During December, Partners in Education Soldier volunteers demonstrated dedication and selfless attributes by multitasking their high-tempo mission as Soldiers and their dedication to their PIE campus partnership. Between trainings and preparing for deployment, many Soldiers continued to make time to ensure their partnered campus is involved in meaningful activities. The holidays are a special time for partnerships and units were creative in finding ways to celebrate with their students.

Each month, Eye on PIE highlights a special project, event or activity between a unit and their partner campus. For December we would like to highlight William Beaumont Army Medical Center, which has a partnership with Terrace Hills Middle School. WBAMC's yearlong partnership with the school included teaching nutrition classes, discovering science's practical application in the medical field, showing respect for our nation by teaching students how to fold the American flag and demonstrating the importance of physical fitness by conducting a push up and sit up competition.

Sgt. Stetson Proctor, Spc. Crystal Aquilar and Spc. Lucas Wentlandt, Soldiers in WBAMC's Junior Leader Council, oversee the day-to-day operations of the PIE program. They culminated the year with an invitation for the Terrace Hills choir to perform at the WBAMC tree lighting ceremony. Forty-three students, parents and 25 members of the command and PIE teams participated. Afterward, each student placed an ornament on the tree representing a deployed Soldier. Following the tree lighting, Soldiers took students to departments within the hospital so they could see the equipment used by health care professionals and visit a laboratory. Noncommissioned officers were on hand to demonstrate the equipment and talk to the students about the various opportunities available in the military. WBAMC continues to grow its PIE program by inviting Soldiers who express an interest in making a difference in the lives of students to participate. When asked why they do it, members of the Junior Leader Council said, “I love volunteering and helping kids,” and, “When the opportunity presented itself I jumped on it. I worked in the social services field and this allowed me to go back to my roots.” These dedicated professionals make a significant impact on the students at Terrace Hills. Thank you WBAMC for all you do.

Continue to submit monthly reports and share your videos, stories and pictures with the School Liaison Office.

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Demand letters and declaratory judgments: Be careful what you say

By Capt. Andrew Britt
Fort Bliss Legal Assistance Office

If you’ve been wronged by a landlord, neighbor, business partner or some other party, you may want legal recourse. But how do you get it? The real answer to this issue is usually small claims court, known in Texas as the Justice of the Peace Court. You may not want to go to court though. Hiring an attorney to represent you can be expensive – often times more than the amount you’re looking to recover. You can do it by yourself to cut costs, but going to court is daunting and confusing. You may also be avoiding court because your issue is not clean cut, i.e., you were clearly wronged, but you were a little wrong too. Or possibly you feel like you were wronged, but you’re not entirely sure if what occurred gives rise to a cause of action. You want a different solution, something cheaper, easier and less time consuming.

The default answer for litigation-averse individuals is a demand letter: a brief correspondence, informing the other party the what, where and when of how they wronged you. You include some legal basis and close the letter with a threat to pay up, or else you sue. You send it off, certified mail return receipt requested, and hope the other party just complies. Demand letters can quickly devolve into a nasty-gram that can be an effective tool. They organize the other party’s thoughts, informing them of your issue and providing them with options. You have a letter drafted under the letterhead of an attorney, to boost the appearance of authority. You send it off, certified mail return receipt requested, and hope the other party will comply. Demand letters can be an effective tool. They organize the facts and issues, provide notice to the other party and could serve as a reference or evidence in the event of litigation. However, most demand letters carry no legal authority to resolve your issue (with some limited exceptions, such as requests to a landlord for necessary repairs). Further, a demand letter can quickly devolve into a nasty-gram that disregards or discounts problems with your claim.

Sending a demand letter comes with an often overlooked, yet very real, risk. If you mail a demand letter, you may get sued. As the aggrieved party, or victim, you probably do not expect you can be sued. You think you should be suing them, not the other way around. However, in Texas, the recipient of a demand letter is entitled to file for a declaratory judgment. A declaratory judgment is a request made to a judge to determine the legal rights and obligations of the parties in a given situation. You can be sued for a declaratory judgment because you mailed a demand letter. Normally, courts will not entertain hypothetical situations or review potential claims. Demanding payment or some other recourse to which you feel entitled evokes your matter from a hypothetical issue to a dispute that is ripe for consideration by a judge. If you are sued for sending a declaratory judgment, you may be worse off than if you had just sued in the first place. A declaratory judgment allows the other party to determine your issue for you, which may be inconvenient for you. You may also be pushed into court on an issue you never actually intended to litigate. Further, the court in a declaratory judgment case can make either party pay the attorney’s fees of the other party.

