

Headquarters
U.S. Army Armor Center and Fort Knox
Fort Knox, Kentucky 40121-5520
1 October 2001

*Fort Knox Reg 40-12

Medical Services

CONTROL OF ANIMALS – PETS

Summary. This regulation pertains to the proper care and control of animals on the installation. Responsibilities are outlined for those in the applicability statement below. Specific mention is made of disciplinary actions and fees to which owners are subject should they fail to control their pets.

Applicability. This regulation applies to all personnel residing on Fort Knox who maintain animals on the installation. It also applies to the Provost Marshal, Directorate of Base Operations Support (DBOS), Directorate of Community and Family Activities (DCFA), Chief of Fort Knox Branch Veterinary Services, and all other organizations assigned post police duties.

Suggested improvements. The proponent of this regulation is the Office of the Chief, Fort Knox Branch Veterinary Services, Allegheny District Veterinary Command. Users are invited to send comments and suggested improvements on DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms) through channels to CDR, USAARMC, ATTN: MCVS-ATA-K, Fort Knox, KY 40121-5000.

1. **Purpose.** To delineate responsibilities for the proper care and control of animals on the installation.

2. **General.** Control and proper care of all animals maintained at Fort Knox are necessary to protect the health of this command.

a. All animals maintained within the confines of Fort Knox are included within the meaning of this directive. No more than three animals as pets, per household are permitted (Reference 3a (15). Permission for their presence is a privilege granted by the Garrison Commander.

b. Dogs, cats, and small caged pets not exclusively forbidden below, may be kept on the installation provided the owners comply with this directive. Horses and ponies may be stabled, but only those of female sex or immature and gelded males will be allowed in the installation stable compound per established stable regulations and bylaws that include required vaccinations and blood tests. Ferrets may be kept on post as long as they are kept indoors, have appropriate vaccinations, and are registered with the Veterinary Treatment Facility (VTF).

*This regulation supersedes USAARMC Reg 40-12, 10 July 1995.

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Skunks, raccoons, opossums, squirrels, and other wild animals to include venomous snakes, reptiles, insects, and piranha fish are not acceptable as pets and will not be maintained on the installation. Permission is required in writing from Chief of Housing Division, Post Veterinarian, and Garrison Commander for maintenance of more than three domestic animals or other species as pets.

c. The privilege of keeping a pet is dependent upon its continued ability to live harmoniously within the military community. The right of personnel residing on post to be free from nuisance, trespass, and menace of pets is paramount to the privilege of keeping a pet. The Garrison Commander may withdraw the privilege of maintaining a pet at his discretion.

3. Responsibilities.

a. Animal owners will:

(1) Bring on the reservation or maintain only animals for which permission is granted by the Garrison Commander through the provisions of this regulation.

(2) Have animals registered at the Veterinary Treatment Facility (VTF), Bldg. No. 1068, 192nd Tank Battalion Rd., in the name of their military owner or sponsor. A 14-day grace period dating from the time of the pet's arrival on post will be allowed for registration. At the time of registration, evidence of current rabies and Canine Parvo Virus vaccinations will be required. There will be no charge for registration unless vaccinations or other services are rendered. Newborn animals will be registered and vaccinated for rabies at 3 months of age. Older, unvaccinated animals or animals whose vaccination is not current will be vaccinated at the time of registration. The registration expires when the rabies vaccination expires. Type of vaccine to be used and the frequency of revaccination will be per AR 40-905. Vaccinations for animals are administered at the VTF during scheduled clinic hours or may be obtained from a licensed civilian veterinarian. Immunizations will be at the owner's expense.

(3) Ensure that dogs and cats wear a collar or harness to which is attached the current Fort Knox registration tag while outside the owner's quarters. All other registered animals, such as caged pets and horses, will have proof of registration maintained at the VTF. Pet owners are responsible for controlling their pets. Pets will be leashed when outside unless in a secure, fenced area. Pets will not be tied to trees, shrubs, or where they interfere with pedestrian traffic, clotheslines, or mail delivery. Pets are not permitted in common use areas such as playgrounds, baseball and softball fields, and parade fields. Pet waste will be promptly removed by the pet owner. Electric dog fences are specifically prohibited. When tied in a stationary place the leash/chain must be at least 5 feet in length.

