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Description of document: Copy of the June/July 2009 Selective Service System (SSS) formal presentation to the Conscientious Objector/Peace Church communities relating to the Alternative Service Program, 2009

Requested date: 02-October-2013

Released date: 29-October-2013

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Source of document: Freedom of Information Act Request  
Selective Service System  
Public and Intergovernmental Affairs  
Arlington, VA 22209-2425

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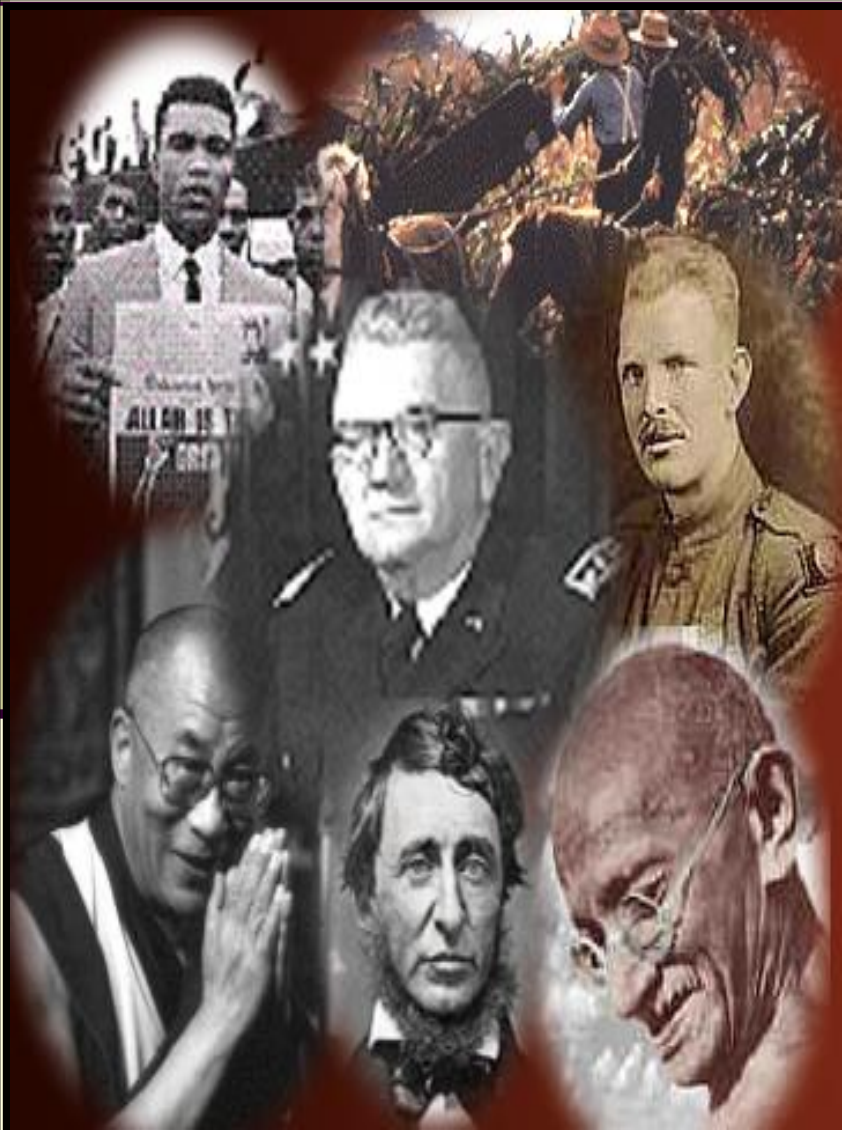
From: Information  
Date: Oct 29, 2013 4:12:30 PM  
Subject: FOIA Request

This is in response to your Freedom of Information request dated October 2, 2013, and received in this office on October 21, 2013, seeking a digital/electronic copy of the June/July 2009 SSS formal presentation to the Conscientious Objector/Peace Church communities relating to the Alternative Service Program. This presentation was described in the 2009 Selective Service System Annual Report on page 16. Copies of the presentation are attached.

Thank you for your inquiry.

