

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**

U.S. ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON FORT SILL 462 HAMILTON ROAD, SUITE 120 FORT SILL OK 73503-1340

AMIM-SIG-ZA (500-3a2)

13 June 2024

## MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Protests, Picketing, and Other Similar Demonstrations on the Fort Sill Installation, GC Policy Memorandum 24-12

- 1. Reference Secretary of Defense Memorandum (Public Display or Depiction of Flags in the Department of Defense), 16 July 2020.
- 2. Purpose: This memorandum establishes policies, responsibilities, and procedures for protests, picketing, political speeches and other similar demonstrations on Fort Sill and the Fort Sill Installation property outside the gates adjacent to the installation borders. To maintain law and order and protect the installation and the activities thereon, the Garrison Commander may take such actions as are reasonably necessary and lawful, including ejection from, or denial of access to, the installation of those who threaten a civil disturbance upon or directed against the installation and its activities.

## 3. Policy:

- a. It is Fort Sill policy that:
  - (1) The Garrison Commander shall safeguard the security of the installation.
- (2) Service members' rights of expression should be preserved to the maximum extent possible, consistent with good order and discipline and national security.
- (3) The Garrison Commander will respond to conduct that could harm the effectiveness of the mission or operations on Fort Sill.
- b. Fort Sill is a non-public forum and is open to the public only under certain limited circumstances. Fort Sill is a military installation under exclusive federal jurisdiction at which official business of the federal government is conducted, including military training, and other official business.
- c. On the Fort Sill Installation and the Fort Sill Installation property outside the gates adjacent to the installation borders:
- (1) It is unlawful for any person to engage in activities that promote supremacist or extremist causes and rallies.

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- (2) It is prohibited for any person to engage in activities that discriminate based on race, creed, color, sexual orientation, religion, or national origin; or otherwise engage in efforts to deprive individuals of their civil rights, to include doing so through protests, picketing and/or demonstrations.
- (3) It is prohibited to display any unauthorized flags, symbols, or depictions of such in any form.
- d. Except for activities authorized under Title 5 United States Code Chapter 71, Labor Management Relations, on Fort Sill and the Fort Sill Installation property outside the gates adjacent to the installation borders it is unlawful for any person to engage in any public protests, picketing or any other similar demonstration without the prior approval of the Garrison Commander. Therefore, unless prior approval has been obtained as outlined in paragraph 2(g) below, it will be unlawful for any person on the Fort Sill Installation to:
- (1) Engage in protests, public speeches, marches, sit-ins, political displays, or demonstrations.
- (2) Interrupt or disturb any activity or event, including but not limited to: meals, training, formations, ceremonies, parades, reviews, classes, courts-martial, hearings, athletic contests, clinics or camps, performances, competitions, speeches, or other military business.
- (3) Obstruct movement on any street, road, sidewalk, pathway, or other vehicle or pedestrian thoroughfare.
- (4) Utter to any person abusive, profane, indecent, or otherwise provocative language that by its very utterance tends to excite a breach of the peace.
- (5) Distribute or post publications, including pamphlets, newspapers, magazines, handbills, flyers, leaflets, and other printed materials, except through regularly established and approved distribution outlets and places
- (6) Circulate petitions or engage in picketing or similar demonstrations for any purpose.
  - (7) Engage in partisan political campaigning or electioneering.
- (8) Photograph security and/or visitor control access points, personnel and equipment; utility infrastructure and equipment; and national security agency facilities and equipment. The taking of photographs includes the use of television cameras, videotaping equipment, and still or motion picture cameras.

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- (9) Disobey a request from government law enforcement or security officials (e.g., Federal, State, or local law enforcement officials), military police, DA Civilian Police, access control personnel, security guards, or other competent authority to cease an unlawful activity, disperse, move along, or leave the installation.
- (10) This list is not exhaustive, nothing in this policy prohibits the Installation Commander from enforcing good order and discipline.
- e. Minor and inconsequential public displays that do not coerce, present a hazard, or cause interference may be permissible so long as they do not disrupt the normal functioning of the Fort Sill Installation (e.g., displaying a bumper sticker on an automobile).
- f. In appropriate cases, the Garrison Commander of Fort Sill may give express written permission for demonstrations or activity on the Fort Sill Installation property outside the gates adjacent to the installation borders, only if the procedures outlined below are followed.
- g. Any person or persons desiring to protest, picket, or engage in any other similar demonstrations on Fort Sill must submit a written request through the Director of Emergency Services and the Staff Judge Advocate to the Garrison Commander. The request must be received at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the proposed demonstration or activity, and it must include the following:
- (1) Name, address, and telephone number of the sponsoring person or organization. (If the requestor is an organization, include the name of the point of contact.)
  - (2) Purpose of the event.
  - (3) Number of people expected to attend
  - (4) Proposed date, time, location, and duration of the event.
  - (5) Proposed means of transportation to and from Fort Sill. .
- (6) Proposed means of providing security, sanitary services, and related ancillary services to the participants.
- h. Based on the Garrison Commander's concerns for discipline, mission accomplishment, protection of property, and the safeguarding of the health, morale, and welfare of the Fort Sill community, the Installation Commander will determine whether to grant the request and, if granted, any limitations as to where and when it will take place.

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## 4. Violations.

- a. A person is in violation if that person enters upon or remains upon the Fort Sill Installation for the purpose of engaging in any activity prohibited or limited by this policy , when that person is not authorized by the Installation Commander pursuant to the provisions above.
- b. All persons may be prosecuted for violating the provisions of this policy under 18 USC 1382. Military personnel may be prosecuted under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Department of the Army civilian employees may be prosecuted and/or disciplined under appropriate regulations.
- c. Administrative sanctions may include, but are not limited to bar actions including suspension of access privileges, or permanent exclusion from the Fort Sill Installation.
- 5. The point of contact is the Provost Marshal, at (580) 558-6016.
- 6. This GC Policy Memorandum supersedes GC Policy Memorandum, 22-12, Protests, Picketing, and Other Similar Demonstrations on the Fort Sill Installation, GC Policy Memorandum 22-12, 14 October 2022.

DEREK R. BAIRD

COL, FA

Commanding

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