



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON WIESBADEN
UNIT 29623 BOX 50
APO AE 09005-9623

AMIM-WBG-ZA

MEMORANDUM FOR All Members of the United States Army Garrison Wiesbaden Community

SUBJECT: USAG Wiesbaden Command Policy Letter #77, Pet Policy

1. References.

- a. Army Regulation (AR) 420-1, Army Facilities Management, 24 August 2012.
- b. Army in Europe (AE) Supplement 1 to AR 420-1, 20 November 2008.
- c. AR 40-905, Veterinary Health Services, 29 August 2006.
- d. AR 40-5, Preventive Medicine, 12 May 2020.
- e. Department of Army Policy- Domestic Animals on Army Installations, 16 August 2018
- f. Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 USC §12131-12134).
- g. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.
- h. Department of Defense Directive 1300.27 (Guidance on the Use of Service Dogs by Service Member), 7 January 2016.
- i. Army directive 2013-01 (Guidance on the Acquisition and Use of Service Dogs by Soldiers) 28 January 2013
- j. Army Regulation 600-20, Army Command Policy, 6 November 2014
- k. Army Regulation 690-12, Equal Employment Opportunity and Diversity, 22 December 2016.
- l. Army Regulation 215-1, Military Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Programs and Non-appropriated Fund Instrumentalities, 24 September 2010.
- m. Army Regulation 40-58, Warrior Care and Transition Program, 23 March 2015
- n. American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior, Position Statement on Breed-Specific Legislation, 2014.
- o. Army Regulation 600-7, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Handicap in Programs and Activities Assisted or Conducted by the Department of the Army, 15 November 1983.

p. DHA-PI 6025.18, Animal Access to Facilities, 21 May 2019

2. Purpose: To provide policy for domestic animals on Army installations, Military Family Housing (MFH/AFH), Army owned lodging, and military healthcare settings.

3. Applicability. This policy applies to all persons within the USAG Wiesbaden, and all types of Army housing and lodging. This policy applies only to privately owned animals, specifically those pets owned by Service Members, Government Employees, and Contractors, including all Family Members and all visitors. This policy is not intended to address control of Department of Defense (DOD)-owned animals, e.g. Military Working Dogs on Army installations. This policy applies to US Government operated workplaces and work areas. This policy does not apply to Host Nation solely used facilities or work areas.

4. Policy.

a. General- Installation Access

(1) U.S. Service Members (SMs), residents, employees, contractors, or visitors may not bring on any U.S. Army-operated installation any dog of a breed (including a mixed breed) that is deemed aggressive/dangerous or potentially aggressive/dangerous. This policy clarifies Pit Bulls (American Staffordshire Bull Terriers or English Staffordshire Bull Terriers), Rottweilers, Doberman Pinschers, Chows, and wolf hybrids as aggressive/dangerous or potentially aggressive/dangerous breeds of dogs. 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) Running aggressively along fence lines when people are present.

(c) Biting or scratching people or attacking other pets.

(d) Escaping confinement or restriction to chase people or vehicles.

(2) It is unauthorized to bring any exotic, wild, or farm species on to USAG Wiesbaden 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 from the Garrison Commander is required to bring exotic, wild, or farm species onto the installation for official purposes.

(3) The installation access restrictions in paragraphs 4.a.(1) and 4.a.(2) do not apply to service animals. Department of Justice guidelines implementing the service dog provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act prohibit the 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.a.(1)(a-d), the animal may be barred from the at the direction of the Garrison Commander.

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(4) Domestic animals are not authorized in U.S. Army-operated workplaces for extended periods unless the Garrison Commander approves an exception to this policy.

(5) Domestic animals are prohibited in Food, Beverage, and Entertainment (FB&E) facilities (e.g., bowling alley, theatre, commissary, the exchange, food court, etc.).

(6) Domestic animals are prohibited in customer service or customer waiting areas (e.g., vehicle inspection waiting area, central processing facility, passport office, post office, etc.).

b. Exceptions for domestic animals other than aggressive breed as defined in paragraph 4.a.(1):

(1) Service animals as defined in AR 690-12.

(2) Therapy assistance animals prescribed by a medical authority

(3) Military working dogs (MWDs).

(4) Facilities/areas designated for pets, such as appointed lodging rooms, dog parks, and veterinarian facilities.

(5) Community/public outdoor recreation areas, where the master/owner has constant, complete control of the animal.

(6) Designated activities and events for pet participation.

(7) School classrooms for educational purposes where the domestic animal was approved by the administration with consultation from the veterinary staff.

c. Exception for an aggressive breed. If a Service Member, Family Member, Civilian, or contractor has authorization to bring onto an installation (for example, to receive veterinary services) a dog that fits the above description in paragraph 4.a.(1) of an aggressive/dangerous or potentially aggressive/dangerous dog, the dog must be muzzled at all times while on the installation.

d. Reasonable accommodation for service animals and assistance animals for persons with disabilities:

(1) Request Process for employment, the Department of the Army will treat requests for the use of service animals and assistance animals per the Army's procedures in AR 690-12, "Equal employment Opportunity and Diversity, Appendix C (Reasonable Accommodation)" and AR 600-7, "Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Handicap in Programs and Activities Assisted or Conducted by the Department of the Army."