Betty Lou  
FOIA Officer  
Public & Intergovernmental Affairs  
Selective Service System

# Selective Service and the Alternative Service Program



**Moving**

**Forward**

**in**

**Peacetime**

# Agenda

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- Welcome
- Transition News
- What's New: Public & Intergovernmental Affairs News
- The Alternative Service Program
  - How the Alternative Service Program Will Work
  - How to Become an Alternative Service Employer
  - Policy Changes
  - Policy Considerations

Ready for the Future



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# CONSTITUENTS BRIEFING

What's Happening,  
What's New?

**Presenter: Dick Flahavan**

**17 June 2009**

# CURRENT AGENCY STATUS

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- New Administration
- Transition
- Future

# AGENCY CHALLENGES

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- POLITICAL
- LEGISLATIVE
- BUDGETARY

# POLITICAL ISSUES:

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## ■ Libertarian Philosophy

- Right & Left joined to question mission
- National security without sacrifice
- Unbalanced burden

## ■ Privacy

- Gov't ought not command citizen
- Individual freedom is paramount
- All private decisions are equal



# POLITICAL ISSUES (cond't)

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## ■ Relevance

- Cold War relic
- Services not used lately
- All Volunteer Armed Forces

## ■ Elections

- No candidate for draft
- Public not for draft
- Administration not for draft

# POLITICAL ISSUES (cond't)

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- Draft on Horizon?
  - Short answer is NO
  - No one wants it: President, DOD, Congress, young men, or public
  - SSS cannot turn on draft alone
  - Both have said NO
  - DOD satisfied with all-volunteers
  - No money for draft
  - All predictions were false
  - SSS not told to get ready; opposite is true

# LEGISLATIVE ISSUES:

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- Proposed law introduced in the House to reinstate a draft; another to repeal MSSA
- A parallel bill usually introduced in Senate
- Bills go nowhere
- Last vote in House on 5 Oct 04
- Vote demonstrates NO interest: 2 +, 402 -

# LEGISLATIVE ISSUES: (cond't)

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- H.R. 424 to repeal MSSA and terminate SSS entirely; nothing remains. Introduced by Rep. Ron Paul (R-TX) on 11 Jan 07. Revokes all previous sanctions for non-registration.
- H.R. 2085, the Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund Act, to affirm the religious freedom of taxpayers who are conscientiously opposed to war and ensure that their taxes are used for nonmilitary purposes. Introduced by Rep. John Lewis (D-GA) on 23 Apr 09.
- H.R. 2638, Appropriations Subcommittee FY09 Appropriations Bill. Funds SSS at \$24M.

# LEGISLATIVE ISSUES: (cond't)

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- S.277 amends National & Community Service Act of 1990 to expand and improve voluntary service opportunities. Increased funding for AmeriCorps and others; goal from 75K to 250K gov't supported volunteers. Pays \$500 for college for student summer service. Introduced by Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-MA) on 16 Jan 09.

# RECENT BUDGET HISTORY

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|         |         |      |            |
|---------|---------|------|------------|
| FY 1995 | \$22.8M | 2004 | 26.1       |
| 1996    | 22.9    | 2005 | 26.1       |
| 1997    | 22.9    | 2006 | 24.7       |
| 1998    | 23.4    | 2007 | 24.8       |
| 1999    | 24.4    | 2008 | 22.0       |
| 2000    | 23.9    | 2009 | 24.0 (est) |
| 2001    | 24.4    | 2010 | 22.4 (est) |
| 2002    | 23.9    |      |            |
| 2003    | 26.3    |      |            |

# Recent Budget & Staffing

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| <u>Fiscal Year</u> | <u>Dollars</u> | <u>FTE</u> | <u>RFO</u> |
|--------------------|----------------|------------|------------|
| 2007               | \$24.8         | 155        | 250        |
| 2008               | \$22.0         | 139        | 200        |
| 2009               | \$24.0         | 130        | 150        |
| 2010               | \$22.4         | 130        | 150        |

# BUDGET CHALLENGE

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- Losing ground
- Costs increasing for goods & services
- Inflation
- Automation & Information Technology
- Public expectations
- Requirements & capabilities out of sync
- Peace dividend



Ready for the Future



**Any questions ?**

# The Alternative Service Program (ASP)

**Conscientious objector -- a registrant who, because of religious, moral or ethical beliefs, is opposed to participation in war in any form.**

