



NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU

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October 9, 2018

Office of Legislative Liaison

The Honorable Tom O'Halleran
United States House of Representatives
Attn: Xenia Ruiz
126 Cannon Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative O'Halleran:

This is in response to your inquiry to the Chief of the National Guard Bureau on behalf of Arizona National Guard (AZNG) Soldiers, serving at the Western Army Aviation Training Site (WAATS) at Silverbell Army Heliport, regarding potential recoupment of Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) benefits.

Representatives of the National Guard Bureau contacted the County Assessor's Office of both Pinal and Pima Counties Arizona, and confirmed the official physical address of WAATS to be 22440 East Pinal Airpark Road, Red Rock, Arizona 85145, which would entitle Service members to the higher BAH rate. According to the controlling regulation in this matter, the Joint Travel Regulations (JTR), Chapter 10, BAH is determined by the "Geographical, Physical Location of the Duty Station" as identified by zip code.

The recoupment was initiated in July of 2018, under the belief that the geographic physical address of WAATS is in zip code 85653, and that Soldiers assigned to WAATS received an overpayment of BAH. The AZNG will work with affected units to correct BAH payments for all Soldiers assigned to this installation. The BAH payments will reflect the Red Rock zip code (85145) as the official address. This will resolve the debt issues in favor of the Soldiers by refunding all collected amounts and making future collections unnecessary.

Affected AZNG Soldiers serving at the WAATS at Silverbell Army Heliport may contact the AZNG Finance Office for additional assistance. We regret any inconvenience and hardship imposed by the erroneous recoupment.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Little".

Eric K. Little
Brigadier General, USA
Vice Director Programs and
Resources/Comptroller

Courtesy Copy: The Adjutant General, Arizona