



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
MARINE CORPS AIR STATION  
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AIR STATION ORDER 10570.1U

From: Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point  
To: Distribution List

Subj: PET CONTROL REGULATIONS

Ref: (a) SECNAVINST 6401.1B  
(b) ASO 6220.2C w/Ch 1  
(c) PMI #014-17  
(d) MCO 11000.22 w/Ch 1-6  
(e) MCIEAST-MCB CAMJEJO 10570.2  
(f) DoD-I 1300.27

Encl: (1) Pet Control Regulations

1. Situation. Possession of an animal or pet aboard Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point (MCAS CHERPT) is a privilege extended by the Installation Commander. This privilege is subject to revocation by the Installation Commander or his designated representative as set forth in this Order.

2. Cancellation. ASO 10570.1T.

3. Mission. To provide regulation enforcement in order to control animals and pets, and to formally establish procedures for pet control aboard MCAS CHERPT.

4. Execution

a. Commander's Intent and Concept of Operations

(1) Commander's Intent. To ensure the safety of all personnel aboard MCAS CHERPT and promote responsible pet ownership.

(2) Concept of Operations. See enclosure (1).

b. Coordinating Instructions. See enclosure (1).

5. Administration and Logistics. Questions pertaining to the content of this Order should be directed to the Security and Emergency Services Directorate, MCAS CHERPT.

6. Command and Signal

a. Command. This Order is applicable to MCAS CHERPT, its subordinate and tenant commands and all personnel visiting or residing in Atlantic Marine Corps Communities housing.

b. Signal. This Order is effective the date signed.

  
J. E. DONOVAN  
Executive Officer

Pet Control Regulations

1. Definitions. When questions arise as to which category a particular animal belongs, the Station Animal Control Officer (ACO) will make the final determination.

a. Pet Owner. A pet owner is any person owning, keeping, or harboring an animal aboard MCAS CHERPT. The service member, or lease signer responsible for an assigned base housing residence, shall be deemed the owner of any pet owned, kept, or harbored aboard the Air Station by any authorized person residing in the service member's quarters.

b. Farm Animal. Farm animals include all animals that are normally used as work animals and those which are kept for the production of food. Farm animals include, but are not limited to, chickens, pigs, cows, donkeys, etc., and are prohibited aboard the Air Station. This does not apply to horses kept at the Air Station Saddle Club, but they must comply with requirements found in reference (a).

c. Exotic Animal. Exotic animals include non-native animal species that are rare or unusual and are not commonly thought of as pets. Exotic animals include, but are not limited to, tarantulas, monkeys, pythons, etc. Exotic animals are prohibited aboard the Air Station.

d. Wild Animals. Wild animals include, but are not limited to, species such as raccoons, deer, foxes, squirrels, opossum, etc. Owning or harboring a wild animal aboard the Air Station is prohibited.

e. Snakes. All breeds and species of snakes fall into the categories of "wild" or "exotic" and are prohibited from being kept as pets aboard the Air Station.

f. Feral Animals. Feral refers to any domestic animal that has reverted to a wild state and is living in undeveloped areas of the Air Station. Feral animals will be removed from the Air Station by the ACO. No person aboard this Air Station will attempt to care for or feed feral animals.

g. Harborer. Any person who provides shelter and food to animals that are not personally owned.

h. Hunting Dogs. A dog bred specifically for the purpose of pursuing, pointing, or retrieving game for food or sport. While hunting, dogs must wear identification tags with the owner's name along with a telephone number. A current rabies tag must be affixed to the collar at all times. Hunting dogs are permitted to be off-leash in designated hunting areas during hunting season only. The Air Station Game Warden should be contacted in regards to questions about hunting licenses, regulations, seasons and designated areas to hunt aboard the Air Station.

i. Adequate Shelter. A shelter that may reasonably be expected to protect the animal from physical suffering or impairment of health due to exposure to the elements or adverse weather. The area must have a leak-proof roof, be enclosed on three sides, and be structurally sound to give protection from the elements. The ground, base, or foundation on which the animal must stand or rest must be well drained and not subject to flooding or

continuously wet or muddy conditions. Enclosed back porches or garages will not suffice as a shelter.

j. Use of Service Dogs

(1) Reference (d) defines a service dog as a dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. The dog is trained to respond to a verbal command or condition of the individual. Other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not service animals for the purpose of this definition. Dogs that are "in training" and those whose sole function is to provide emotional support, comfort, therapy, companionship, therapeutic benefits, or promote emotional well-being are not service dogs.