If you have a potential legal claim, consider your options carefully before sending off a demand letter. The attorneys at the Legal Assistance Office can assist you in determining the best course of action. If litigation is not proper route, we provide referrals to private attorneys on a reduced fee basis. You can present your case to a judge. If you are sued for sending a declaratory judgment, you may be worse off than if you had just sued in the first place. A declaratory judgment allows the other party to determine your issue for you, which may be inconvenient for you. You may also be pushed into court on an issue you never actually intended to litigate. Further, the court in a declaratory judgment case can make either party pay the attorney’s fees of the other party.
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Sports briefs

Soto Laser Tag: Comes from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. Friday to the late-night hour at the Fort Bliss Fitness Center in a lighted tag arena. Obstacles will be set up in the hallways and off of lights will be turned off. Participants in this live action, first-person shooter game. 744-1032.

Hueco Tanks Rock Rodeo: Join Outdoor Recreation at the Hueco Tanks State Park and Historic Site from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. The rodeo is open to all ages. Cost is $10 for all ages. Registration is required. 744-1532.

February Challenge: Join the first of three Commander’s 5K running events at 6 a.m. Feb. 5 at the Joshua W. Soto PFC. Registration is required, and prerogation is available in all physical fitness centers until Feb. 22. On-line registration is available by visiting the Fort Bliss intranet website. 744-37/8.

Challenge Course Day: Challenge yourself from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 23 as you traverse the high ropes at the Soldier Activity Center. All skill levels are welcome and there is no experience necessary. The course is broken into six-hour sessions. A young adult may be evaluated for permission if they properly fit in the course. 568-4508.

Boundary Memorial Day March: Registration for the 2017 Boundary Memorial Day March at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, open in, so it’s time to register and get training. Considered one of the longest marathons in the United States, participants come from far and wide to honor the fallen soldiers and World War II veterans. This year’s race takes place March 15. Visit www.marinermarches.com.

Texas Basic Hunter Education Course: The Fort and Soto has a Texas Basic Hunter Education class on the second Saturday of every month. Taught by Texas Parks and Wildlife certified instructors. This course covers hunting laws and regulations, ethics and responsibility, wildlife management, conservation, modern and primitive weapons and ammunition, safe firearm handling, outdoor skills, survival and first aid. Limited seats and for simulator party rental. Cost: $15 for Fort Bliss employees and dependents, $25 for those not. 744-2170. (It will include drinks, hot wings, nachos or quesadillas. Ongoing. 509-1018.

Golf Performance Center: Check out the Under Armour Golf Complex’s newest addition, the TourSim 4 system, inside the main performance center. The TourSim 4 allows players to dial in their own swing routine to measure their swing speed, ball speed, swing path and smash factor. You’ll be able to test your swing and determine how you can make it better. 568-4507.

Total Body Workout: Give your way to a Total Body Workout. Monday through Friday at Wilding TTC. Challenge your core through excruciatingly intense resistance exercises. You’ll be sweating while achieving all while working through a full range of motion. 744-3300.

Group tennis classes for beginners: Group tennis classes for beginners at the Fort Bliss Tennis Complex. Club fee: $15, but if you’re never played tennis before, this is a great introduction. Registration is required. 744-2989.

STEP incorporated: Get ready to count your steps and Step Incorporated from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Fridays at Stout PFC. This ship sends classes that consist of choreographed step classes. You’ll challenge your mind and body with this style of workout. All abilities are welcome. Registration is required. Cost: $30 for Fort Bliss employees and dependents. 568-8439.

Tennis Scramblers: Come join us to play tennis at the Fort Bliss Tennis Complex at 10 a.m. Monday through Thursday. Cost: $25.00. It will include drinks, hot wings, nachos or quesadillas. Ongoing. 509-1018.

Family Day at the Wall: How’s the view from the top? Find out during Family Day at the Wall. The DAC, 20222 Constitution Ave., in normally open to guests ages 18 and older, but on Family Day, the wall is open to children ages 6 and up. Climbing is available on one course. It is open from 2 to 4 p.m. on Thursday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

1,000 Pound Club: Department of Defense civilians, military employees and dependents can sign up to join and become a member of the 1,000 Pound Club at Stout PFC. Just lift twice a week. Visit the Stout PFC at Intramural Gym in Stout PFC. Cost: $25. 744-3300.

Tennis Scramblers: Scrub up your game by taking part in Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation’s Tennis Scramblers. The scramblers are usually held at the intramural courts at Stout PFC from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Non-SSC employees can join for intramural tournaments. 569-5445.

Mission Essential Fitness 2.0: Tired of the same old workouts? Mission Essential Fitness 2.0 is a high-intensity circuit training exercise designed to accommodate Soldiers and civilians of all levels of fitness. Beginner through advanced. Challenge this workout circuit various times each week, simultaneously improving your balance and coordination. 8:30 a.m. STRC and 8:45 a.m. Stout Fitness Center. 569-3065.

