Wednesday, October 9, 2019 – 8:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. PT

5.75 Credit hours of CLE has been requested

WHAT: This is an educational program for lawyers on current developments in the areas of military and veterans’ law. The morning session will focus on international and interstate child custody matters that impact military families. This morning session will also involve the Feres Doctrine, focusing on its history, expansions, and criticisms regarding restrictions for servicemember lawsuits.

The afternoon session will examine a variety of consumer law and financial issues. This will focus on tools for consumer protection for servicemembers, along with key consumer protection statutes, including the Military Lending Act, the Fair Credit Reporting Act, and others.

See pages 2-3 for the detailed program schedule and CLE credit details.

WHO: This program is designed for military attorneys working in legal assistance as well as civilian lawyers whose practices involve military-connected clients or issues.

WHERE: Greenberg Traurig, LLP – Los Angeles Office
1840 Century Park East, Suite 1900, Los Angeles, CA 90067

WHEN: Wednesday, October 9, 2019. The one-day CLE program will commence with check-in beginning at 8:15 a.m.

HOW: Must register in advance online by visiting http://ambar.org/lampcle. Registration deadline is October 1, 2019.

COST: FREE

MATERIALS: Participants are encouraged to download CLE program materials, beginning October 8. Registrants will be emailed instructions for downloading materials.

LUNCH: Lunch sponsored by Greenberg Traurig, LLP.
Program Schedule – Wednesday, October 9, 2019

8:15–8:45 a.m.  Check-in

8:45 a.m.–12:00 p.m. **Hot Topics for Military Legal Assistance: Child Custody and the Feres Doctrine** (3 hours of CLE requested)

Moderator: Gregory Ulrich, *Ulrich Law PLC, ABA LAMP Special Advisor*

**8:45–10:45 a.m. – Good to Go: Interstate and International Child Custody Impacting Military Families**

This session will review interstate jurisdictional issues, military custody statutes, along with avoiding pitfalls in addressing child custody disputes. This will also address international child custody issues and enforcement, with attention to the Hague Convention on Civil Aspects of Child Abduction, and preventative measures to avoid wrongful removals and retentions.

- Patricia Apy, *Paras, Apy & Reiss, P.C., Red Bank, NJ*

10:45–11:00 a.m. – Break

11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. **The Feres Doctrine: Restrictions for Servicemember Lawsuits**

Under the Feres doctrine, a policy stemming from the Supreme Court case of Feres v. United States in 1950, servicemembers are categorically banned from filing suits for harm incurred while on duty. The denial of judicial review extends to non-combat-related injuries such as sexual assault and medical malpractice. Since its inception, courts and commentators have condemned the doctrine, arguing that it is unjust to close the courthouse door to the men and women who preserve our freedom. Still, the policy remains controlling Supreme Court precedent. This session will explore the origin of the doctrine, its expansion over the years, and the withering criticism calling for its repeal.

- Dr. Dwight Stirling, *Center for Law and Military Policy, Huntington Beach, CA*

12:00–1:15 p.m.  Lunch Break

1:15–4:15 p.m. **Hot Topics for Military Legal Assistance: Consumer Protection** (2.75 hours of CLE requested)

Moderator: Gregory Ulrich, *Ulrich Law PLC, ABA LAMP Special Advisor*

**1:15–2:15 p.m. – Consumer Protection Statutes for Military Legal Assistance**

This block of instruction provides a basic overview of key consumer protection statutes that are most commonly used in military legal assistance. Substantive topics include automobile financing, credit reporting, debt collection, credit cards, electronic fund transfers, and student loans. The following consumer protection statutes may be discussed: Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, Military Lending Act, Truth in Lending Act, Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, Fair Credit Reporting Act, Fair Credit Billing Act, Electronic Fund Transfers Act, and others. This will also include information about resources available to attorneys, most notably, the resources housed within the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

- Angela Martin, *Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Washington DC*
2:15–2:30 p.m. – Break

2:30–3:15 p.m. – Military Lending Act (MLA): How to Spot Potential Issues
The presenter from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau will review how the Military Lending Act (MLA) works and who it protects. This session will help attendees identify any potential MLA violations and provide tools to use if violations do arise.
   · Anthony Camilli, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Washington DC

3:15–4:15 p.m. – Fair Credit Reporting for Military Families: How to Make It Happen
This session is the nuts & bolts “how-to” make credit reporting right for your clients, taught by an active litigator in this area of law. Statutes are important, but how do you help your client spot a real problem? What should you do to help them help themselves to fix it with a minimum of confusion and misunderstanding? This session will help you separate the actionable errors from legal credit reporting that is merely undesirable and will give you the tools to help your clients move forward in the most effective way possible.
   · Mike Cardoza, The Cardoza Law Corporation, San Francisco, CA

Registration Deadline: October 1, 2019

CLE CREDIT: The ABA will seek 5.75 hours of CLE credit in 60-minute states, and 6.9 hours of CLE credit for this program in 50-minute states. Credit hours are estimated and are subject to each state’s approval and credit rounding rules. Please visit the program website at https://www.americanbar.org/groups/legal_assistance_military_personnel/events_cle/ for program CLE details or visit www.americanbar.org/mcle for general information on CLE at the ABA.