



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT STEWART/HUNTER ARMY AIRFIELD
1791 GULICK AVE., BLDG. 709
FORT STEWART, GEORGIA 31314

AMIM-SHG-ZA (215)

MEMORANDUM FOR U.S. Army Garrison Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield

SUBJECT: U.S. Army Garrison Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield Policy #8, Domestic Animal Policy

1. REFERENCES.

- a. Army Policy, Domestic Animals on Army Installations.
- b. Army Regulation 40-905 (Veterinary Health Service).
- c. Department of Defense Directive 1300-27, Guidance on the Use of Service Dogs by Service Members, 7 January 2016.
- d. Army Directive 2013-01, Guidance on the Acquisition and Use of Service Dogs by Servicemembers, 28 January 2013.
- e. 3rd Infantry Division and Fort Stewart Regulation 40-12, Medical Services, Pet and Animal Disease Control, 10 August 2007.

2. PURPOSE. To provide policy for domestic animals residing on and visiting Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield (FS/HAAF).

3. APPLICABILITY. This policy applies to FS/HAAF and all types of Army housing and lodging, including Army owned, privatized, and leased. This policy applies to privately owned animals, specifically those pets owned by Service Members, Government employees, Contractors, including all Family members and all visitors. This policy is not intended to address control of Department of Defense-owned animals (Military working dogs, government-owned animals or non-appropriated fund-owned animals).

4. POLICY.

- a. The Senior Commander (SC) has authority over installation access for all animals, other than service dogs (as defined in references 1.c. and 1.d).
- b. Every installation must have a domestic animal policy that adheres to the guidance in the Army Domestic Animal Policy and complies with all applicable federal, state, local laws and regulations, and all installation specific requirements associated with installation access, ownership, registration, control, and vaccination of domestic animals.

c. Animals are not permitted in public buildings except for the Veterinary Treatment Facility (VTF) locations at FS/HAAF and the FS Pet Care Center (PCC) located at Holbrook Pond. Government owned animals (unit mascots and Military working dogs) will be allowed in public buildings, under the supervision of a handler and appropriate command. Service dogs are permitted per the Americans with Disabilities Act. Service members will ensure the service dog wears a special vest or harness always identifying it as a service dog while on the installation or in Army facilities as mandated by Army Directive 2013-01 Chapter 10 (c).

d. Effective 1 April 2025, FS PCC will no longer take in restricted breeds as described in this policy. Animals that are on the restricted breed list that are current customers will be allowed to use services provided that all other policies are met. Once the pet no longer uses FS PCC services, they will be removed from the use list and no longer allowed in the program.

e. Animals will not be permitted to run at large. Dogs and cats will be:

(1) On a leash under the control of a mature, responsible individual.

(2) Confined to quarters.

(3) Confined in a fenced area from which they cannot escape.

(4) Tied to an immovable object, not to include trees, shrubs or permanent buildings.

(5) Animals will not be left outside unattended for longer than 30 minutes during extreme temperatures or weather conditions.

(6) Owners are responsible for the timely removal of their animals' feces.

(7) Animals will not be unattended in a vehicle when the outside temperature is over 75 degrees. When the temperature is under 75 degrees, a window must be open at least 3 inches to allow ventilation and the animal cannot be left unattended for more than 10 minutes.

(8) The breeding or raising of pets for profit is not permitted on FS/HAAF.

f. Restricted Animals.

(1) Residents, employees, contractors, or visitors may not bring on FS/HAAF, any dog of a breed (including a mixed breed) that is deemed aggressive/dangerous or potentially aggressive/dangerous. For purposes of this policy,

aggressive/dangerous or potentially aggressive/dangerous breeds of dogs are defined as Pit Bulls (American Staffordshire Bull Terriers or English Staffordshire Bull Terriers), Rottweilers, Doberman Pinschers, Chows, and wolf hybrids. This prohibition also extends to other dogs that demonstrate a propensity for dominant or aggressive/dangerous behavior as indicated by any of the following types of conduct:).

- (a) Unprovoked barking, growling, or snarling when people are present.
- (b) Aggressively running along fence lines when people are present.
- (c) Biting or scratching people or attacking other pets.
- (d) Escaping confinement or restriction to chase people.

g. It is unauthorized to bring any exotic, wild, or farm species onto any FS/HAAF for other than official purposes. Examples of exotic, wild and farm species include but are not limited to the following: exotic animals, fish and reptiles such as alligators, electric eels, monkeys, piranhas, pufferfish, sharks, and snakes; wild animals and birds such as ferrets, foxes, hedgehogs, raccoons, rats, skunks, squirrels, owls, ostriches, and falcons; and farm animals and fowl such as pot-bellied pigs, goats, sheep, chickens, and geese. Prior written approval of the Installation Commander is required to bring exotic, wild, or farm species onto the Installation for official purposes.

h. Service Dog Exceptions.

