

The Dangers of Downloading [continued...]

How do you secure your WLAN router, to avoid the consequences discussed above? You should take the following precautions:

- Change your password often. All passwords can be hacked; it's just a matter of time. Never keep/use the default password but pick a new password immediately. The default passwords might "leak" and be published online. It's also advisable to simply switch off the WLAN router when you are not home, or at night when you have no intention of going online.
- If you are using a wireless router, you should disable the server set identifier (SSID), to prevent the name of your network from being broadcast.
- Allow configuration only to be made via hardwire. That way admin rights can only be exercised if a cable is physically put into the device. Use an additional password and username protection for any hardwire configuration.
- Change the settings in order to block download ports, e.g., bittorrent sites.
- Think also of encryption. The current state-of-the-art standard is WPA2 and, although legally you are not required to constantly upgrade to the highest standard, you may want to stay current on your protective software.



KAISERSLAUTERN LEGAL SERVICES CENTER

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If you have legal questions related to downloading, make an appointment to see a legal assistance attorney by calling DSN 483-8848 or Civilian 0631-411-8848.

NATIONAL MILITARY PRO BONO PROGRAM

by CPT Mike Gilbertson

The Secretary of Defense has launched an initiative to assist the American Bar Association's National Military Pro Bono Program (MPBP) by educating judge advocates about the program and providing all possible assistance to ensure the program works as smoothly and efficiently as possible. The MPBP accepts case referrals from legal assistance offices worldwide on behalf of income-eligible service members with civil legal issues and then places these cases with volunteer *pro bono* attorneys anywhere in the United States. Military legal assistance attorneys can register at the website that appears below and refer cases to the MPBP. The MPBP then attempts to place eligible cases with *pro bono* attorneys wherever legal assistance is needed. [Note: *pro bono* is a legal term that connotes free legal services.]

The MPBP is a very valuable asset to legal assistance attorneys and their clients. As of July 2010, there are 740 *pro bono* attorneys and coordinators registered with the MPBP website, demonstrating the strong willingness of civilian attorneys across the nation to assist service members with civil matters back home. Recent analysis showed that 75% of cases referred to the MPBP were for family law matters (including child custody issues). In response to this need, the MPBP successfully reached out to the family law community and was able to increase *pro bono* registrants that practiced family law. In one recent month alone, 167 new cases were placed with attorneys. The total cases placed represent approximately \$1,060,618 in donated billable hours by the MPBP volunteers.

For more information on the MPBP, visit <http://www.militaryprobono.org/>