



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE AIR GROUND TASK FORCE TRAINING COMMAND
MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER
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CCO 1755.1C
MCCS

APR 06 2016

COMBAT CENTER ORDER 1755.1C

From: Commanding General
To: Distribution List

Subj: CHILDREN IN SELF-CARE AND/OR SELF-RELEASE

Ref: (a) MCO 1710.30
(b) MCO 1700.29

1. Situation. In accordance with reference (a), this Order establishes self-care and self-release policies for children residing aboard the Combat Center in self-care and children participating in activities and programs aboard the Combat Center.

2. Cancellation. CCO 1755.1B.

3. Mission. To provide a standard for the minimum age that children may be left in self-care, and self-released from activities aboard the Combat Center, and to provide guidance on the expectations for caregiver responsibilities in preparing children for participation in self-care and/or self-release.

4. Execution

a. Commander's Intent and Concept of Operations

(1) Commander's Intent. Parents, guardians, and other designated caretakers are responsible for the full accountability and safety of the children in their care, at all times. In accordance with the references, this includes responsible oversight when deciding to participate in self-release or Semper Fit programs, and whether to leave children unattended in quarters, vehicles or playgrounds, or alone overnight.

(2) Concept of Operations

(a) Established regulations, local, and state laws, the child's level of maturity, frequency and duration of unsupervised periods, the child's knowledge of emergency procedures, physical or emotional disabilities, accessibility to parents, guardians, or caretakers, number and ages of other unsupervised children present, age-appropriateness of responsibilities given to the child, and specific nature of ongoing child activities while unsupervised are factors parents and caretakers must consider prior to allowing children under their care to participate in self-care, fitness, sports, or recreation activities.

(b) All children in self-care shall receive self-care instructions from their parents. Instructions, at a minimum, must include

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caregiver contact information, emergency procedures and telephone numbers (such as the use of 911), basic first aid, and evacuation and security measures.

(c) Children babysitting other children are strongly encouraged to complete the American Red Cross babysitter's course. Information on the course can be found at <http://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/program-highlights/babysitting-child-care>.

(d) In accordance with reference (b), developmental standards and the factors addressed above, the following chart outlines the minimum ages that children may be left in self-care or participate in self-release or Semper Fit programs and activities.

AGE	UNATTENDED IN QUARTERS	LEFT ALONE OVERNIGHT	PLAYGROUND UNATTENDED	CAR UNATTENDED	BABY-SIT SIBLINGS /OTHERS	SELF-RELEASE YOUTH & TEEN PROGRAM (YATO)	SELF-RELEASE (OTHER)
0-9	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
10-11	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
12-13	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES*	YES	YES
14-15	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES*	YES	YES
16-18	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

AGE	FITNESS CENTER CARDIOVASCULAR WEIGHT TRAINING	GYMNASIUM	RACQUETBALL COURT	YOUTH SPORTS PROGRAM	POOLS
0-9	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO**
10-11	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES**
12-13	NO**	YES	YES	YES	YES**
14-15	NO**	YES	YES	YES	YES**
16-18	YES**	YES	YES	YES	YES

* NO OVERNIGHT

** Further clarification may be obtained by reviewing reference (b).

(e) Failure to follow the guidance outlined in this Order will result in immediate referral to the Family Advocacy Program and, depending on the circumstances, may also result in notification of law enforcement and county child protective services.

b. Coordinating Instructions. The following definitions are provided for the purpose of this Order.

(1) Parent. The biological father or mother who is responsible for a child, or a person who, by order of a court of competent jurisdiction, has been declared the father or mother of a child by adoption; the legal guardian of a child; or a person in whose household a child resides, provided that such a person is authorized to act on behalf of the parent or legal guardian to that child, and who contributes at least one-half of the child's support.

(2) Babysitting. An agreement to care for another's children on an occasional basis, defined as less than 10 child care hours per week, either in the babysitter's or the child's home.

(3) Playground. For the purposes of this Order, a playground is a place with a specific design to allow children to play there.

(4) Self-Care. Care when the child is responsible for himself or herself. Generally self-care includes children who are responsible for themselves before or after school, during school vacations, and holidays.

(5) Self-Release Activities. Activities offered by the installation that allow children of a certain age to come and go with minimum adult supervision. The Self-Release Program is not a substitute for child care or supervision needed by children in the absence of their parents.

5. Administration and Logistics. Directives issued by this Headquarters are published and distributed electronically. Electronic versions of Combat Center directives can be found at <http://www.29palms.marines.mil/Staff/G1Manpower/AdjutantOffice/Orders.aspx>.

6. Command and Signal

a. Command. This Order is applicable to all active duty, reserve, civilian personnel, and family members aboard the Combat Center.

b. Signal. This Order is effective the date signed.



H. J. SELLERS
Chief of Staff
Acting

Distribution: A