



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
US ARMY GARRISON NATICK
10 GENERAL GREENE AVENUE
NATICK, MA 01760-5002

IMSS-ZA

JUL 17 2017

COMMAND POLICY LETTER NO. 35

Guidance on Care and Control of Pets in Natick Soldier Systems Center
Army Family Housing areas

1. REFERENCE: Memorandum, Assistant Secretary of the Army, SAIE-E&P, 5 Jan 2009.
2. PURPOSE: To establish a Care and Control Pet Policy for Tenants residing in the Natick Soldier Systems Center (NSSC) Army Family Housing (AFH) areas.
3. POLICY:
 - a. Pet owners must comply with all applicable state, federal and local laws and all Installation specific requirements associated with the ownership, registration, control and vaccination of pets.
 - b. AFH occupants may board no more than two pets per unit.
 - c. Dogs will not be left alone in quarters overnight. Owners will make appropriate arrangements for the care of their animals when they will be away for an extended period of time.
 - d. Pet owners will ensure that pets are controlled, and do not become a public nuisance. Any complaints of excessive noise, foul odors, or aggressive behavior will be investigated by AFH staff and dealt with appropriately.
 - e. Occupants may not board in NSSC Housing any dog of a breed (including mixed breed) that is deemed "aggressive or potentially aggressive" unless the dog is a certified military working dog that is being boarded by its handler/trainer. For purposes of this policy, aggressive or potentially aggressive breeds of dogs are defined as Pit Bulls (American Staffordshire Bull Terriers or English Staffordshire Bull Terriers), Rottweilers, Doberman Pinschers, Chows, and wolf hybrids. The prohibition also extends to other dogs that demonstrate a propensity for dominant or aggressive behavior as indicated by any of the following types of conduct:

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(1) Unprovoked barking, growling, lunging or snarling at people approaching the animal.

(2) Aggressively running along fence lines when people are present.

(3) Biting or scratching people.

(4) Escaping confinement or restriction to chase people.

f. AFH occupants may not board exotic animals including, but not limited to: reptiles, rodents other than hamsters and guinea pigs, ferrets, snakes, hedgehogs, skunks, rats, raccoons, squirrels, pot-bellied pigs, monkeys, arachnids, or any farm animal.

4. The Garrison Commander maintains the authority to:

a. Determine additional requirements for tenant liability insurance.

b. Terminate a tenant's lease for failure to remove aggressive or unruly pets.

c. Assess pet deposits/additional charges for damages that exceed the deposit amount.

d. Grant exceptions to this Pet Policy, after validation from HQDA that the exception does not conflict with existing Army policy for installations.

5. PROPONENT: The proponent for this policy is the Chief, Army Family Housing, Ms. Lauren Anzivino, 508-233-4073 or email: lauren.m.anzivino.civ@mail.mil.


BRYAN M. MARTIN
LTC, SF
Commanding