(2) Access and inquiries regarding Service Animals. Under Titles II and III of the ADA, businesses and nonprofit organizations that serve the public generally must allow service animals to accompany people with disabilities in all areas of the facility where the public is normally allowed to go. In a hospital environment, excluding a service animal from patient rooms, clinics, cafeterias, or examination rooms would be inappropriate.

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However, it may be appropriate to exclude a service animal from operation rooms or burn units where the animal's presence may compromise a sterile environment.

(a) Service animals must be under control. Under the ADA, service animals must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered, unless these devices interfere with the service animal's work or the individual's disability prevents using these devices. Handlers must control the animal through voice, signal, or other adequate controls. Handlers are responsible for caring for and supervising their service animal or assistance animal, including toileting, feeding, grooming, and veterinary care. A handler may be asked to remove a service animal or assistance animal from the premises if the animal is out of control. The animal's handler must take effective action to control it. The handler may be asked to remove a service animal if the animal can't manage its waste elimination. Other staff members are not required to provide care or food for a service animal. When there is a legitimate reason to ask that a service animal be removed, staff must offer the person with the disability the opportunity to access the premises and/or obtain goods or services without the animal's presence.

(b) Inquiries, exclusions, charges, and other specific rules related to service animals. When it is not obvious what service an animal is providing, only limited inquiries are allowed: is the dog or service animal required because of a disability, and what work or task has the dog been trained to perform? Staff cannot ask about the nature of the person's disability, require medical documentation, require special identification care or training documentation for the dog, or ask that the dog demonstrate its ability to perform the work or task.

(c) Allergies and fear of dogs are not valid reasons for denying access or refusing service to people using service animals. When a person who is allergic to dog dander and a person who uses a service animal must spend time in the same room or facility, they both should be accommodated by assigning them, if possible, to different locations within the room or different rooms in the facility.

(d) Establishments that sell or prepare food, such as cafeterias, dining, and mess halls, must allow service animals in public areas even if state or local health codes otherwise prohibit animals on the premises. People with disabilities who use service animals cannot be isolated from other patrons, treated less favorably than other patrons, or charged fees that are not charged to other patrons without animals. In addition, if a business requires a deposit or fee to be paid by patrons with pets, it must waive the charge for service animals. If a business such as a hotel normally charges guests for the damage they cause, a customer with a disability may also be charged for damage caused by them or their service animal.

e. All personnel assigned to USAG Wiesbaden owning pets, regardless of the species or where they live, must register those pets at the Wiesbaden Veterinary Treatment Facility (VTF) within two (2) weeks of arrival to Germany, or within two (2) weeks of acquiring the animal, if acquired during the tour.

f. All members of USAG Wiesbaden are responsible for maintaining and controlling pets for which they are responsible. Personnel residing in Army Family Housing (AFH) are restricted to the number of pets described below and must adhere to the

requirements and responsibilities of ownership detailed in references above and Host Nation laws. If personnel or their dependents are unable to adhere to the requirements and responsibilities, they may lose their privilege to maintain an animal in AFH.

g. All residents of AFH owning or keeping animals are responsible for all damages to government or private property caused by their pets.

5. Authorized number of pets. USAG-WI residents are authorized to have pets in AFH in any one of the following combinations: 1) three small pets, 2) two small and one medium, 3) two small and one large, 4) two medium, 5) one medium and one large, or 6) two large.

a. Small dogs are those less than or equal to 30 pounds or 14 kilograms, such as Chihuahua; Bichon Frise; terriers; Shih Tzu; Pomeranian; or Pug. For this section, cats are classified as small pets.

b. Medium size dogs are those 31 to 54 pounds or 15 to 24 kilograms, such as Basset Hounds; Cocker Spaniel; Beagle; or Bulldog.

c. Large dogs are those greater than 55 pounds or 25 kilograms, such as Labrador; Golden Retriever; German Shepherd; Husky; or Mastiff.

d. Upon request, registered service animals will be exempt from the total number of pets allowed. Resident must provide appropriate service animal documentation for exemption. Furthermore, should a request for a service animal above the maximum number of pets be approved, no new request would be required in the event a pet dies or is rehoused. Emotional support pets will count against the total number of pets allowed.

6. Public Nuisance. Owners whose animal(s) are found to be a public nuisance may be required to remove them from AFH at the owner's expense. Public nuisance includes, but is not limited to: excessive barking/howling, an animal collected as a stray more than two (2) times in a six (6) month period, causes destruction of government or other personal property, etc.

