



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY TRAINING CENTER AND FORT JACKSON
2400 JACKSON BOULEVARD
FORT JACKSON SC 29207-5015

ATZJ-CG (1000A)

09 JUL 2024

MEMORANDUM FOR

Commanders, All Units Reporting Directly to This Headquarters
Commanders, Fort Jackson Partners in Excellence
Directors and Chief, Staff Offices, This Headquarters

SUBJECT: Fort Jackson Policy Memorandum #37 – Prohibited Social Media Use

1. References:

- a. Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 1304.33 (Protecting Against Inappropriate Relations During Recruiter and Entry Level Training)
- b. Army Regulation (AR) 600-32 (Conduct Between Soldiers of Different Grades)
- c. Training and Doctrine Command Regulation (TR) 350-6, (Enlisted Initial Entry Training Policies and Administration)

2. Purpose: This policy prohibits any Army trainer from friending, following, or liking any trainee through social media or via a social media networking website or application during the trainee's initial entry training (IET) and for six months after the trainee completes IET.

3. Applicability: This policy is punitive in nature and applies to all Army trainers assigned to, attached to, employed by, or present within Fort Jackson, or a tenant unit of Fort Jackson. Soldiers who violate this policy are subject to punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).

4. Policy:

a. Army trainers will not friend, follow, or like a trainee through social media or via a social media networking website or application during IET and for six months after the trainee completes IET. This prohibition includes all similar actions that an Army trainer may take on social media networking websites or applications to engage personally with a trainee.

b. TR 350-6, para.2-5d(1)(c) prohibits trainers from "friending" or making a request to be a "friend" through social media or via a social media networking website with a

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trainee. This policy extends the prohibition of an Army trainer from “friending” or making a request to be a “friend” through social media or via a social media networking website with a trainee to six months after the trainee completes entry-level training. This policy also expands the prohibited actions that an Army trainer may conduct on social media with trainees.

c. An Army trainer is any Army military, DA Civilian, or contractor personnel who is responsible for planning, organizing, or conducting initial military training as part of a formal training course with a unique training course identifier or as part of an in-residence training or education course, or who provide administrative, logistical, or personnel support to trainees (see DoDI 1304.33).

d. IET is training presented to new enlistees with no prior military service. This training is designed to produce disciplined, motivated, physically fit Soldiers ready to take their place in the Army in the field. This training includes basic combat training, one station unit training, advanced individual training, Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center and pre basic training courses (fitness training unit, Defense Language Institute English Language Center- English as a second language). Individuals are considered IET status until they graduate and are awarded a military occupational specialty. The IET unit is responsible for the Soldier until he/she signs in to his/her new duty station.

e. In accordance with AR 600-32, exceptions may be granted to accommodate relationships that existed before the trainee started formal training. An exception may be granted for Family members. Only the trainer's or trainee's commanders in the grade of lieutenant colonel or higher has the authority to approve these exceptions.

5. The point of contact for this memorandum is the Fort Jackson Staff Judge Advocate.


JASON E. KELLY
Major General, USA
Commanding