DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON
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FORT IRWIN, CA 92310-5000

AMIM-NTG-ZA

21 July 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: United States Army Garrison, Fort Irwin Policy #28 - Approval Process for Tattoo or Body Art Concessions on Fort Irwin

1. References:

(a) (U) DoD Instruction 1330.21 (Armed Services Exchange Regulations), 14 JUL 05

(b) (U) Army Regulation 670-1 (Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia, Chapter 3-3. Tattoo, Branding, and Body Mutilation Policy), 26 JAN 21

(c) (U) Army Regulation 215-1 (Military Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Programs and Non-appropriated Fund Instrumentalities), 24 SEP 10

(d) (U) Army Regulation 40-5 (Army Public Health Program), 12 MAY 20

(e) (U) Department of the Army Pamphlet 40-11 (Medical Services Army Public Health Program), 18 MAY 20

2. This policy will define the process to properly vet tattoo or body art businesses prior to opening. It is imperative to ensure these businesses operate and provide services consistent with the long-standing traditions of military and civilian service (e.g., no tattoos that are extremist in nature or associated with a known hate group, ex: swastika) or unauthorized per Army regulations (e.g., in a prohibited body location).

3. Not all forms of tattoos or body art are consistent with military and civil service values. It is important to balance customer and community demands for tattoos and body art with the long-standing traditions of good order, discipline, and the approved grooming standards for active service members (Ref b) while ensuring the health and safety of the community remain priority. All entities that wish to execute a body art operation will gain my recommendation and subsequent IMCOM CG approval, before commencing operations.

4. This policy applies to all installation entities (e.g., Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES), Family, Morale Welfare and Recreation (FMWR), Homebased Businesses (HBBs), or any retail outlets) on Fort Irwin before operating Tattoo or Body Art businesses, in order to ensure proper personnel and medical standards are met.

5. All tattoo or body art concession request packets must meet the requirements of the Interim Body Art Standards and Inspection Guide for Army Installations (encl 1), paragraph 6. Requests will be routed through the Garrison for Senior Commanders endorsement, forwarded to IMCOM through ID-Readiness for approval.

6. The point of contact for this memo is the Garrison Executive Officer/Workforce Development at (760) 380-6872.

STEVEN L. CHADWICK
COL, AR
Commanding

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