusual circumstances (as determined by the Secretary) that cause an unintended delay in—

(i) the processing or approval of the report of the selection board recommending the appointment of that officer to that grade; or

(ii) the processing or approval of the promotion list established on the basis of that report.