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US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
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IMNE-MEA-MWA

28 SEP 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Command Policy Memorandum # 52, Physical Separation of Parties Involved in Family Violence

1. PURPOSE. This memorandum implements a mandatory separation of parties involved in Family violence on and off the Fort George G. Meade installation.

2. RESPONSIBILITY. All commanders, officers, and non-commissioned officers (NCOs) are responsible for ensuring that units meet, maintain, and comply with this policy.

3. GENERAL. Violence against a spouse is contrary to the values and standards of the United States Army. Spouse abuse is a community issue, which requires a consistent and Coordinated Community Response (CCR). Essential to the CCR is the support of individual units in ensuring that victims of domestic violence are offered immediate safety, long-term protection, services, and support. A spouse or service member who is a victim of domestic violence must be protected from further assault. Oftentimes, when parties involved in domestic violence are allowed immediate access to each other, more violence ensues.

a. When the Military Police (MP) or civilian law enforcement respond to a domestic disturbance involving physical assault and the active duty service member is identified by the MPs as the offender, commanders, upon notification by either agency, will ensure the service member is placed in the barracks, or where barracks space is limited, with a responsible individual assigned by the commander until assessment and safety planning can be conducted by Social Work Service (SWS). The Provost Marshals office will ensure that law enforcement officers responding to domestic assaults notify SWS and offer advocacy services to all victims, to include parties involved in dual aggression/mutual abuse situations. Victim Advocacy Program (VAP) and Civilian law enforcement personnel are provided with similar materials outlining services provided by the installation and will provide these materials when responding to reports of domestic violence involving military personnel. When physical assaults are reported through the Medical Treatment Facility (MTF) or SWS, the SWS staff will contact the MPs and parties will be separated according to the criteria outlined in this memorandum until an assessment of all parties is completed by SWS. In situations where a service member must retrieve basic necessities from his/her home, the commander will ensure that the victim is notified and that a unit escort is assigned to accompany the service member to the home. The escort must be an officer or NCO, at least one grade higher than the offender, and must ensure that the service member returns to the barracks or to the home of a command-assigned individual, immediately after gathering his/her basic necessities.

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b. Where the civilian spouse is the offender, commanders will make every effort to ensure the safety of the service member. Safety measures will include placing the service member who is the victim in the barracks, or where the active duty member is the primary caregiver to dependent children, temporary barment of the civilian spouse from the installation. The only exceptions to this barment will be entering the installation for assessment with SWS, the Provost Marshal, and/or Criminal Investigation Division (CID), and for emergency medical assistance. Civilian spouses barred from the installation will sign in at the MP Station prior to utilizing any of the aforementioned services and will sign out at the MP Station prior to leaving the installation. Commanders will consult with SWS staff before making a determination to lift the bar.

c. In cases where mutual abuse is alleged if only one party sustained visible injury, the person without visible injury will be removed from the quarters or if one party sustains severe injury while the other suffers from only minor injury, the person with minor injuries will be removed from living quarters. Exceptions to the barment of a civilian spouse are the same as mentioned in paragraph (b) above. SWS staff will initiate contact with the Active Duty (AD) member through command within 24 hours or on the next working day to schedule and assessment and address safety issues for all parties involved.

d. In cases where mutual abuse is apparent (i.e. both parties sustain visible injury), commanders, upon notification by either military or civilian law enforcement agency, will ensure the active duty member is placed in the barracks, or where barracks space is limited, with a responsible individual assigned by the commander until assessment and safety planning can be conducted by Social Work Service (SWS).

4. This policy is effective immediately and will remain in effect until superseded or rescinded.


EDWARD C. ROTHSTEIN
Colonel, Military Intelligence
Commanding

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