(2) The definition of a service dog under reference (f), further includes the requirement that the dog come from an accredited service dog organization approved by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Such organizations currently include the Assistance Dogs International and the International Guide Dog Federation. Reference (c), provides that dogs meeting reference (f) definition of service dog may be "certified service dogs" authorized to reside in bachelor housing with recovering service members, provided all other applicable requirements are met.

(3) All residents of MCAS CHERPT and non-resident patrons (including service members and civilian employees residing off-base, retirees and visitors) must ensure their dogs meet both the DoD and Marine Corps definitions of service dogs and complete the registration requirements (including showing proof of training by an accredited service dog organization to the ACO) in order for the service dogs to be allowed building access.

(4) Service members who obtain a dog through direct contact with a non-government organization or non-federal entity must ensure that dog meets the Department of Defense definition of a service dog and complete the evaluation form in order for the service dog to be permitted building access aboard the Installation.

(5) Service dogs are required to be evaluated yearly by the ACO. The evaluation contained in reference (c) will be used to fulfill this yearly requirement. A dog must pass the evaluation to be recognized as a service dog aboard the installation. Service dog owners will be required to retain a copy of the installation registration. The registration must be presented upon request as a means of identifying the dog as a service dog.

k. Animal Nuisance. Any animal that obstructs reasonable or comfortable use of property. An animal may be deemed a nuisance if it:

(1) Habitually or repeatedly barks in such a manner or to such an extent that it disturbs others.

(2) Interferes or obstructs persons engaging in exercise or physical activity.

(3) Defecates on the lawn of quarters not occupied by its owner and which the pet owner does not immediately remove.

1. Dangerous Animal. A dangerous animal is defined as any animal that the Cherry Point Veterinary Office or the Air Station ACO determines to represent an unacceptable risk to the safety and tranquility of the Air Station and its occupants. If a pet is deemed dangerous, it will be prohibited from the Air Station. This determination can be made at any time and can be based upon such things as:

(1) Unusually aggressive or threatening behavior such as lunging, or attempting to attack or bite another person or animal without being provoked.

(2) A substantiated history of demonstrating aggressive or threatening behavior. For example, past history of biting or attacking other animals or people and intentionally inflicting severe bodily harm.

2. Pet Registration. All domestic animals, including service dogs, that reside aboard the Air Station are subject to the rules and regulations outlined in this order. Current on-base residents leasing an installation housing unit who have a pet, or are acquiring a pet, are required to complete a pet registration lease addendum, show proof of a civilian or military veterinarian certificate of required vaccinations, and proof that a microchip has been implanted. Prospective residents have five business days from the date of the pet addendum to present their paperwork to the Veterinary Treatment Facility (VTF) in order to complete the registration process. The following steps must be completed during the registration process:

a. Furnish Proof of Current Rabies Inoculation. In the case of pets that are less than four months of age, this information will be furnished before the animal reaches the age of five months. No dog or cat over four months of age shall be owned, kept, harbored, maintained, or cared for aboard the Air Station unless it has been inoculated against rabies. The inoculation tag should be securely affixed to the pet's collar. All dogs, cats, and ferrets must be revaccinated every one to three years prior to expiration of the prior rabies vaccination.

b. Identification Tag. An identification tag with the pet's name, owner's contact numbers and address is required to be affixed to the pet's collar.

c. Microchips. Owners of dogs and cats are required to microchip their animals for permanent identification. Proof of microchips must be provided at time of registration. The Station Veterinarian can provide this service at the expense of the pet owner.