(4) Ensure that any animal that has bitten a human or other animal in an unprovoked attack is muzzled while outside the owner's quarters.

(5) Be pecuniarily liable for damage or injury to property, persons, and public buildings.

(6) Ensure that animals are fed, watered, and cared for humanely. Cruel or injurious abandonment, and neglect are prohibited. Animals will have access to water at all times; be fed on a daily basis; be provided separate shelter (if animal is maintained outdoors, pet carriers are not authorized as shelters for those animals) that is large enough for the pet to stand and turn around freely, protect from wind, rain, and snow and be easily cleaned; and be given adequate medical care when required. Cost of doing so will be born by the owner. The proper disposition of animal waste is the responsibility of the owner. In the event that animals evacuate on public walkways, streets, and yards not assigned to the owner, the owner will remove the waste immediately. Owners will remove animal waste from stables, runs, and assigned quarters daily and more frequently as necessary to control such nuisances.

(7) Ensure that animals remain under their direct supervision and control at all times and that measures are employed to prevent them from attacking personnel, becoming a menace or nuisance (to include prolonged barking or whining), or following/interfering with troops, parades, vehicles, or bicycles. Pet owners will make arrangements for the care or disposition of their pets while temporarily absent and before departing for another permanent station. Animals will not be abandoned on the reservation.

(8) Ensure that female pets in heat are kept confined except while being exercised on a leash under the direct supervision of a mature person.

(9) Assist in obtaining immediate medical attention for persons bitten, scratched, or injured by their pet. "Victims of animal bites/scratches should seek medical attention at the Hospital Emergency Room."

(10) Cause to be delivered to the VTF, any animal involved in biting or scratching a human, whether the incident is provoked or not. Delivery will be made at the earliest practicable time, and, in any case, by the next normal duty day. Animals may be quarantined for a period of 10 days at the VTF. Home quarantine may be used by the Post Veterinarians at their discretion, provided full cooperation in all phases of the procedure is adhered to by the owner.

(11) Ensure that transient animals entering the reservation for specific events, such as shows, carnivals, hay rides, etc., are limited to the areas provided for their event. Health certification and other animal health/zoonotic disease programs will be formulated by the veterinarian as required.

(12) Not permit animals in public buildings, swimming pools, sports areas, tennis courts, golf courses, parade grounds, or at public gatherings except for animal shows. An exception to this will be made for guide dogs for the blind, military working dogs, and service dogs for the handicapped.

(13) Notify the VTF immediately before departure from Fort Knox or upon change of ownership of an animal so that registration may be kept current.

(14) Permit, at owner's expense, necessary tests, diagnostic and treatment procedures, quarantine, biologicals and medication for their animals maintained at, or confined in the stable or VTF.

(15) Generally the number of pets per quarters is limited to three. However, a common sense approach to this limit must be taken. For example, this number would not normally apply to small fish or other very small indoor pets (caged mammals such as hamsters and gerbils). Conversely, more than two mid- to large-size dogs per quarters is generally not acceptable given the density of most quarters areas. Females with litters will be regarded as one until the litter is old enough to be separated from the mother. Owners wishing to maintain greater than three pets must request so in writing thru Chief of Housing Division, thru Post Veterinarian, to Garrison Commander.

(16) Promptly dispose of deceased privately-owned animals. Small animal carcasses shall be taken to the Fort Knox landfill, located on Baker Road, and placed in a dumpster as directed by the refuse contractor. This dumpster then will be transported off post for disposal in a state permitted contained landfill. Horses and other large animals may be released to a commercial rendering company as arranged by the owner per state statues and regulations. Garbage cans and dumpsters will not be used as receptacles for animal bodies. Animal bodies will not be abandoned.

b. The Provost Marshal will:

(1) Apprehend on the reservation injured, all uncontrolled, destructive, vicious, and rabies-suspect animals and deliver them to the VTF for disposition.