7. Animal bite/scratch incidents and revocation of pet privileges.

a. Pets that are known to bite will be muzzled and kept on a short leash, no longer than six (6) feet, to ensure proper control of the animal, when outdoors. An adult Family member will walk aggressive animals in order to better maintain control and better avoid an incident. Animals which habitually bite, scratch, attack, or otherwise threaten people without provocation are a menace and will not be allowed in government facilities. A severe incident is cause for removal of the offending animal, regardless if there are no prior incidents.

b. If an animal bites another animal, the owner(s) will notify the MPs immediately. Both owners will then contact the VTF within twenty-four (24) hours to schedule a bite quarantine examination. If the incident happens when the VTF is closed, the owners must contact the VTF the next duty day to schedule this exam.

c. If an animal bites or scratches a human, the human will go to the Medical Treatment Facility (MTF), if during business hours, or the local emergency room (ER) if after MTF hours. If seen at the ER, the person should notify the MTF the next duty day. The MTF will generate a bite-scratch report and notify the VTF of the incident per AR 40-905, paragraph 4-2c(5). The VTF will contact the owner of the animal, if possible, and schedule an appointment for a bite quarantine examination.

d. If, at the bite quarantine examination, it is determined a higher level of quarantine is necessary, the animal will be transported to a local German quarantine facility and will be quarantined at the owner's expense.

e. Where applicable, if the owner fails to report to the VTF, the Unit Commander or First Sergeant will be notified and will direct the owner to report to the VTF with the offending animal.

f. All animal bites will be entered on the daily blotter.

g. Any person or animal bitten by a stray animal should seek medical/veterinary attention immediately. Incidents involving strays will be reported to the MPs who will immediately attempt to locate the stray animal and will coordinate with the Directorate of Public Works (DPW), VTF, and local authorities for capture and quarantine.

8. Control of Pets.

a. Leashes, including retractable leashes, will not be over 16 feet long. Pets will always be kept on a leash when outside the owner's quarters, unless in the fenced yard of the owner's quarters or designated play area---i.e. a dog park. Any privately owned animal that is allowed to roam without restriction will be treated as a stray animal. Stray animals are defined as an uncontrolled animal that is homeless and ownerless.

b. Unauthorized pet locations. Pets of any kind are not allowed on designated playgrounds or historical monuments. Balconies are unauthorized unless the owner or a responsible custodian is with the animal.

c. Owners will pick up pet excrement immediately and dispose of it properly when out with the pet. Owners will ensure excrement does not accumulate in their yards. Pets will not be allowed to relieve themselves inside buildings, on balconies, on playgrounds, or on walkways.

d. At no time will pets be left unattended in government quarters for extended periods of time without coordinating proper care. Owners are responsible for planning for the care of the pet when gone for an extended period of time to include TDY, deployment, or leave. If pets are left temporarily unattended in a vehicle, the owner is responsible to ensure there is sufficient fresh air and an acceptable air temperature.

e. The breeding of pets on government property is prohibited. More than one litter per year is considered a commercial enterprise. Offspring kept longer than six (6) months count against the total number of authorized pets. Construction of kennels is prohibited.

f. Pets will be fed only in the resident's quarters or fenced-in yards and not on landings, balconies, or stairwells. Pets must be kept indoors at night. Pets will not be locked in a spare room in any house or apartment, storage room, or building common areas. Outdoor housing for pets is prohibited.

g. Electronic shock collars (E-Collars) used to train/discipline or exercise a pet are prohibited.

h. Tail docking and ear cropping of pets for purely cosmetic purposes is prohibited. Declawing is restricted unless extreme circumstances exist, and the procedure is medically warranted. Some breeds of hunting dogs, which meet various requirements, may be allowed to have their tails docked.

9. Abandonment of pets is a violation of this policy. Owners that abandon their pets are responsible for all costs incurred by the government in relation to the transfer, care, custody, and final disposition of the animal. Additionally, those owners may be subject to action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).

10. Report improper control of pets to the MPs. Where applicable, copies of formal complaints will be provided to the owner's commanding officer for necessary action.

11. Animal Welfare.

a. Pet owners are responsible for the humane treatment of pets in their care and shall provide adequate shelter, nutrition, medical care, and companionship for their pets. Inhumane or abusive treatment of animals is prohibited.

b. A sanitation inspection (Health and Welfare) will be conducted on any house or apartment alleged to be substandard with cleanliness, odorous, or in which a pet has apparently been abandoned. Entry into the quarters will be in the presence of the sponsor or an adult Family member, unless immediate entry is required.

c. The feeding and/or sheltering of abandoned or stray animals is strictly forbidden. A stray animal is defined as any domestic animal that is not under the control of an owner. Personnel who provide food and/or shelter expose themselves and the community to health and safety risks. Personnel should not approach stray or abandoned animals. Personnel should not approach stray or abandoned animals. Personnel should call the MPs and report any stray or abandoned animals located on the installation.

12. Dead Animals. If a pet passes away in AFH, contact the VTF for disposal options. Depending on the method chosen by the owner, the VTF may charge for disposal of the animal. Burial of the animal on a military installation, to include housing areas, is prohibited. If you find a dead animal, contact DPW for disposal instructions.

13. German law imposes liability on the animal owner or keeper for damages to public or private property and personal injury caused by the pet, whether the animal is in the owner's possession, lost, or abandoned. Liability insurance for pets may be purchased. It is recommended to have the insurance policy reviewed by the USAG Wiesbaden Legal

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Assistance Office.

14. Proponent. The proponent for this memorandum is the USAG Wiesbaden DPW Housing Division, DSN 548-4402 or CIV 0611-143-548-4402.



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Commanding