3. Spaying or Neutering. There is no requirement for dogs or cats be spayed or neutered, but owners are strongly encouraged to pursue this procedure for their pet. Owners of pets which have reproductive organs intact must maintain awareness of the risks of unwanted pet pregnancies. Pets that are "in heat" can induce unwanted behavior in other pets, which includes increased aggression.

4. Pet Limitations. Family housing residents are limited to no more than two dogs, or two cats, or one dog and one cat. Further limitations on pets include:

a. Pets are not permitted inside the Bachelor Officer Quarters (BOQ) and Bachelor Enlisted Quarters (BEQ). This section does not apply to Military Working Dogs (MWDs).

b. Pets are not permitted inside the Naval Health Clinic, Transient Enlisted Quarters (TEQ), club facilities, or Marine Corps Exchange activities. This section does not apply to MWDs or service animals assisting the physically handicapped.

c. Although small caged/aquarium housed animals do not count against the two pet limit, no one shall own, keep, harbor, maintain, or care for an abundance of these animals as to create a unhealthy risk to the occupants. In all cases the ACO will make the final determination if an owner has violated this section.

d. There are no limits to the size of fish aquariums kept in family housing. All aquatic aquariums must be properly cared for with proper filtration or water changes as to prevent unsanitary conditions. The ACO will make the final determination if an owner has violated this section.

e. Pet sitting is not authorized if there are already two pets at the residence and the animal requiring care must be properly registered aboard the Air Station. The military member or lease signer of the residence will be held responsible for violations of this section.

5. Prohibited Dog Breeds. The following breeds or any dog containing a mix of the following breeds are not permitted on the Air Station, unless being transported to and from the Station Veterinary Office for medical treatment:

- a. American Pit Bull Terrier
- b. American Staffordshire Terrier
- c. American Staffordshire Bull Terrier
- d. American Bully
- e. Rottweiler
- f. Wolf Hybrid

(1) In case of mixed breeds and any other dispute, a deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) test from a licensed veterinarian is required at the expense of the owner. The animal must be removed immediately from the installation until the results of the DNA test are reviewed by the ACO.

6. Exceptions. Service Animals on the Prohibited Dog Breeds list that have been assigned to an individual living or employed on MCAS CHERPT may receive an exemption if the below criteria has been met:

- a. The animal has been approved by the Assistance Dogs International.
- b. The animal is used to support a physical disability.
- c. The exemption has been authorized by the Installation Commander via the Station Inspector's Office.

7. Pet Control. The following rules regarding pet control must be adhered to at all times:

a. When the owner or responsible representative is training, walking, or playing with a pet, the pet must be under positive control. Positive control means that the pet must be under immediate physical control of its owner or the owner's representative. Pets must be on a leash at all times when outside unless confined inside a fenced yard. Voice control or voice commands used solely, and are not in conjunction with physical control of either a leash or a fence, are not an acceptable means of physical control.

b. Pets may be left outside in fenced yards and unattended for short periods of time (two hours or less) with proper food, water, and shelter available. Pets will be confined in fenced yards at the rear of the dwelling only. Pets will not be left unattended inside enclosed porches or garages for any amount of time.

c. The pet owner or designated representative will provide the animal with adequate food, water, shelter, and veterinary care at all times. If a person has reason to believe that an animal is being treated inhumanely, they may file a complaint with the ACO who will investigate all alleged cases of inhumane or inadequate treatment.

d. Owners will clean up after their pet(s) and will be responsible for any repairs from damages to the quarters or lawn, including backfilling lawn holes. Owners that walk or run their pets are required to carry trash bags or other devices to immediately pick up their animal's waste should they defecate anywhere outside their yard.

e. Breeding animals in Family Housing at any time, for any purpose, is strictly prohibited.