(a) A logbook provided by the quarantine facility should be properly filled out on each animal that is placed in the quarantine facility. It is imperative that the following minimum data be provided: date, Military Police Number, and animal description, to include sex, color, and approximate breed. If tagged, the tag number should be indicated.

(b) All apprehended animals will be placed in cages provided in Bldg. No. 1068. At a minimum, animals will be given water in bowls provided by the VTF.

(2) Enforce the removal of pets by the owner when pet privileges have been withdrawn.

(3) Assist animal owners when required to transport animals to the VTF for observation or quarantine as rabies suspects following the occurrence of animal bite incident.

(4) Expeditiously deliver the dead bodies of animals, which are considered to be rabies suspects, to the VTF. The heads, which are submitted for laboratory examination,

should not be damaged in the process of collecting, transporting, or handling. The bodies will be placed in the refrigerator (not the freezer) provided at the VTF.

(5) Collect and dispose of dead deer found on the installation.

(6) Identify, through reports, nuisance animals (i.e., stray, vicious, abused, etc.), and forward copies to the Post Veterinarian, Garrison Commander, and Chief, Housing Division, DCFA, for review and recommended action.

c. The Chief of Veterinary Services will:

(1) Make recommendations to the MEDDAC Commander and Garrison Commander regarding the disease potential of animal species, behavioral characteristics, and suitability of specific animals to be granted or denied permission to be maintained on Fort Knox.

(2) Provide immunizations, registration of animals, and issuance of vaccination certificates and Fort Knox immunization tags.

(3) Conduct the veterinary portion of the rabies quarantine of individual animals on the installation following bite incidents, or in the event of an outbreak of rabies in animals on or near the installation.

(4) Kennel and care for stray dogs and cats. If unclaimed within 3 duty days, the animal may be adopted by a new owner or euthanized. Other animals will be cared for and disposed of at the discretion of the Post Veterinarian.

(5) Perform necropsies on animals that are destroyed or die on the installation when indicated.

(6) Cause severely injured, suffering, comatose, or intractable wild or domestic animals to be euthanized when deemed necessary. Government-owned animal euthanasia will be performed per AR 40-905. Euthanasia will be performed in a humane manner. It is authorized on the military installation without the owner's consent under the conditions listed above.

(7) Collect and maintain Military Police reports of nuisance residential animals. The Post Veterinarian will review these records on each reported incident, provide recommended action, and forward those needing corrective action to the Garrison Commander. The Garrison Commander will approve and execute corrective action.

d. Organizations assigned post police duties.

(1) All deceased small, wild animals and deceased abandoned, stray, unowned, and

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unidentified small domestic animals will be taken to the Fort Knox Landfill, located on Baker Road, and placed in a dumpster as directed by the refuse contractor. This dumpster then will be transported off post for disposal in a state permitted contained landfill. Each organization is responsible for daily police of their area as designated on the post police map. Unusual or multiple deaths will be brought to the attention of the Post Veterinarian before disposition of the animal bodies.

(2) The Housing Division, DCFA, is responsible for reporting deceased small animals in the residential common-use areas. These animals will be collected and disposed of by the ACSS Contractor.

(3) ACSS Contractors will collect and dispose of deceased large animals, such as abandoned cows or horses dying or being dumped on the reservation. Burial on the installation will be coordinated with the Post Veterinarian. Large animals cannot be put in dumpsters.

4. Vaccination and registration.

a. Diseases

(1) Rabies is a highly fatal, communicable disease of animals which is transmissible to man. Vaccination of animals against rabies at Fort Knox is mandatory under this regulation and AR 40-905.

