

## MILPERSMAN 1910-118

### SEPARATION BY REASON OF CONVENIENCE OF THE GOVERNMENT - WHEN A RESERVIST BECOMES A MINISTER

<b>Responsible Office</b>	NAVPERSCOM (PERS-913) (Enlisted)	Phone	DSN COM FAX	882-4510 (901) 874-4510 882-2673
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<b>References</b>	(a) 10 U.S.C. 12681 and 12682
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1. **Policy**

a. A member of the Reserve who becomes a regular or ordained minister of a religious faith group is entitled, upon their request, to be discharged from the Navy Reserve per reference (a). The member must satisfactorily establish that

(1) they (regularly/will) engage in religious preaching and teachings;

(2) the ministry (is/will be) their main and primary calling - a vocation rather than avocation;

(3) their standing in the congregation (is/will be) recognized as that of a minister or leader of a group of lesser members; and

(4) their religious faith group is organized exclusively or substantially for religious purposes.

b. This **does not include** a person who irregularly or incidentally preaches and teaches the principles of religion of a church, religious sect, or organization. It does not include a person who may have been duly ordained a minister by the ceremonial rite or discipline of a church, religious sect, or organization, but who does not regularly, as a vocation, teach

or preach the principles and administer the ordinances of public worship as embodied in the creed or principles of that person's church, sect, or organization.

**Note:** This article does not apply, nor are there any procedures similar, for active duty personnel applying for a separation based on becoming a minister.

2. **Separation Request.** A member must request separation from Navy Personnel Command (NAVPERSCOM),

- Reserve Enlisted Personnel Section (PERS-913) or
- Reserve Officer Status Section (PERS-911),

the separation authority. Such request shall be accompanied with a statement or certificate, signed by the appropriate official of the religious order, showing acceptance into the religious order. The letter must also state that the member regularly engages in religious preachings and teachings and that ministry (is/will be) their main and primary calling.

3. **Characterization of Service.** Characterization of service or description of separation is normally Honorable, unless General (Under Honorable Conditions) is warranted per MILPERSMAN 1910-300.