(1) The installation access restrictions do not apply to service animals. Department of Justice guidelines implementing the service dog provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act expressly prohibits exclusion of a service dog "based on assumptions or stereotypes about the animal's breed or how the animal might behave." However, if a particular service animal behaves in a way, as stated in 4.b (1) a-d, the animal may be barred from the installation at the direction of the Garrison Commander.

(2) If a Service Member has authorization to bring onto an installation (for example to receive veterinary services) a dog that fits the above description of an aggressive/dangerous or potentially aggressive/dangerous dog, the dog must be always muzzled while on the installation.

i. Family Housing.

(1) Army Privatized Family Housing must comply with this policy to the extent practical.

(2) Residents of Army Privatized Family Housing are limited to two animals per household (except for aquarium fish). This can be two dogs, two cats, or one

dog and one cat. Nursing litters will be exempted for a reasonable amount of time, not to exceed three months. The privatized housing owner is authorized to waive the dog and cat limit after considering the needs of the animal owner/resident, impact to neighboring residents, the expense of additional wear and tear on the dwelling unit, any prior approved waivers, and if any of the dogs or cats are claimed by the animal owner to be a service animal, assistance animal, companion animal, emotional support animal, activity animal, or therapy animal.

(3) Restriction of aggressive breeds may be further outlined in the privatized owner occupancy policy. In addition, the privatized housing owner may also charge animal-related fees (both refundable and non-refundable) as stated in the resident lease.

j. Unaccompanied Housing (UH).

(1) Army-owned UH. UH residents are prohibited from keeping animals in their building. However, a UH resident may be authorized to keep a service dog.

(2) Army Privatized UH. Army privatized UH projects may allow domestic animals in accordance with this policy.

(3) Lodging. This policy applies to Army owned and Privatized Army Lodging.

k. Registration Requirements.

(1) All dogs and cats over three months of age whose owners reside on the installation must be registered.

(2) Registration must be completed within 7 working days after arrival at FS/HAAF or within 5 days of obtaining a new animal.

(3) Registration can be completed at the Veterinary Treatment Facility (VTF) during normal business hours.

(4) Items needed to complete Registration:

(a) Proof of current required vaccinations

(b) Proof of microchip

(5) Owners who fail to comply with the mandatory registration will be notified in writing through their chain of command. Failure to comply after written notification will result in the removal of the animal from the installation.

l. Vaccinations. All vaccinations are at the expense of the owner. The following vaccinations are required for each animal residing on or visiting the installation:

- (1) Rabies (required annually).
- (2) Distemper (required annually).
- (3) Parvo (required annually).
- (4) Heartworm test completed within the past year.
- (5) Fecal test completed within the past year.

m. Abandoned/Stray Animals.

(1) Animals found loose will be detained by the Military Police and transported to the VTF.

(2) All stray animals brought to the VTF will be scanned to verify microchip implantation. If no microchip is detected, the animal must be microchipped by the VTF at the owner's expense prior to release.

(3) If an impounded animal is not claimed by its owner within three working days, the animal may be adopted by another person, placed in a rescue facility, or euthanized as directed by the FS/HAAF Veterinarian.

(4) Owners reclaiming their pets will be required to present the animals current vaccination records prior to being released and pay for the microchip implantation and updated vaccinations if needed.

(5) Any individual who knowingly and intentionally abandons any domesticated animal on post may face adverse criminal or administrative action and revocation of the privilege to own animals on the installation.

n. Any FS/HAAF resident or visitor found to be in violation of this policy is subject to receive citations. Possession of animals on FS/HAAF is a privilege and multiple violations of this policy could lead to the revocation of the privilege to possess animals on the installation.

o. This policy is effective immediately. Unless an animal demonstrates a propensity for dominant or aggressive/dangerous behavior as previously indicated in policy, current housing residents who are boarding a domestic animal prohibited by this policy may continue to board the animal until they vacate the on-post or Army leased housing they are residing in on the effective date of this policy.

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5. RESPONSIBILITIES.

a. The Directorate of Emergency Services will:

- (1) Issue citations in response to violations of this policy.
- (2) Capture and transport stray animals.
- (3) Investigate public nuisance animals, vicious animals and cases of animal cruelty.

b. The VTF will:

- (1) Provide domestic animal registration services during normal business hours.
- (2) Impound stray animals.
- (3) Provide microchipping and vaccination services for domestic animals at

the owner's expense.

c. Residents and Visitors of FS/HAAF will:

- (1) Comply with this policy as it may apply to their animal or any animals

temporarily in their care.

- (2) Comply with any additional animal/pet policies of agencies conducting business on FS/HAAF to include but not limited to Balfour Beatty Communities and IHG.

4. The proponent of this policy is the Garrison Executive Officer at 571-801-2030.

WILLIAM G. WEAVER
COL, LG
Commanding