

SOLDIERS: Entitled to free copies of public records.

December 4, 1942

Honorable J. Carrol Combs
Prosecuting Attorney
Barton County
Lamar, Missouri

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18

Dear Mr. Combs:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of December 1, 1942, in which you request advice as follows:

"The Recorder of Deeds of this county has inquired of this office as to whether or not there is any obligation upon the Recorders in this state to furnish, free of charge, to soldiers, sailors, and other parties in the armed forces of the United States, certified copies of marriage licenses recorded in this county.

"I am unable to find any provision in the Missouri law which would require the Recorder to furnish these certified copies free of charge, however, our Recorder wishes to be more than fair with men in the armed forces and if this is required, or customary, kindly advise me so that he may comply with the law or custom in this state concerning these matters."

The only section of the statutes pertaining to your inquiry is Section 15077, Article VII, Chapter 21, Revised Statutes of Missouri of 1939, which is herein set out:

Hon. J. Carrol Combs

-2-

December 3, 1942.

"Whenever a certified copy or copies of any public record in the state of Missouri are required to perfect the claim of any soldier, sailor or marine, in service or honorably discharged, or any dependent of such soldier, sailor or marine, for a United States pension, or any other claim upon the government of the United States, they shall, upon request be furnished by the custodian of such records without any fee or compensation therefor."

Trusting this furnishes the information desired, I am

Very truly yours,

W. O. JACKSON
Assistant Attorney-General

APPROVED:

ROY McKITTRICK
Attorney-General

WOJ:FS