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Security



CONTROL OF PRIVATELY OWNED ANIMALS

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This instruction provides definitions, responsibilities, and procedures for owning/maintaining domestic animals, and for the control of wild or stray animals within the legal confines of McGuire AFB. This instruction is applicable to all personnel assigned, attached, or transiting McGuire AFB.

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS

This instruction reflects the pet policy as outlined in MCGUIREAFBPAM 32-6009, *Family Housing Brochure*. It updates the responsibilities of Fort Dix Veterinary Clinic and brings it into compliance with the wing redesignation. **A bar (|) indicates a change since the last edition.**

1. General.

- 1.1. The keeping of animals as pets while assigned to McGuire AFB is a privilege, not a right. The 305 MSG Commander permits pets as long as they do not impact mission effectiveness, or become a nuisance to other base residents and are positively controlled.
- 1.2. The 305 MSG Commander has the authority to order any animal permanently removed (barred) from the installation after one (1) biting incident or two (2) nuisance complaints.
- 1.3. The 305th Security Forces Squadron has primary responsibility for the capture of stray domesticated animals. The 305th Civil Engineer Entomology section is responsible for responding to situations involving wild animals (e.g., raccoons, snakes, groundhogs, etc.).

2. Definitions. The following definitions are used throughout the body of this instruction:

- 2.1. Dormitories - Unaccompanied Airman/NCO government housing.
- 2.2. On-Base Housing - Accompanied government housing which is located in either in Falcon Courts North, Falcon Courts East, or AF housing located on Ft Dix.

- 2.3. Pets - Domestic or tamed animals authorized by the 305 MSG Commander, or their designated representative.
- 2.4. Stray animals - A domestic animal found on the installation while not in the presence or under the control of an owner.
- 2.5. Wild animal - Animals normally found in their natural habitat, not domesticated.
- 2.6. Nuisance animal - One that annoys, disturbs, or otherwise jeopardizes the health, welfare or safety of personnel or other animals on the installation.
- 2.7. Positive control - Under active control at all times; that is, they are chained, leashed, fenced/penned in or housed in a private house or kennel. "Voice Control" is not considered positive control anywhere within the confines of McGuire AFB.
- 2.8. Current Rabies Vaccination - Vaccination for rabies within one year, utilizing approved vaccine IAW The American Veterinary Medical Association, *Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control, 2003*.
- 2.9. Tamed animal - Any animal normally found in a wild habitat, which has been domesticated and properly vaccinated (as applicable).

3. Duties and Responsibilities.

3.1. The 305 Mission Support Group Commander will:

- 3.1.1. Ensure that the provisions of this instruction are followed.
- 3.1.2. Permit no animals other than working dogs, such as seeing eye dogs or on-duty military working dogs, in the dormitories, billeting, dining halls, commissary, swimming pools, open messes, service clubs, base exchange facilities, passenger terminal building or other buildings where public gatherings occur.
- 3.1.3. Exercise the authority, as necessary, to order animals removed from the installation after one (1) biting incident or after two (2) nuisance complaints.
- 3.1.4. Serve as the approval authority through the Housing Management Office for exotic animals not listed in paragraph **3.4.1**.

3.2. The Chief, Security Forces will:

- 3.2.1. Provide installation patrols which, during the course of their normal duties, will monitor for stray and wild animals.
- 3.2.2. Ensure an Incident/Complaint report is accomplished for all bites/serious incidents. Accomplish a blotter entry for all other incidents involving animals. Ensure that all reports are forwarded to the Housing Management Office.
- 3.2.3. Notify Public Health, Primary Care Clinic, Fort Dix Veterinary Service, and the Housing Management Office, if an animal is involved in a bite incident.
- 3.2.4. Contact the Fort Dix Veterinary Service Office once an animal is considered to be a threat or potential hazard to the health, welfare, or safety of installation personnel.

3.2.5. Transport any stray animals to the Fort Dix Veterinary Service Office, where they will be examined and quarantined for a ten (10) day period, or submitted for testing at the direction of the Veterinarian.

3.2.6. At the direction of the 305 MSG Commander, impound any animal determined to be a nuisance or inhumanely treated.

3.2.7. Investigate nuisance complaints and advise the 305 MSG Commander accordingly. Prepare a blotter entry for all valid nuisance complaints.

3.2.8. Ensure a Security Forces blotter entry is completed for all captured animals indicating the time and location of capture, the disposition of each, and owner if known.

3.3. The 305th Civil Engineer Entomology Section will:

3.3.1. Provide personnel and set traps to capture aggressive or potentially dangerous wild animals found wandering on the installation upon the request of the 305th Security Forces Squadron or other concerned personnel.