f. Animals shall not be abandoned aboard the Air Station for any reason. If the owner has to move and cannot take their pet with them, it is their responsibility to make sure they find it another home or turn it into a local shelter. The ACO can provide assistance in turning pets over to local shelters, but will not assist in the rehoming of any animal.

g. Animals will not be left unattended in vehicles at any time for any reason. Violation of this section can at times constitute animal abuse/neglect. The ACO will determine if the violation of this section has met the abuse/neglect threshold.

h. Animals will not be tied to a stake, tree, post, light pole, etc., at any time.

i. Electric invisible dog fences are not permitted aboard the Air Station.

j. Electric invisible style leashes are not permitted for use aboard the Air Station.

8. Pet Control Violation Penalties. All violations of this Order will be adjudicated on the individual merits of each case using the following guidelines:

a. First Violation. A Pet Investigation Report will be completed and filed with the ACO.

b. Second Violation. A "Letter of Caution" will be issued to the owner.

c. Third Violation. The Director of Security and Emergency Services will issue a "Letter of Intent to Revoke Pet Privileges."

(1) In the event of revocation, pet privileges will be revoked for all persons living in the assigned quarters. The pet owner or responsible custodian will be issued a Residential Acknowledgement Letter, stating that he/she has five working days, upon receipt of the Letter, to submit an appeal to the Station Inspector. During the appeal process, the animal is not allowed to remain aboard the Air Station. If no appeal is submitted and/or approved, the revocation will prevent the resident from having pets, this includes pet sitting, at their residence for the remainder of their time aboard the Air Station.

(2) In the case of impoundment, owners of impounded animals will be given the opportunity to reclaim their pet(s) within four working days. All reasonable efforts will be made to contact the owner and notify them of the impoundment. If contact is not made with the owners within 24 hours, the ACO will contact the command of the registered owner for assistance in making contact. After the owner has been contacted and the owner fails to reclaim his/her pet(s) within four working days, the pet may be legally adopted out by CPASC or euthanized.

(3) While the owner is awaiting adjudication of their pet privileges, the pet owner may authorize a temporary or alternate custodian who may pick up their pet from CPASC after paying their required fees. However, the custodian will not be allowed to bring the animal aboard the Air Station. The pet owner must provide the ACO with the name, phone number, written and signed authorization from both parties of where the pet will be located prior to picking up the animal. At any time during the appeal process, the owner can relinquish their rights to their pet(s).

(4) Fees for reclaiming of pets impounded as a result of a violation or found stray aboard the Air Station are the responsibility of the pet owner and will be assessed by CPASC in accordance with their established policies.

d. Warnings. The ACO may issue written warnings in minor cases with the intent to educate the pet owner of the violation.

9. Immediate Revocation of Pet Privileges. Severe violations of pet control will result in the immediate removal of the animal from the Air Station and the revocation of the owner's pet privileges. Severe violations include, but are not limited to:

a. An animal maliciously attacking another person or animal, unprovoked, with intent to cause serious bodily harm or any animal the ACO or Station Veterinary Officer determines to present a substantial risk to the safety of residents aboard the Air Station.

b. Neglect and abuse of the animal by the pet owner. Examples include but are not limited to, not providing proper medical care, unsanitary conditions, causing unnecessary suffering and/or depriving an animal of water and/or food.



10. Traps. Humane traps are used to capture feral animals aboard the Air Station. The purpose of trapping is to prevent the amount of unwanted/unowned animals from roaming and repopulating in vast numbers. Feral animals are unvaccinated and can spread disease to domesticated animals, as well as, zoonotic diseases to humans. Traps will be checked daily and the animal will be removed by the ACO or Cherry Point Police. If anyone is caught destroying, moving, provoking, tampering with and/or releasing the animal, they will be detained for impeding with police operations.

11. Deceased Animals. It is the responsibility of the owner of a deceased domesticated animal to remove the animal from the Air Station for proper burial or cremation. At no time will any domesticated animals be buried or discarded anywhere aboard MCAS Cherry Point.