

My daughter, Petty Officer 3rd Class (E4) Shelby N. Lickteig entered the Coast Guard June, 2009 at the age of 17 and has been proudly serving the last eight years stationed at ANT Mobile (Mobile, Alabama), TRACEN Petaluma "A" School (Petaluma, California), and is currently serving at Sector Northern New England (Portland, Maine). Her next duty station will be Morgan City, Louisiana.

While home on leave in September 2014 Shelby had an opportunity to attend a Concealed Carry Handgun class taught by Joe Sutton (US Army) at Lake Garnett Sporting Club. After successful completion of that CCH class, Shelby was presented with the appropriate form signed by Mr. Sutton to take the next step in obtaining her CCH licensure. We planned on having her passport photo taken and proceed to the Linn County (KS) Sheriff Department for fingerprints the Monday following her class, however, she received emergency orders to return to her station the same afternoon her CCH class was held and she had to pack up and drive straight through to Maine to report for duty before we were able to do so.

Shelby's next trip back home to Kansas on leave wouldn't be until May, 2015. While home she was able to have her passport photo taken at Linn County News in Pleasanton, Kansas and take that photo and her CCH completion certificate from 2014 to the Linn County Sheriff Department for fingerprints and submission to the State of Kansas. She had to return to Maine for Coast Guard duty before she would receive her approved paperwork back from the State. I received her State approval by mail at our home address and held it for her until her next leave which we anticipated would be some time in 2016.

Shelby's next leave was an emergency family situation August 20 to August 31, 2015. She was unable to take her State CCH approval form to the DMV during that timeframe. She returned to her station in Maine and returned to Kansas again during additional leave to again assist with the remainder of the family situation from September 28 through October 22, 2015. It was during this second trip home in the fall of 2015 she was finally able to take her Kansas CCH approval form to the Ft Scott (Bourbon County) DMV for her CCH License photo which would be submitted to the State for processing. Shelby would return to Maine in late October before receiving her actual CCH license with the issue date of October 16, 2015.

Shelby's CCH licensure process took 13 months and several thousand mile trips back to Kansas. If we had not had a family emergency last fall this process would have taken even longer.

As a member of our military, Shelby has already been through a rigorous vetting process. Her photo, fingerprints, background check, and security clearance are already on file with the United States Coast Guard and Federal Government.

Travelling alone across state lines, Shelby's Kansas Conceal Carry license is honored in all but 10 states (CA, OR, HI, NH, NY, MA, RI, CT, NJ, DE, MD) and the District of Columbia. With an ever growing threat of increased domestic terrorism, our military members have been advised to be vigilant when travelling to and from base/station and have been advised not to wear their uniforms (in public) outside of work.

I respectfully urge you to consider streamlining the Kansas Concealed Carry Handgun licensure process for our resident military members.