# Types of Conscientious Objection

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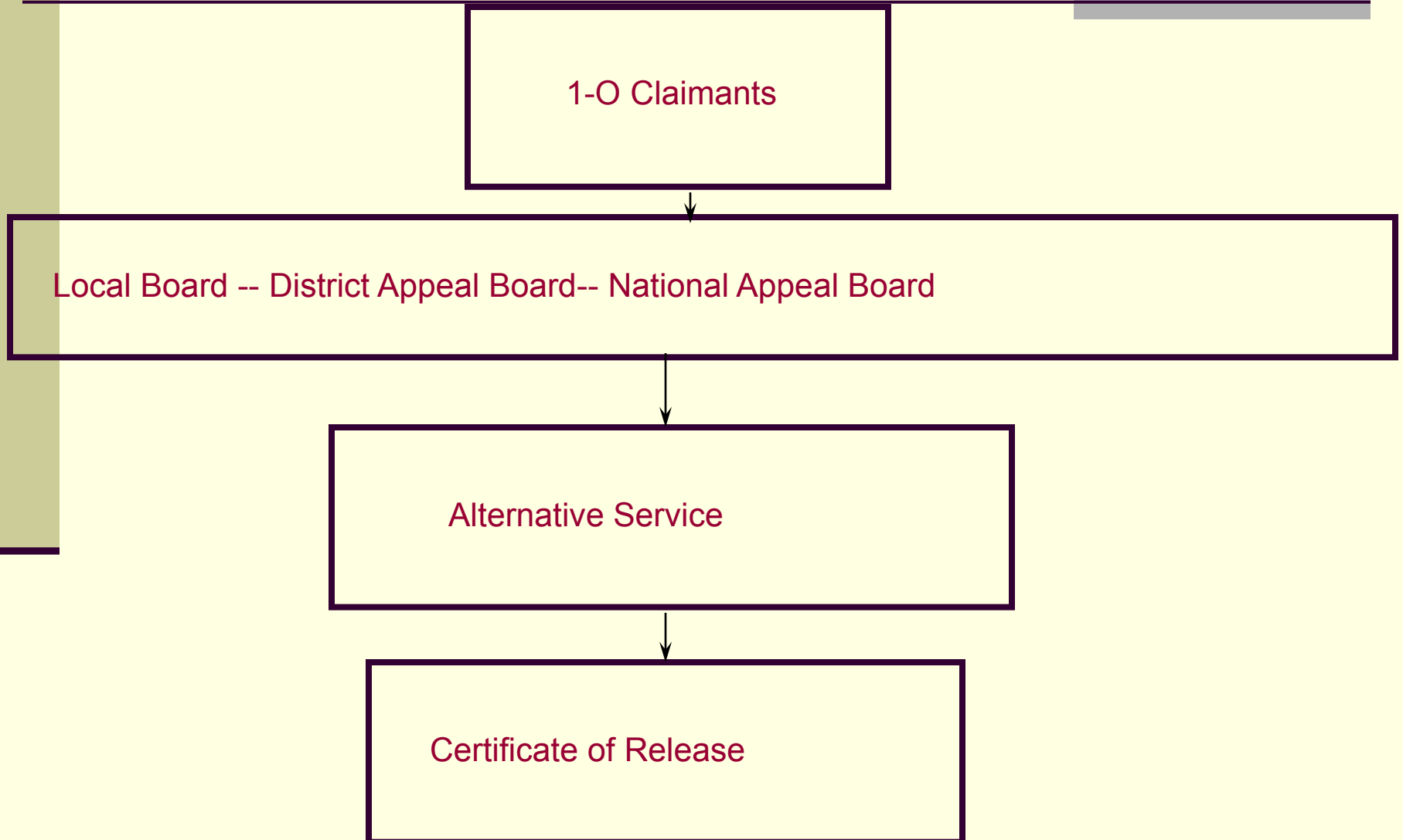
- **1-A-0**