(2) Canine Parvo Virus is a highly contagious disease between puppies and unvaccinated young dogs that causes a severe bloody diarrhea from which few animals recover.

b. The VTF will administer vaccinations against rabies at Bldg. No. 1068 on a regularly scheduled basis for a nominal fee. Canine Parvo Virus vaccine is available as an individual vaccination, however it is conveniently mixed in a single injection for vaccination against Distemper, Leptospirosis, and Canine Parainfluenza also.

c. Registration is accomplished at the VTF by presenting a current vaccination certificate and permanent identification, preferably microchip, of the animal. At this time, a new certificate will be completed and a Fort Knox rabies tag issued. There is no charge for registration if all items are current. If the owner of the animal does not have proof of current vaccinations and permanent identification, the VTF personnel will administer the required vaccinations and implant a microchip for identification for a nominal fee. A copy of the rabies vaccination certificate will be maintained at the VTF as proof of registration. Upon expiration of the rabies shot, the registration also expires. The expiration date may be found on the vaccination certificate and the year of expiration is also engraved on the rabies tag.

d. Lost Fort Knox vaccination (registration) tags can be replaced free of charge by presenting the current rabies vaccination certificate at the VTF.

5. Animal care clinic.

a. An animal outpatient clinic will be conducted on a regular basis by appointment only, with the exception of emergencies, where lack of immediate care would result in undue suffering or endangerment of life or limb of the animal. Emergency care is subject to availability of the veterinarian and is not provided for privately-owned animals after duty hours. Hours of clinic operation are posted on the door the Bldg. No. 1068 and will be announced periodically in the USAARMC Weekly Bulletin.

b. Scope of operation. Services will be as follows:

(1) Service, including vaccinations will be limited to animals belonging to military personnel or their family members. Service will be denied those who maintain breeding animals or are in the business of raising animals for profit.

(2) Veterinary care and treatment of privately-owned animals is limited to diagnosis, treatment, and vaccination for control of zoonotic diseases, physical examination before shipment, and first aid. Elective surgery and boarding will not be provided.

(3) Emergency treatment for privately-owned animals will consist of stabilizing the animal for treatment at off-post veterinary facilities. Emergency service is not available for privately-owned animals during off-duty hours.

(4) Animal owners must be able to establish their identity as military members or authorized family members and pay the assessed cash charges for supplies, biologicals, equipment, and rations expended in the care, treatment, or quarantine of their pets. A service charge will be assessed at each cash transaction to cover professional services. This fee is currently set at \$2. An additional administrative fee of \$15 and a boarding fee of \$5 per day will be charged to owners of animals apprehended as strays upon return of their pet. Payment is due upon receipt of services or when animal is released from stray facility.

6. Neglected, Abused, or Vicious Animals.

a. Report of Stray Animal. All reports of strays will be brought to the attention of the Garrison Commander. Pet owners will be verbally instructed by the Post Veterinarian's office at the time they retrieve their pet of the potential consequences of future incidents.

b. Report of Bite Incidents. Any dog bite incident in which the animal is determined to be a community hazard by the Post Veterinarian or Garrison Commander may result in the loss of pet privileges. A cautionary warning may be given before the loss of privileges, but depending on the seriousness of the hazard, no prior warning letter is required.

c. Animal Abuse.

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(1) When probable cause exists to believe that an animal has been abused through cruelty or abandonment (including denial of food or drink) the military police have authority to remove the animal from the home or yard. A search authorization must be obtained unless there is an immediate threat to the life of the animal. The animal owner may face disciplinary or administrative actions in such cases as well as prosecution in the United States Magistrate's Court.

(2) If an animal is removed from a home for abuse, the Post Veterinarian will review the animal's condition. If the abuse case is considered severe by the Post Veterinarian, the pet owners will be notified that their future rights to the animal may be forfeited. In such a case, the owner will have 72 hours from the time the owner receives written notice of potential forfeiture to present matters on the owner's behalf. Based on the information presented, the Garrison Commander will determine, following consultation with the Post Veterinarian, whether the animal will be returned to the owner.

(3) In addition to the criminal, disciplinary, or forfeiture processes described above, the Garrison Commander, in consultation with the Post Veterinarian, may order the denial of pet privileges in any case of animal abuse (including intentional denial of food, water, or shelter).

FOR THE COMMANDER:



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