

APPENDIX DD

PETS IN GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED HOUSING

DD-1. GENERAL

Residents of Army Family housing (AFH) are responsible for maintaining and controlling their pets. The privilege to have an animal is granted to residents based on their ability to meet responsibilities. This privilege may be withdrawn if either of the following is true:

- a. The pet is a threat to the health or safety of personnel or becomes a nuisance.
- b. The pet owner fails to meet his or her responsibilities.

DD-2. RESTRICTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

a. No more than two dogs or cats, or combination thereof, are authorized per dwelling unit. Other domestic pets (including birds, goldfish, and hamsters) may be kept in AFH. Exotic pets (for example, snakes) are prohibited.

b. Owners must register their cat or dog with the post veterinary clinic within 2 weeks after acquiring the pet or the arrival of the pet at their permanent station. The owner must present evidence of the pet's current vaccinations at the time of registration, maintain a vaccination record, and update required vaccinations as necessary. Vaccinated animals will receive rabies tags that must be worn by the animal at all times.

c. Sponsor and their spouses will ensure that pets are controlled so they do not become a public nuisance or menace. Animals that habitually bite, scratch, attack, or otherwise threaten people without provocation are a community health menace and will not be allowed in Government-controlled housing or facilities. A severe incident (for example, an animal attacking an individual) is cause for removal of the offending animal, regardless of the absence of prior incidents.

d. Pet owners residing in AFH are subject to host nation (HN) laws governing the treatment of pets. HN law and Army in Europe policy prohibit inhumane and abusive treatment of animals. Inhumane and abusive treatment is defined as any act or omission whereby an animal's physical or psychological well-being is compromised unnecessarily. Punishment for violation of HN law may be in the form of fines or removal of the pet from the owner's possession. In cases where owners are negligent in pet care or supervision, immediate action will be taken to have the pet removed from the area.

e. HN laws typically impose liability on the animal's owner or keeper for damages to public or private property and personal injury. Liability insurance for pets is recommended.

f. Breeding pets and the construction and maintenance of kennel-type operations are prohibited in Government-controlled housing.

g. When outside the owner's quarters, animals must be kept on a leash and accompanied by an individual capable of controlling the pet. Children under the age of 12 without adult supervision are considered incapable of controlling pets.

h. Dogs and cats must not be allowed to relieve themselves on balconies, playgrounds, or within 50 feet of Family housing buildings. Pet owners will clean up excrement from their pets. Building coordinators may designate pet-walk areas that building residents who are pet owners will be responsible for maintaining.

i. Pets must not be—

- (1) Allowed in laundry rooms.
- (2) Allowed on balconies unattended.
- (3) Housed or locked in attics, basements, or storerooms in Government-controlled housing.
- (4) Kept in fenced playgrounds where children may congregate.
- (5) Tied to stair railings, radiators, pipes, shrubbery, or trees.

j. Complaints of improper control of pets must be reported to the military police (MP). MP officials will investigate complaints and, when appropriate, send an MP report to the garrison commander for action.

k. A sanitation inspection (health and welfare) may be conducted on any housing unit alleged by written complaint to be substandard in cleanliness, smell, or where a pet has apparently been abandoned (para 3-66c). Entry into the quarters must be in the presence of the sponsor or an adult Family member unless immediate entry is required to prevent damage to or destruction of Government property.

l. Owners who abandon their pets are subject to action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice or HN law and are responsible for all costs incurred by the Government on the transfer, care, custody, and final disposition of the animal. Before pet owners leave for an extended absence (for example, temporary duty, deployment, leave), they must make arrangements for the care of their pets. Pets must not be left unattended in quarters for an extended period.

m. Pet owners will comply with local laws regarding “fighting dogs.” These animals are prohibited and are not authorized in Government-controlled housing.