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VETERANS' RIGHTS AND BENEFITS

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Margaret C. Jasper

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Legal Almanac Series

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THOMSON REUTERS  
**WESTLAW**

# VETERANS' RIGHTS AND BENEFITS

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*by*  
**Margaret C. Jasper**

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Legal Almanac Series:  
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To My Husband Chris

Your love and support  
are my motivation and inspiration

To My Sons, Michael, Nick and Chris

-and-

In memory of my son, Jimmy

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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In 2004, Ms. Jasper successfully argued a case before the New York Court of Appeals, which gives mothers of babies who are stillborn due to medical negligence the right to bring a legal action and recover emotional distress damages. This successful appeal overturned a 26-year old New York case precedent, which previously prevented mothers of stillborn babies from suing their negligent medical providers.

Ms. Jasper is the author and general editor of the following legal Almanacs:

AIDS and the Law

The Americans with Disabilities Act

Animal Rights Law

Auto Leasing

Bankruptcy Law for the Individual Debtor

Banks and their Customers  
Becoming a Citizen  
Buying and Selling Your Home  
Commercial Law  
Consumer Rights and the Law  
Co-ops and Condominiums: Your Rights and Obligations As Owner  
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Home Mortgage Law Primer  
Hospital Liability Law  
How To Change Your Name  
How To Form an LLC  
How To Protect Your Challenged Child

How To Start Your Own Business  
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International Adoption  
Juvenile Justice and Children's Law  
Labor Law  
Landlord-Tenant Law  
Law for the Small Business Owner  
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Your Rights in a Class Action Suit  
Your Rights as a Tenant  
Your Rights Under the Family and Medical Leave Act  
You've Been Fired: Your Rights and Remedies

# INTRODUCTION

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*“To care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan” - Abraham Lincoln.*

This is the mission of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and today applies to this nation’s 24 million veterans, both male and female, who have served this country.

Veterans of the United States armed forces are eligible for a broad range of programs and services provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. This Almanac sets forth those rights and benefits afforded the nation’s military veterans, including health care, education and vocational rehabilitation, compensation and pension benefits, home financing, life insurance, and burial and survivor benefits. The benefits available to the dependents and survivors of military veterans is also discussed. The role of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in coordinating and administering these benefits is also explored. In addition, protections afforded a member of the armed forces under the Servicemember’s Civil Relief Act (SCRA) are also examined.

The Appendix provides resource directories, statutes, sample forms, and other pertinent information and data. The Glossary contains definitions of many of the terms used throughout the Almanac.

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