**COs willing to serve in the Armed Forces in a noncombatant capacity**

- **1-0**

**COs willing to serve only a 24-month term of alternative civilian service**

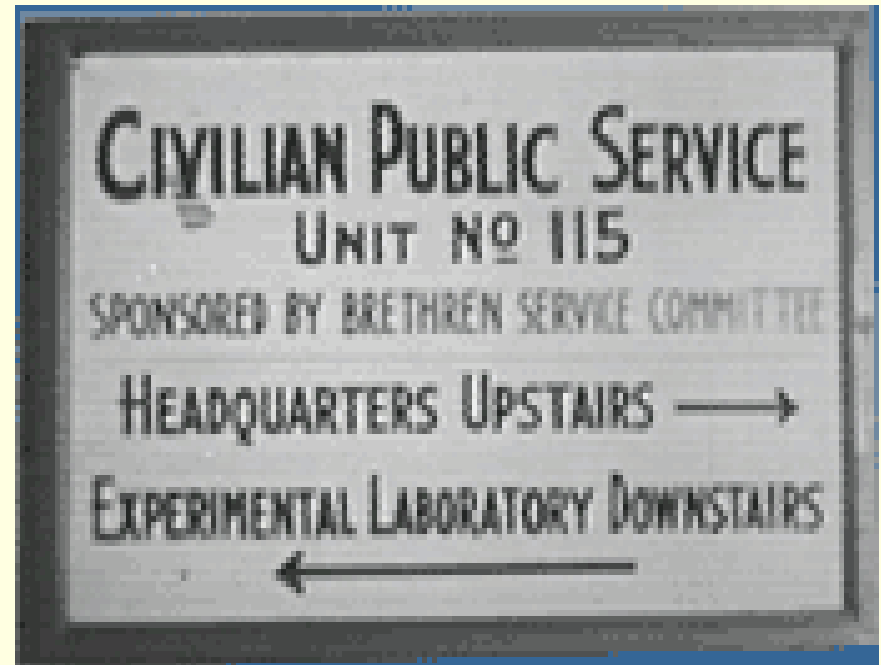
# Path to Alternative Service



# Path to Alternative Service

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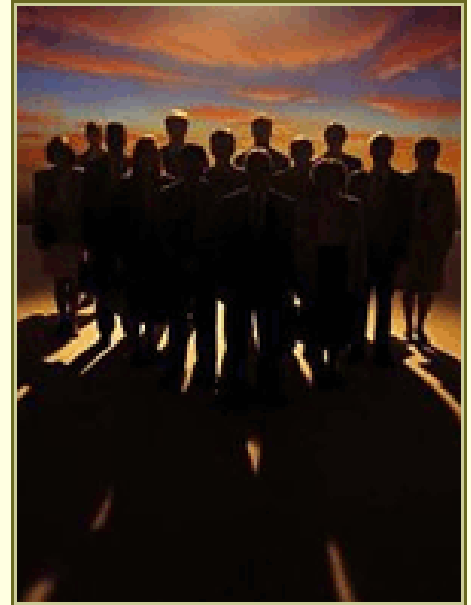
- Alternative Service Worker or ASW(1-W)
- Skills Questionnaire
- Job counseling
- Job matching



# Alternative Service Employer Network (ASEN)

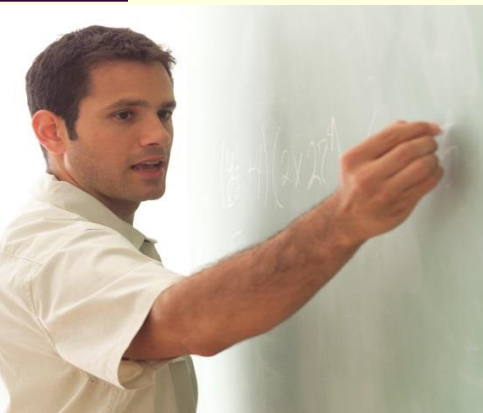
## ■ **Employers are limited to:**

- Federal Government, State, Territory, or Possession of the United States
- Political Subdivisions, DC and Puerto Rico
- Organizations engaged a charitable activity conducted for the benefit of the public or in carrying out a program for the improvement of the public health, welfare, or environment.



# Acceptable Employment

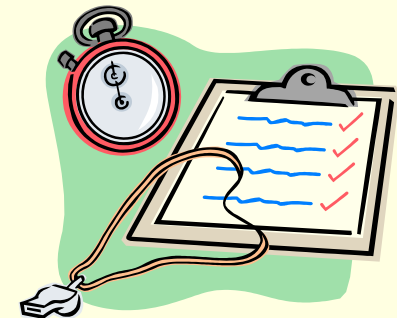
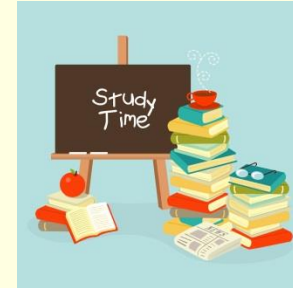
- (1) Health care services,
- (2) Educational services,
- (3) Environmental programs,
- (4) Social services,
- (5) Community services,
- (6) Agricultural work.



