

PIERCE COUNTY DISTRICT COURT

SERVICEMEMBERS' CIVIL RELIEF ACT

Declaration of Non-Military Service Required for Default Judgments

The Servicemembers' Civil Relief Act (50 USC App 521)(SCRA) governs when the servicemember has made no appearance in a civil matter. The Court must determine whether an absent or default party is in the military service. Before entry of a judgment for the plaintiff, the plaintiff must file a declaration stating whether or not the defendant is in the military service and showing necessary facts in support of the declaration.

Either party may apply for information to the Department of Defense (DOD) and DOD must issue a statement as to military service. The office of the DOD to contact for information under the SCRA is:

Defense Manpower Data Center
1600 Wilson Blvd., Suite 400
Attn: Military Verification
Arlington, VA 22209-2593

The Defense Manpower data Center (DMDC) has developed a website to help customers perform checks on whether or not a party to a lawsuit is in the armed forces. Information regarding application for access to this website is available from the DMDC.

<https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/scra/owa/home>