



**TOM DALY**  
CLERK-RECORDER

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BIRTH AND DEATH RECORDS  
MARRIAGE LICENSES/RECORDS  
PASSPORTS  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES  
NOTARY REGISTRATION  
ORANGE COUNTY ARCHIVES

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## **GREATER PRIVACY PROTECTION ON THE WAY FOR VETERANS**

U.S. military discharge papers will list only the last four digits of a veteran's Social Security number after 2010, a move triggered by Orange County Clerk-Recorder Tom Daly to better protect the privacy of veterans' personal information.

Under Secretary of Defense David Chu announced the decision in a letter to the chairman of the Committee on Armed Services. The change will take effect Oct. 1, 2010, to allow time for the military to coordinate use of the new national forms.

Daly worked with Rep. Loretta Sanchez (D-Santa Ana) last year to direct a study of the military discharge forms, called DD Form 214. An extensive review agreed it was feasible to issue the discharge papers with just the last four digits of a veteran's Social Security number displayed.

"This is a win for veterans and helps provide them with a greater sense of security," Daly said.

Sanchez said it was clear action was needed to better protect veterans and commended the Department of Defense. "I was very pleased that after a comprehensive study, the Department of Defense concluded that this change could be made," she said. "I will continue conducting oversight to ensure that this change is fully implemented in FY2010."

Veterans across the country routinely want to record their discharge forms so they have swift and secure access to them should the original become lost, stolen or unreadable. Those recording their forms in California must sign an acknowledgement (under California Govt. Code Sect. 27337) that the document and its contents will become part of the public record.

Many veterans decline to record their forms – denying themselves an important safeguard – out of fear their personal information would be accessible.

Daly was the driving force behind a statewide bill in 2006, signed into law by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, requiring use of only the last four digits of a Social Security number on most other documents recorded in California. Beginning Jan. 1, any full SSNs remaining in documents must be redacted on copies made available to the public.

The Orange County Clerk-Recorder provides a variety of public services, including recording documents related to real property transactions, maintaining and issuing copies of birth, death and marriage certificates, issuing marriage licenses and performing civil wedding ceremonies. The department also oversees the Orange County Archives, a center for materials, research and education preserving Orange County history for the public.