OPTING OUT of the automatic NCLB military notifications

"Opt Out" refers to the process defined in the No Child Left Behind Act that allows secondary students to withhold their contact information from automatically being released to military recruiters by the school district or school.

Students are then called at home by recruiters and pressured to join the military. The law says that if a student has a letter or form signed by his/her parent the school does NOT have permission to give out their child's contact info to recruiters, and the school must respect the parent's decision. The law also allows a student to directly opt out without parent permission, regardless of age.

School policy regarding Opt Out

Schools have varying policies on what forms and letters they accept. If they do have a form, it is often in the stack of papers students get in the first few days of school and it is highly overlooked. In fact, some schools do not even know their own policy, so you have to push them to find out, and if they do not have one in place then you can help create that policy. In the meantime, however, they must accept your requests in whatever form you give them.

Deadlines

Schools have different deadlines for opting out, but they are usually in the beginning of the school year, often in October. Make sure to find out the deadline as soon as possible.
STUDENT OPT OUT FORM

RE: RELEASE OF NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER

TO (School); ____________________________________________________________

Date ______________

Student Name__________________________________________________________

Student Date of Birth _________________________________

Federal public law 107-110, section 9528 of the ESEA, "No Child Left Behind Act" requires school districts to release student names, addresses, and phone numbers to military recruiters upon their request. Students are then called at home by recruiters and pressured to join the military.

The law also requires the school district to notify you of your right to Opt-Out from this process by requesting that the district NOT release your information to military recruiters.

The law says that if a student has a letter or form signed by his/her parent the school does NOT have permission to give out their child's contact info to recruiters, and the school must respect the parent's decision. The law also allows a student to directly opt out without parent permission, regardless of age.

_____ I request that this student’s name, address, and telephone number NOT be released to Armed Forces and Military Recruiters, or Military Schools..

Signature of student _________________________________________________

Signature of parent or guardian ________________________________________