

DES MCOE REG 210-5 Changes

5-1. Weapons Policy.

a. General.

(1) Military Personnel carrying weapons as part of military training or operational exercises and law enforcement/security personnel performing duties as assigned by the DES may transport and carry weapons consistent with their duties as approved by the appropriate commander.

(2) The following are considered legal weapons for possession on Fort Benning: Firearms, projectile weapons (bows [to include long, recurve, compound, cam, or crossbows], air or CO2 rifles or pistols, BB/pellet guns), knives (excluding kitchen ware), martial arts weapons, and slingshots. A firearm is a device which uses powder to project either single or multiple projectiles at high velocity through a controlled explosion. CO2 Paintball guns, Airsoft Pellet guns and similar recreational toys are not subject to the provisions of the weapons policy except as outlined in paragraph 5-4g.

(3) Lawful possession is defined as the possession of a registered firearm or other authorized weapon not classified as illegal by state or federal law, while in quarters, hunting or sports shooting; during transportation related to relocation or initial introduction onto the installation or for some type of recognized function involving that particular weapon.

(4) Individuals will not transport U.S. Government weapons of any type in privately owned vehicles, without written permission from the unit commander.

(5) No person shall carry a firearm concealed on his or her person at any time, with the exception of law enforcement/security personnel in connection with their official duties. Concealed carry licenses granted by any state, including concealed carry licenses issued by Alabama and Georgia, are invalid on Fort Benning.

(6) Personnel residing on or authorized access to the installation may store, temporarily secure, or transport privately owned firearms or other weapons to functions or activities involving those weapons (such as hunting, sports shooting, or other legitimate reasons) subject to the below policy.

(7) The theft or loss of any privately owned firearm will be immediately reported to the Provost Marshal Office.

b. Registration.

(1) All military personnel and family members who reside on Fort Benning and possess a firearm on post must register the firearm with the DES Vehicle/Firearms Registration Office, BLDG 2672 within five working days of bringing the firearm on post. Persons do not need to bring the firearm(s) to the registration office to register it. Bows and cross bows need not be registered with the DES.

(2) Personnel not residing on Fort Benning and authorized to bring firearms on post as set forth below are not required to register firearms on the installation, but are encouraged to do so.

5-2. Storing and securing Firearms.

a. Storing Firearms.

(1) Military personnel and family members residing in RCI housing on post may store weapons and ammunition in their quarters.

(2) Military Personnel who reside on post in other than family housing (in barracks or bachelor officer quarters, for example) must store privately owned firearms and ammunition in the arms room of their immediate organizational commander in accordance with AR 190-11, Physical Security of Arms, Ammunition, and Explosives.

b. Firearms may not be stored in vehicles, but may be temporarily secured as described below:

(1) When a person brings a firearm onto post for a recognized function (for example, hunters who bring firearms on post to hunt before or after work, for shooting events, to in process as a new arrival, etc), they may temporarily secure the firearm unattended in their vehicle, while they are at their workplace or when they stop at a post facility for a short time (for example, to eat breakfast, lunch, or dinner.) Under no circumstances will firearms be permitted inside office buildings, AAFES, DECA and DFMWR indoor facilities, unless required for official duty.

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(2) A temporarily secured firearm must be cased, secured and cannot be in plain view from outside the vehicle. Firearms in “gun socks” will not be considered cased. The actual firearm cannot be in plain view. Therefore, a firearm enclosed in a standard hard or soft case is NOT in “plain view.” Firearms will not be secured in glove boxes or consoles.

(3) When temporarily securing firearms, personnel will ensure:

- (a) The firearm(s) is unloaded and separated from the ammo.
- (b) The firearm(s) has no loaded magazine/clip inserted into the firearm.
- (c) The firearm(s) has no round chambered.
- (d) Crossbows are not cocked and do not have a bolt in the firing position.
- (e) Muzzle loading firearms are secured properly. Muzzle loading firearms may contain a powder charge and projectile in the chamber but cannot have a percussion cap, primer, flint, powder or other firing device on the nipple or flash pan. Electronic ignition muzzle loading firearms must have the battery removed and separated from the firearm.

(4) Before moving a vehicle containing a temporarily secured firearm, firearms must be prepared for transportation IAW Paragraph 5-3 below.

5-3. Transporting of Firearms. Personnel may transport firearms on or off post for hunting, sports shooting, or other legitimate reasons, to include recognized functions or activities involving the firearm. When transporting firearms, personnel will ensure:

- a. The firearm(s) is unloaded and separated from the ammo.
- b. The firearm(s) has no loaded magazine/clip inserted into the firearm.
- c. The firearm(s) has no round chambered.
- d. Crossbows are not cocked and do not have a bolt in the firing position.
- e. Muzzle loading firearms are properly prepared for transport. Muzzle loading firearms may contain a powder charge and projectile in the chamber but cannot have a percussion cap, primer, flint, powder or other firing device on the nipple or flash pan. Electronic ignition muzzle loading firearms must have the battery removed and separated from the firearm.
- f. All firearms will be transported cased, secured and not in plain view from outside the vehicle. Firearms in “gun socks” will not be considered cased. The actual firearm cannot be in plain view. Therefore, a firearm enclosed in a standard hard or soft case is NOT in “plain view.” At no time should a firearm, cased or uncased, be transported in window gun racks. Under no circumstances may an uncased handgun be transported under or behind a seat or in a glove compartment, console, seat pouch or similar location.

5-4. Firing or discharging weapons.

Personnel may not:

- a. Discharge a firearm or projectile weapon in the Cantonment Area and inside or adjacent to housing areas unless otherwise authorized by special permit in approved areas. All personnel must have appropriate documentation authorizing such activities.
- b. Conduct target practice except on an authorized range. Contact Outdoor Recreation for information about target practice and firearms zeroing opportunities.
- c. Discharge a firearm after legal hunting hours unless otherwise authorized by special permit or to remove a round from a muzzle loading firearm at the end of a hunt. Hunters who discharge a muzzle loading firearm after legal hours to remove a round must do so in the training area they were checked in to hunt that evening.
- d. Discharge a firearm or projectile weapon from a vehicle or across a maintained road.
- e. Discharge a firearm or projectile weapon within 200 feet of maintained roads, buildings, other man-made infrastructure
- f. Discharge a firearm or projectile weapon within 200 yards in the direction of a maintained road or other man-made infrastructure. A maintained road is a road with a base consisting of pavement, concrete, gravel, or improved dirt that receive maintenance and are wide enough to allow at least two-way vehicular traffic.

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g. Paintball guns can only be fired on approved MWR sites or under command directed activities (eg. training events, law enforcement missions, etc.).

Paragraph 5-6, Add:

d. Discarding or dumping live ammunition, projectiles, or explosives in any area of Fort Benning is prohibited.