1st Lt. Steven Ohlinger: “The Patriots” are the greatest of all time. Tom Brady and the Super Bowl are synonymous. They have revolutionized the way football is played, setting the bar for the rest of the league. They are the Duck Commander of the NFL, and for good reason. Tom Brady will go down as the greatest of all time. He is not only the Greatest Of All Time, but rest assured, I do. And if you don’t agree, “This person has no idea what they are talking about,” but rest assured, I do. And if you don’t agree, I’m not rooting for them. I’m rooting for Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with a vengeance, and probably something he didn’t do. You can expect Brady to play with avenge...
**Weekend Events**

**Off Duty**

- **Tuesday, February 7**: Open Trench? Do you have a school-aged child who struggles with reading? Come to the Mickelsen Community Center from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and third Wednesday of the month and join Paws for Reading. Children will have the opportunity to read to a certified therapy dog to improve their reading skills and build self-confidence. Owners must register for a slot (roughly 15 minutes, or more if slots are available) on a first-come, first-served basis. Call 568-5437 for an appointment.

**Children's Events**

- **Tuesday, February 7**: EFMP Sensory Storytime: Full STEAM Ahead! What is STEAM? It’s an educational approach to learning that emphasizes, technology, engineering, art, music and mathematics. It’s fun! Sensory learning for children ages 2-5. Library staff will introduce children to the art form. A small practice piece will be a breadboard. The fee is $5 for paid registration, and cash, payable to the library. Registration is required and can be done at the website. 568-6272.

**Pet Events**

- **Tuesday, February 7**: Pet Wellness Thursday. Fort Bliss Veterinary Treatment Facility will hold a pet wellness clinic at 11199 Sgt. E. Churchill Street inside the ACS building, 11199. In addition to active duty service members, family members, retirees and DOD civilians. Must present ID to participate and provide contact information for each pet. 569-3988.

**Restaurant Events**

- **Wednesday, February 8**: Cupid’s Dance: Teens, enjoy a night out dancing with friends at this year’s Cupid’s Dance from 6-10 p.m. Feb. 11 at the Rep- lica Youth Center. There will be a photo booth, food and dessert provided. A king and queen will be crowned during the Feb. 11 event. 568-5437.

**Dance**

- **Sunday, February 12**: Cupid’s Dance: Teens, enjoy a night out dancing with friends at this year’s Cupid’s Dance from 6-10 p.m. Feb. 11 at the Rep- lica Youth Center. There will be a photo booth, food and dessert provided. A king and queen will be crowned during the Feb. 11 event. 568-5437.

**Community**

- **Tuesday, February 7**: UTEP Summer Theatre and Dance: UTEP Summer Theatre and Dance: registration is required and can be done at the website. 568-6272.

**Library Events**

- **Tuesday, February 7**: Join the Mickelsen Community Library’s Step into Summer Reading Program. Participants must read six books. A free class is open to DOD ID cardholders 10 and older. Registration is required. Space is limited to 10 participants per class. 569-3988.

**Health & Wellness**

- **Tuesday, February 7**: Paws for Reading: Do you have a school-aged child who struggles with reading? Come to the Mickelsen Community Center from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and third Wednesday of the month and join Paws for Reading. Children will have the opportunity to read to a certified therapy dog to improve their reading skills and build self-confidence. Owners must register for a slot (roughly 15 minutes, or more if slots are available) on a first-come, first-served basis. Call 568-5437 for an appointment.

**Local Events**

- **Tuesday, February 7**: Paws for Reading: Do you have a school-aged child who struggles with reading? Come to the Mickelsen Community Center from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and third Wednesday of the month and join Paws for Reading. Children will have the opportunity to read to a certified therapy dog to improve their reading skills and build self-confidence. Owners must register for a slot (roughly 15 minutes, or more if slots are available) on a first-come, first-served basis. Call 568-5437 for an appointment.

**Entertainment**

- **Wednesday, February 8**: Cupid’s Dance: Teens, enjoy a night out dancing with friends at this year’s Cupid’s Dance from 6-10 p.m. Feb. 11 at the Rep- lica Youth Center. There will be a photo booth, food and dessert provided. A king and queen will be crowned during the Feb. 11 event. 568-5437.

**Sports**

- **Tuesday, February 7**: UTEP Summer Theatre and Dance: Registration for UTEP’s summer theatre and dance camps begins April 14. The camps will be June 28-July 29. Registration is required and can be done at the website. 568-6272.

**Education**

- **Tuesday, February 7**: EFMP Sensory Storytime: Full STEAM Ahead! What is STEAM? It’s an educational approach to learning that emphasizes, technology, engineering, art, music and mathematics. It’s fun! Sensory learning for children ages 2-5. Library staff will introduce children to the art form. A small practice piece will be a breadboard. The fee is $5 for paid registration, and cash, payable to the library. Registration is required and can be done at the website. 568-6272.

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