# Joining the ASEN In Peacetime

## Recruitment on hold

- Review plans
- Advise on operational goals





# Policy changes/decisions:

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- 1-O Claimants, the Waiver of Examination, and the right to file other claims
- Old Order Amish Church Farm Program
- ASW emergency medical payments
- Soldiers & Sailors Civil Relief Act-like Protections for ASWs
- Structural and Functional Conditions for Churches
- 4-T Treaty Alien status of Yugoslavia

# Policy changes/decisions:

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- Clarification of “pre-enrollment” term as it relates to 2-D Ministerial Student claim
- Payment of ASW “after-hours” emergency medical expenses
- CO Claimant/ASW travel reimbursement

# Policy reviews:

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- Verbatim transcripts at personal appearances
- Funding of foreign language interpreters
- Parity in ASW and military hardship cases
- SSS military staffing in a mobilization
- Health care for all ASWs
- Compilation of statements of faith

# Policy reviews:

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- Explicit exceptions for extraordinary circumstances
- Occupational exceptions for ASWs
- Advance mobilization warning for COs
- CO self-identification at registration
- Standards of conduct for ASWs



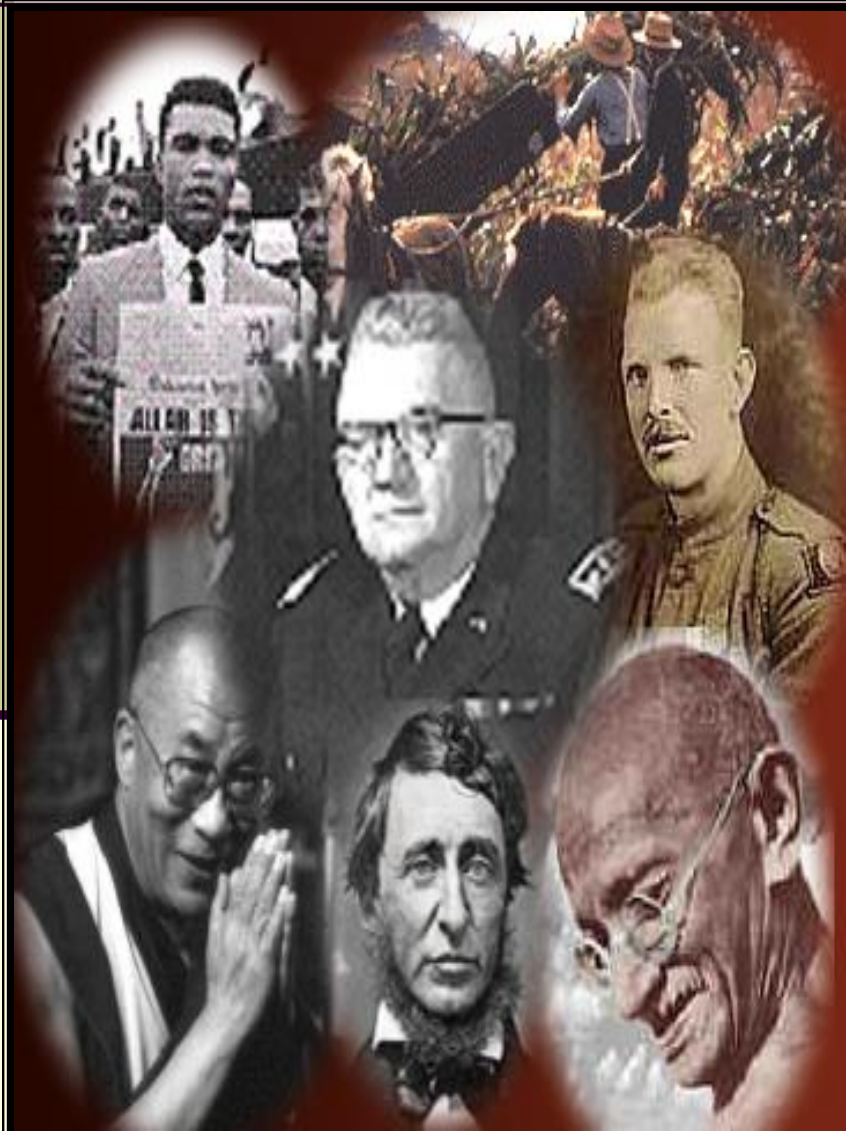
**Questions?**

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**Thank you!**



# Selective Service and Alternative Service



Still

Serving



# Agenda

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- Welcome
- Overview of Political Issues/Current Agency Status
- The Alternative Service Program
  - How the Alternative Service Program Will Work
  - How to Become an Alternative Service Employer
- Questions

