



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 11TH WING (AFDW)
JOINT BASE ANACOSTIA-BOLLING DC**

17 April 2024

MEMORANDUM FOR JOINT BASE ANACOSTIA-BOLLING

FROM: JBAB/CC

SUBJECT: Installation Animal and Pet Control Policy

1. This memorandum establishes policy concerning privately owned animals on JBAB by military personnel, civilian employees, contractors, dependents, and installation visitors with service animals, assistance animals, and/or pets.

2. Service Animals

a. For purposes of this memorandum, a “service animal” (as defined by the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA)) is a dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a physical or mental disability. Service animals are permitted on the installation, in Government or privatized housing, and/or in the workplace in accordance with applicable law and regulation without prior approval. *See* 28 C.F.R. § 35.136; 41 C.F.R. § 102-74.425.

b. The terms “assistance animals”, “emotional support animals”, “comfort animals”, and “therapy animals” are synonymous and different from “service animals.” This policy will use “assistance animal” to refer to the synonymous categories of animals listed above. Assistance animals are not service animals and are not automatically permitted by law to accompany an owner to any facility.

3. Key Policies

a. Animals must not be left unattended or allowed to run loose, except in a fenced-in residential yard or in other designated places such as a “dog park.” Otherwise, all animals (to include service animals) must be attended and secured with leashes, harnesses, or tethers. If secured with a leash, harness, or tether, the device must be held by a person capable of managing the animal. Regarding service animals only, if the individual’s disability prevents using these devices or these devices interfere with the service animal’s safe, effective performance of tasks, the individual must maintain control of the animal through voice, signal, or other effective controls.

b. Owners must ensure animals are maintained in a manner that is safe for other people and animals and must clean up after their animals. Owners bear the ultimate responsibility for the care and actions of their animals.

SENTINELS OF THE CAPITAL

c. Animals must not be left alone in a vehicle in a manner that endangers the animal's health or safety. If this occurs, authorized personnel (11th Security Forces Squadron) may, after making a reasonable attempt to contact the owner or custodian, use reasonable force to remove the animal from the vehicle whenever it appears the animal's health is endangered. No attempt to contact the owner or custodian is required if the animal is in immediate danger or appears in distress. Following the animal's removal from a vehicle by authorized personnel, the animal may be impounded and a reasonable attempt made to seek medical care, if needed, at the owner's expense.

4. Animals in Government/Privatized Housing

a. Other than relating to service animals, residents of Government/privatized housing on the installation may not board dogs of any breed (including a mixed breed) that are deemed "aggressive" or "potentially aggressive," unless the dog is a certified military working dog that is being boarded by its handler/trainer with written approval of the Defense Force Commander or approval is obtained by the Commander in writing. For purposes of this policy, "aggressive" or "potentially aggressive" breeds of dogs are defined as a Pit Bull (American Staffordshire Bull Terrier or English Staffordshire Bull Terrier), Rottweiler, Doberman Pinscher, Chow and wolf hybrids. Prohibition also extends to any other breeds of dogs or individual dogs that demonstrate a propensity for dominant or aggressive behavior, to include: unprovoked barking, growling or snarling at people approaching the animal; biting or scratching people; escaping confinement or restriction to chase people; if residing in housing, aggressively running along a fence line when people are present. See AFI32-6000_DAFGM2023-01, *Housing Management*, para. 2.21.1 (12 June 2023).

b. Residents of Government/privatized housing on the installation may not board exotic animals such as, but not limited to: reptiles, rodents (other than hamsters and guinea pigs), ferrets, hedgehogs, skunks, rats, raccoons, squirrels, potbellied pigs, monkeys, arachnids, or any farm animal. See AFI32-6000_DAFGM2023-01, para. 2.21.2.

c. Any waiver or accommodation to the exotic animal prohibition or the "aggressive breed or dog" prohibition (to include waivers for assistance animals of a prohibited dog breed) may be issued by 11 MSG/CC and either Hunt Military Communities or Lincoln Military Housing, as applicable and in accordance with the lease. A waiver must consider the threat the animal poses to the base populace and other animals if it escapes.

d. Residents in Government/privatized housing must comply with applicable federal, state and local laws, as well as installation-specific requirements for animal ownership, registration, control, and vaccination. Animal owners will be required to show veterinarian certification of all required vaccinations. Dogs and cats must have a metal vaccination tag always attached to a collar around the neck of the animal and/or an implanted microchip with the owner's contact information.

e. For persons occupying privatized housing, upon initial assignment to housing, members

in Key and Essential (K&E) positions (as identified in AFI32-6000_DAFGM2023-01) may apply for a waiver to the two-pet maximum from Hunt Military Communities or Lincoln Military Housing.

