DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON
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AMIM-NTG-ZA 21 July 2025

SUBJECT: U.S. Army Garrison Fort Irwin Policy #32, Bicycle and Personal Transportation Devices (PTD) Safety

1. References:

a. DoD Directive 5525.4, Enforcement of State Traffic Laws on DoD Installations, 30 September 2020.

b. DoD Instruction 6055.4, DoD Motor Vehicle and Traffic Safety, 27 August 2021.

c. AR 190-5, Motor Vehicle Traffic Supervision, 22 May 2006.

d. AR 385-10, The Army Safety and Occupational Health Program, 24 July 2023.

e. California Vehicle Code - Division 11. Rules of the Road [21000 - 23336]

f. California Vehicle Code - Section 345

2. Purpose: To establish safety requirements for operating bicycles and personal transportation devices (PTDs) at the United States Army Garrison-Fort Irwin. This policy aims to enhance the welfare, morale, and safety of all personnel on the installation. Leaders are expected to enforce these guidelines to ensure the well-being of everyone on the installation.

3. Applicability: This policy applies to all Department of Defense (DoD) military and civilian employees, family members, and visitors operating PTDs on the installation. Devices covered under this policy include:

a. Self-Propelled: Bicycles, scooters, skates, and skateboards

b. Electric-Powered: E-bikes, golf carts, electric scooters, one-wheels, hoverboards

c. Gasoline-Powered: Mopeds, pit bikes, and gasoline-powered scooters

4. Policy:

a. This policy supplements NTC REG 190-5 and will remain in effect until NTC REG 190-5 is updated to include PTO.

b. In accordance with California laws, motorized, motor-assisted, and non-motorized bicycles, as well as personal transportation devices (PTDs), are classified as motor vehicles and must adhere to all traffic regulations. Riders must use the far-right side of roadways, bicycle paths, trails, or bikeways, and are prohibited from riding on sidewalks.

5. Requirements and Restrictions.

a. Operator Responsibilities:

(1) All operators must comply with applicable traffic laws, including speed limits, road signs, and signals.

(2) PTO operators must yield to pedestrians and avoid areas marked for pedestrian use only.

(3) Operating under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or medications that impair motor skills is strictly prohibited for all types of PTDs.

b. Helmet and Protective Gear:

(1) All operators of motorized PTDs must wear helmets that comply with Department of Transportation (DOT) standards, including those operating e-bikes, motorized scooters, pit bikes, and mopeds.

(2) Pit bikes and gasoline-powered scooters must follow the same helmet regulations as motorcycles in California.

(3) For non-motorized, gasoline, or electric devices (bicycles, skateboards, etc.) are required to wear helmets.

c. Visibility and Lighting:

(1) All PTDs must be equipped with appropriate visibility gear:

(a) White front light visible from 300 feet and red rear reflector visible from 500 feet during nighttime operation.

(b) Electric scooters, golf carts, pit bikes, and e-bikes must comply with California's lighting standards, especially during dark or low-visibility.

6. Specific Requirements for Electric and Gasoline-Powered Devices:

a. Speed Limits:

(1) Electric scooters, golf carts and hoverboards may not exceed 15 mph on roads. Class 3 e-bikes may not exceed 28 mph and must remain on roads or designated bike lanes.

(2) Pit bikes and gasoline-powered scooters cannot be operated at speeds greater than 28 mph, and operation is limited to private property or designated off-road areas. They are prohibited on public highways unless they are street-legal and meet all California OMV requirements.

7. For non-TMP government owned vehicle (i.e. golf carts), will require a bumper vehicle number in the absence of California registration for road use and have annotated on their government issued license.

8. Road and Trail Usage:

a. Pit bikes and gas-powered scooters are not allowed on sidewalks, bike paths, or pedestrian walkways. These vehicles are restricted to private property, designated trails, or approved off-road areas.

b. E-bikes and motorized scooters may use bike lanes but must adhere to the local ordinances and posted speed limits.

c. Class 3 e-bikes are prohibited from using recreational trails unless adjacent to a roadway.

9. Registration and Licensing:

a. Pit bikes and gasoline-powered scooters are not street-legal unless they are registered, equipped with proper safety features (headlights, taillights, mirrors, and turn signals), and pass a VIN inspection.

b. A Class C driver's license is required for operating motorized scooters on public roads. For pit bikes, motorcycle endorsement (M1 or M2) is required if operated on the street.

10. Enforcement for Violator(s) (Civilians) at Age 17 years old or under.

a. First Offense. Fort Irwin Police will issue a warning on an Armed Forces Traffic Ticket (DD FM 1408). In addition, violator's Sponsor will be notified.

b. Second Offense. Fort Irwin Police will issue a Armed Forces Traffic Ticket (DD FM 1408). In addition, the violator's Sponsor and Sponsor's chain of command will be notified.

c. Third Offense. Fort Irwin Police will issue a Armed Forces Traffic Ticket (DD FM 1408). In addition, the violator's chain of command will be notified.

11. Enforcement for Violator(s) (Civilians or Soldiers) at Age 18 years and above will issue a Central Violations Bureau (CVB) ticket IAW California State Law.

12. Parents are responsible for educating their children on the dangers of operating PTDs and required safety measures. Commanders and supervisors, at all levels, should disseminate this policy to all members within their command.

13. Proponent for this policy is the Directorate of Emergency Services, Fort Irwin (760)-380-1258 or (760)-380-8348.

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