# POLITICAL ISSUES

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- Is there a draft on horizon?
  - Short answer: NO!!
  - ALL have said NO
  - DOD satisfied with all-volunteers
  - SSS has not been told to get ready
- What is readiness?

# CURRENT AGENCY STATUS

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- New Administration
- Transition
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# Conscientious Objection in American History



“ . . .all young men of suitable age to be drafted, except those with conscientious scruples against war” – George Washington

# Selective Training and Service Act of 1940

Civilian alternative to  
noncombatant military service –  
“...work of national importance.”



# World War II Alternative Service Work

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- Civilian Public Service (CPS) Camps
- Mental hospitals; schools for the handicapped
- Medical research
- Public service jobs
- Private, non-profit organizations



# The Alternative Service Program

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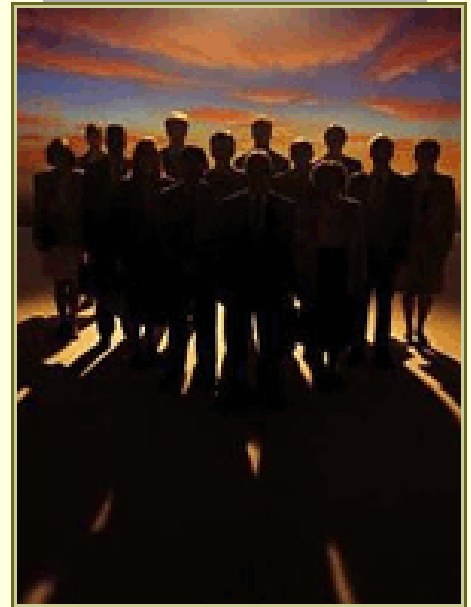
- 1-O

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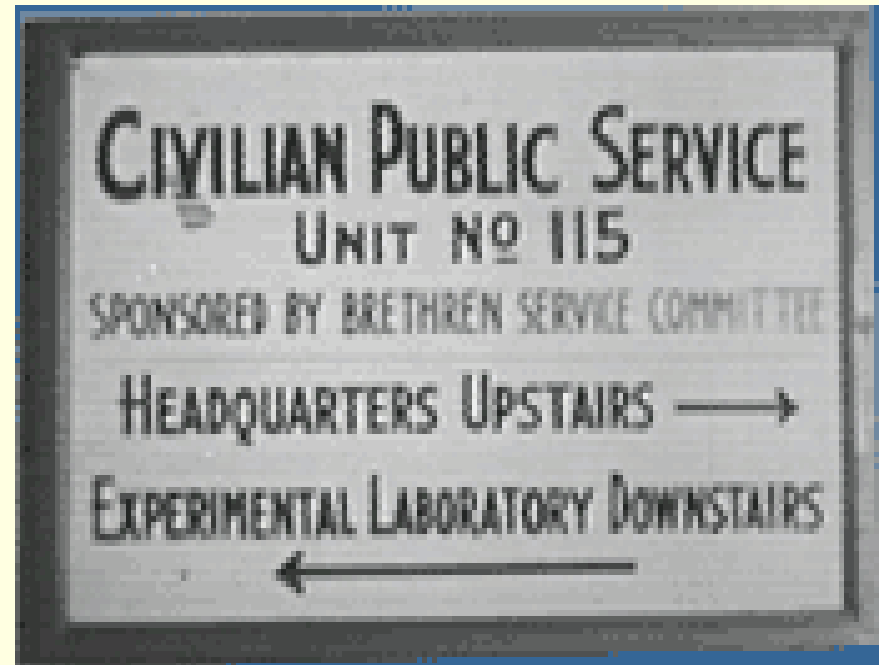
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# Path to Alternative Service

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- Alternative Service Worker (1-W)
- Skills Questionnaire
- Job counseling
- Job matching





**Questions?**

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**Thank you!**