5. Assistance Animals in the Workplace

a. Military personnel who seek to bring an assistance animal on the installation are mandated to receive an evaluation by a qualified mental health provider before bringing the animal on the installation. Off-base mental health provider evaluations must be coordinated through the 316 MDS Mental Health Clinic prior to bringing the animal on the installation. Documentation from some other source designating a pet as an assistance animal does not fulfill this requirement.

i. Military mental health providers will independently assess the need for an assistance animal as part of an approved medical treatment plan for any military member. They will advise military commanders of any duty limitations, or any recommendations for additional evaluation or treatment, in accordance with AFI 44-172, *Mental Health* (13 Nov 2015, certified current 23 Apr 2020).

ii. Military members who have a dependent with a documented need for an assistance animal must complete DD Form 2792 to initiate the process for evaluation and possible enrollment of the dependent in the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) to identify the special needs involving the support of an animal.

b. Civilian employees seeking to bring an assistance animal on the installation must follow all required procedures for requesting a reasonable accommodation under the ADA. Requests should be submitted to the employee's servicing Civilian Personnel Office for evaluation and processing under the applicable laws, regulations, and policies. Any authorization to bring the assistance animal on the installation may impose restrictions on where the animal may be taken.

6. Animal Bites

a. Animal bites and scratches caused by ANY animal (domestic or wildlife) are a serious public health concern. The owner of an animal involved in a biting or scratching incident will be liable for any damage caused by the animal, and the animal may be removed from the installation.

b. Any person who is bitten/scratched or the acting guardian of a minor victim should: 1) report the incident to the JBAB Public Health Department and 2) notify 11 SFS Base Defense Operation Center (BDOC) at 202-767-5000. All animal bites/attacks must be reported.

c. Domestic animals involved in any animal bite (whether biting or being bitten) must be quarantined IAW District of Columbia law and the Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control. The animal owner will assume financial responsibility for any cost associated with these measures. Non-compliance may result in loss of housing privileges and the animal may be barred from the installation.

7. Complaints; Suspicion of Animal Abuse/Neglect/Cruelty/Abandonment

a. Reports of unauthorized animals/unauthorized dog breeds/aggressive dogs may be investigated by 11 SFS, the Military Housing Office (MHO), or other personnel as directed by 11 MSG/CC. If it is determined the animal is not authorized on the installation, the owner/custodian will be required to immediately remove the animal from the installation. If the owner/custodian is a military service member or Air Force civilian, the violation will be reported to the member's chain of command for appropriate action. If the owner/custodian is a resident of privatized housing, the MHO will advise Hunt Military Communities and/or Lincoln Military Housing of the unauthorized animal so that appropriate action may be taken in accordance with the resident's lease.

b. Complaints regarding aggressive animal behavior, incessant barking, excessive feces present in yard, or any other behaviors/conditions disruptive to a housing community, should call Hunt Military Communities at 202-987-6000 or Lincoln Military Housing at 202-629-2647.

c. Complaints concerning loose/nuisance/stray animals should be reported to the Hunt Military Communities at 202-987-6000 or Lincoln Military Housing at 202-629-2647 during business hours, and the 11 SFS BDOC at 202-767-5000 during evenings/weekends/holidays. Pet owners whose loose pets are picked up may be required to pay a fee to the servicing animal control shelter to claim their animal.

d. Suspicion of animal abuse, neglect, cruelty, or abandonment should be reported to the 11 SFS BDOC at 202-767-5000. An investigation may be conducted and substantiated animal abuse, neglect, cruelty, or abandonment will be reported to the servicemember's unit for appropriate action and/or the appropriate law enforcement authority, if applicable. Any fees associated with the animal's treatment and/or transportation will be the responsibility of the owner.

8. If any provision of this memorandum is inconsistent with applicable Department of Defense Instructions, Air Force Instructions, or law, then the inconsistent provision is unenforceable. However, all remaining provisions consistent with Department of Defense Instructions, Air Force Instructions, and law will remain intact and enforceable.

RYAN A. F. CROWLEY, Colonel, USAF
Commander

I have read and acknowledge the Installation Animal and Pet Control Policy.

Name _____ Date _____ Signature _____