



National Archives & Records Administration

August 2006

Press Release

WWI Draft Registration Cards Available on Order Online!

Customers are now able to order copies of WWI Draft Registration Cards from the National Archives using Order Online!, the National Archives' online ordering web site. Order Online! provides an easy and convenient method for customers to request reproductions of records and pay for orders with most major credit cards.

What are WWI Draft Registration Cards?

World War One Draft Registration Cards are 5 ¾ inch x 4 ½ inch two-sided forms used by the Selective Service System to record information from men who were required to register for the draft. All men born between September 12, 1872 and September 12, 1900 who were not in active military service by June 5, 1917 were required to fill out draft registration cards, regardless of their citizenship status.

What formats are reproductions available in?

WWI Draft Registration Cards are available as color digital images or as black and white photocopies. The color images are scanned at 200 dpi resolution and stored in .jpg format, which are made available for download, once reproduced, on Order Online!. The image is suitable for framing.

What are the benefits of Order Online!?

- Customers can order through the Internet 24 hours a day, 365 days a year using a web browser on any computer.
- “Smart forms” provide guidance for completing the online request.
- Customers may establish and manage an Order Online! personal account, storing their information for future orders and enabling them to check their order status online.

How do customers get to Order Online!?

Order Online! can be accessed by visiting <https://eservices.archives.gov/orderonline>

Additional Information:

Three cards containing slightly different questions were used during registration periods. Information on the card may include the registrant's name; address; age and date of birth; race; citizenship status; occupation and employer; claim of exemption by reason of dependency or occupation; name and address of nearest relative; a physical description of the registrant; the registrant's mark or signature; the registrar's signed report of any apparent

disabilities of the registrant; the name, address, and coded serial number of the local board at which the registration occurred; and the registrant's order number and "red ink" or serial number.

The existence of a draft card does not necessarily denote military service. Registration is often confused with induction into the military; however, only a small percentage of those who registered were actually inducted into the military. The reverse is also true. All men who served in World War I did not necessarily register for the draft. Those who volunteered or those who were already in the military did not register.

Interested users may continue to request photocopies of the cards for \$10 by sending an email to Atlanta.archives@nara.gov or mailing a written request to:

National Archives
Southeast Region
5780 Jonesboro Road
Morrow, GA 30260

Please specify the name of the draft registrant, alternate names or spelling, home address at the time of registration, and date of birth.

For those in the Atlanta area, we invite you to visit our research facility and make photocopies of cards for \$.15 per page.