



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE CORPS AIR STATION
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FAC
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COMMANDING OFFICER'S POLICY LETTER 003-14

From: Commanding Officer
To: Distribution List

Subj: GEOGRAPHIC BACHELOR POLICY FOR MARINE CORPS AIR STATION,
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Ref: (a) MCO P11000.22
(b) USMC BEQ Campaign Plan November 2006

1. Purpose. To publish policy for prioritizing and accommodating Geographic Bachelors (Geo-Bachelors) at Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS), Cherry Point given the constraints of orders, financial and manpower regulations, as well as the limited availability of space. Reference (a) is the Marine Corps Housing Manual.

2. Background. Per the references, a Geo-Bachelor is defined as a service member who is collecting Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) (at the with-dependents rate); who is authorized to be accompanied by dependents; who is eligible for family housing; who for personal reasons other than availability of housing at the permanent duty location, is not accompanied by dependents. Additionally, the Eastern Carolina Region (Cherry Point and Camp Lejeune/New River) is subject to Permanent Change of Assignment (PCA) orders intended to meet Marine Corps manpower requirements while reducing costs. Unfortunately, this sometimes results in a hardship for service members who attempt to reduce impacts to their families by commuting more than one hour each way. While this problem cannot be eliminated, this policy addresses how Cherry Point will attempt to mitigate it.

3. Information. Geo-Bachelors are managed in three separate groups: Junior Enlisted ((JENL) (E1-E5)), Staff Noncommissioned Officers ((SNCO) (E6-E9)), and Officers (W1-O6).

a. All JENL Geo-Bachelor accommodations are the responsibility of each tenant unit commander. Each commander, at his/her discretion, may accommodate JENL Geo-Bachelors as military necessity dictates within allotted BEQ spaces or through other programs. Per the references, under no circumstance will Geo-Bachelors be assigned to a room/space in bachelor housing

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facilities at the expense of bona fide permanent party bachelor personnel; additional BEQ spaces will not be allocated to a command to accommodate Geo-Bachelors. When and where available, Geo-Bachelors may be assigned on a space available basis; all bona fide E1-E5 bachelor personnel must be adequately assigned prior to a BEQ space being assigned to a Geo-Bachelor.

b. All Geo-Bachelor officers and SNCOs will be subject to the rules below. Officer and SNCO Geo-Bachelors may be accommodated within limited spaces administered by the billeting fund.

(1) Under current configuration, SNCO's have 12 two-man rooms in bldg. 3673 and officers have 15 rooms in bldg. 496.

(2) Any person desiring Geo-Bachelor accommodations will submit their request using an Administrative Action Form (NAVMC 10274); the Installation Personnel Administration Center (IPAC) will provide certification of family residence and BAH status. Submit AA Forms via the chain of command to the Bachelor/Transient Housing Manager in the Facilities Directorate. All SNCO requests will have an endorsement from their respective Sergeant Major.

(3) If approved, Geo-Bachelors will be provided accommodations at the prevailing rate.

(4) Geo-Bachelors will abide by pertinent rules as set forth by the Bachelor/Transient Housing Manager and will be subject to weekly room inspections by the bachelor/transient housing staff to ensure safety, cleanliness, and good order and discipline.

(5) If the bachelor/transient housing office is unable to accommodate a Geo-Bachelor, other options will be provided to the requestor such as local low-cost housing or transient quarters at the standard cost to be reevaluated every 30 days.

(6) Any person covered by funded orders (i.e. TAD or TLE) will not be considered for geo-bachelor accommodations.

(7) The bachelor/transient housing office will maintain a waiting list in order of priority and date a valid request is received. Individuals must re-apply after they reach 90 days on the waiting list or they will be dropped from the list.

(8) Given the limited space, a priority will be assigned to each applicant. It will be reevaluated on a periodic basis to accommodate higher priorities over time. The priorities are:

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(a) Priority #1: Geo-Bachelors as a result of orders for deployment or other similar mission-oriented short term assignment (e.g. MEU, UDP, OEF, extended TAD, etc.) for which the service member chooses to move his family early or late. This priority will be reevaluated not later than (NLT) 90 days from approval.

(b) Priority #2: Geo-Bachelors as a result of PCS, retirement, or discharge whose family arrives late or departs early to establish or maintain stability for schools, medical care, or a job. This priority will be reevaluated NLT 90 days from approval.

(c) Priority #3: Personnel receiving BAH (with dependents) and in receipt of PCA orders within the Eastern Carolina region that separate them from their family by more than a one hour commute (door-to-gate). This priority will be reevaluated NLT 90 days from approval.

(d) Priority #4: All other Geo-Bachelors or personnel with more than a one hour commute from their family. This priority will be reevaluated NLT 20 days from approval.

(e) All distances will be calculated by Cherry Point bachelor/transient housing staff using Google maps or similar internet mapping program with the startpoint at the service member's official residence (per the IPAC) and the endpoint at the main gate of Cherry Point.

(f) Per the references, any Geo-Bachelor may be required to vacate their accommodations with a 72-hour notice based on the needs of the command or after reevaluation of their priority as listed above.

4. The point of contact for all questions regarding availability, process, or rates is the Bachelor/Transient Housing Manager at (252)466-2139/2699.


C. PAPPAS III

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