3.3.2. Maintain cage traps and noose equipment for animal capture operations.

3.3.3. Notify the 305th Security Forces Squadron Combined Control Center if personnel are unable to respond to a reported incident.

3.4. Housing Management Office will:

3.4.1. Exercise approval authority as delegated by the 305 MSG/CC on a case-by-case basis regarding permission for exotic animals to be kept by residents of on-base housing. No special authorization is required for dogs, cats, common household fish, small birds, gerbils, guinea pigs, hamsters, rabbits, or small lizards.

3.4.2. Under no circumstances grant approval for any animal, which is inherently dangerous to others (i.e. poisonous, overly aggressive), any type of farm animal, or for any exotic or domestic animal, which is protected by State or Federal law.

3.4.3. Coordinate with the Fort Dix Veterinary Service on questions regarding health, safety, and suitability of keeping a special permission animal in base quarters.

3.4.4. Upon the direction of the 305 MSG Commander, issue a written warning to pet owners for the first nuisance complaint received and validated by 305th Security Forces Squadron. If a second nuisance complaint is received and validated, and upon the direction of the 305 MSG Commander, issue a letter ordering the removal of the animal from the installation.

3.5. Military Family Housing Residents will:

3.5.1. Limit privately owned animals to no more than two (2) pets of any kind with the exception fish and small birds. NOTE: Personnel residing in installation trailer parks are allowed one (1) pet.

3.5.2. Be subject to legal and financial responsibility for all actions of their animals.

3.5.3. Maintain clean and sanitary pet areas.

3.5.4. Not maintain any animal, which is inherently dangerous to others (i.e. poisonous), any type of farm animal, or any domestic or exotic animal, which is protected by State or Federal law.

3.5.5. Ensure that pets are always under positive control at all times while outdoors and are not permitted to run at large. Animals kept in a fenced area from which they cannot escape need not be on a leash. When leashed to stationary objects, ensure that they do not have access to public roadways, doorways, parking lots, or sidewalks. During the winter months, pets must be provided a shelter if they are kept outside the quarters. Medium size dogs or larger will not be tethered by any rope less than 10 feet in length. Pets must be leashed or chained to stationary objects. "Voice Control" is not considered adequate restraint anywhere within the confines of McGuire AFB or Ft Dix (AF owned) housing.

3.5.6. Pets will not be leashed in the front yard or on the front porch because it prevents delivery personnel from delivering mail, packages, and inspectors and maintenance personnel from housing, access to the front door.

3.5.7. Ensure that no pet becomes a nuisance or otherwise impacts on the rights or privileges of others. Two (2) nuisance complaints will be considered justification for the 305 MSG Commander to order the removal of the animal. Pets will be cared for in a humane manner at all times.

3.5.8. Not allow pets to defecate in areas frequently used by the base populous. Owners will not leave feces on sidewalks, yards, or common areas.

3.5.9. Not breed or raise pets on the installation as a commercial business. Litters must be placed within 12 weeks of birth.

3.5.10. Ensure pets have a current rabies vaccination with accompanying certificate signed by a military or civilian veterinarian.

3.5.11. Provide adequate shelter, food, water and medical care for their pets.

3.5.12. Not ride horses within the legal confines of McGuire AFB.

3.5.13. Register all pets with the Fort Dix VTF (Bldg. #3259, Lexington Ave, Fort Dix) within 10 days of arrival on the installation or after having the pet(s) vaccinated for Rabies by a civilian veterinarian. Registration requires verification of current rabies vaccination.

3.5.14. Report all stray animals to the 305th Security Forces Combined Control Center.

3.5.15. Report all aggressive or potentially dangerous wild animals to the 305th Civil Engineer Entomology Section or the SF Combined Control Center.

3.6. U.S. Army Fort Dix Veterinary Service will:

3.6.1. Coordinate with and support all MAFB agencies in the implementation of this instruction.

3.6.2. Investigate all bite incidents, perform examinations, and secure quarantine for the animals involved.

4. Rabies Control and Animal Bites.

4.1. All pets and special permission animals (as medically appropriate), four months or older, must be annually vaccinated against rabies. Either a military or civilian veterinarian may accomplish this. Vaccination type will be IAW The American Veterinary Medical Association, *Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control*, vaccines prepared by the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians.

4.2. Owners will be issued a current "rabies tag" and a rabies vaccination certificate for each animal properly vaccinated. The tag will be permanently affixed to the animal's collar and worn continually.

5. Dormitory Residents.

5.1. Dormitory residents may not have any pets except fish in a clean aquarium.

TERESA M. PETERSON, Brig Gen, USAF
Commander, 305th Air Mobility Wing

Attachment 1**GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

MCGUIREPAM 32-6009, *Family Housing Brochure*

The American Veterinary Medical Association, *Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control*