



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE AIR GROUND TASK FORCE TRAINING COMMAND
MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER
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ISD 11

JUL 13 2018

POLICY LETTER 11-18

From: Commanding General
To: All Hands

Subj: ARMING AND TRAINING OF THE OFFICER OF THE DAY AND STAFF DUTY
NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER ABOARD MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER

Ref: (a) MCO 5500.6H W/Ch 1
(b) MARADMIN 323-16

Encl: (1) OOD/Duty SNCO Rules for the Use of Force

1. Purpose. To establish uniform policy for arming, carrying of firearms, and training on the use of force for Officers of the Day (OODs) and Staff Duty Noncommissioned Officers (SDNCOs) aboard Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command (MAGTFTC), Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC), in accordance with the references.

2. Information. This Policy requires the immediate attention of all Commanders, Assistant Chiefs of Staff (ACs/S), Special Staff Officers, Marines, Sailors, and civilians aboard the Combat Center.

a. Tenant Commanders may elect to arm their OOD/SDNCO. Unit Standard Operating Procedures will dictate the condition in which the weapon will be carried.

b. If the OOD has a duty noncommissioned officer (DNCO), duty clerk, or driver who is not an officer or SNCO, they will not be armed.

c. Barracks DNCOs and their assistant DNCOs will not be armed.

d. Fire-watches will not be armed.

e. The OOD/SDNCO will wear the standard gold on scarlet brassard to identify them as the duty for their command. All other duty personnel are not required to wear a brassard.

f. Driving a privately owned vehicle (POV) while armed in the performance of duties is authorized.

3. Action

a. MAGTFTC, MCAGCC ACs/S, and Special Staff Officers. Assist tenant commands to ensure they have the necessary administrative and logistical support to comply with this Policy and reference (a).

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b. Commanders shall:

(1) Implement this Policy at the battalion and squadron level. Those commands that combine battalion/squadron duty with base/station duty are not required to create a separate OOD/SDNCO at that battalion/squadron level.

(2) Ensure that local policies, practices, and directives relating to arming of the OOD/SDNCO, and the use of less-than-lethal and deadly force, are in compliance with the enclosure and the references.

(3) Ensure all personnel eligible to be assigned as OOD/SDNCO receive adequate and recurring training in the use of force, as described in the enclosure and the references.

(4) Ensure appropriate security for retaining firearms overnight, per enclosure (1) of reference (a).

(5) Ensure all personnel eligible to be assigned as the OOD/SDNCO are qualified with the M9 service pistol. Personnel assigned as the OOD/SDNCO will ensure their qualification is current, as required by reference (a). The OOD/SDNCO will be fully trained in the safe handling and use of the weapon with which he/she is armed.

(6) Ensure a clearing barrel is provided to ensure safe handover of the weapon from on-coming and off-going OODs/SDNCOs. The clearing barrel will be located outside of the duty building, for this purpose.

(7) Ensure your duty orders reflect specific requirements for transporting a weapon in a vehicle.

(8) POVs used by OODs/SDNCOs will display a unit OOD/SDNCO placard.

(9) Ensure the OOD/SDNCO adheres to, and is provided written rules of engagement regarding the use of the less-than-lethal and deadly force. Refer to the enclosure of this Policy.

(10) When approached/confronted by Military Police armed OODs/SDNCOs will state who they are, declare they are armed, and the condition of their weapon.

4. The point of contact is Mr. Jim Sanderson, MAGTETC, MCAGCC Director, Mission Assurance, (760) 830-3043 or jim.sanderson@usmc.mil.


R. B. TURNER, JR.

DISTRIBUTION: A

OOD/SDNCO Rules for the Use of Force

1. Inherent Right of Self Defense. As OOD/SDNCO, you have the inherent right of self-defense and may exercise individual self-defense in response to a hostile act of demonstrated hostile intent.

2. De-Escalation and the Use of Non-Deadly

a. When time and circumstances permit, the threatening force should be warned and given the opportunity to withdraw or cease threatening actions.

b. Normally, force is to be used only as a last resort, and the force used should be the minimum necessary. The use of force must be reasonable to counter the threat. If force is required, non-deadly force is authorized and may be used to control a situation or to provide self-defense of others, when doing so is reasonable under the circumstances.

3. The Use of Deadly Force. Deadly force is to be used only when all lesser means have failed or cannot reasonably be employed. Deadly force is authorized only under the following circumstances:

a. To protect yourself or others if you reasonably believe that you or they are in imminent danger of death or serious bodily harm.

b. When deadly force reasonably appears to be necessary to prevent the actual theft or sabotage of properly designated assets vital to national security.

c. When deadly force reasonably appears to be necessary to prevent the actual theft or sabotage of inherently dangerous property (i.e., explosives, weapons ammunition, etc.).

d. When deadly force reasonably appears to be necessary to prevent the sabotage of national critical infrastructure. For the purposes of Department of Defense operations, "national critical infrastructure" is defined as President-designated public utilities, or similar critical infrastructure, vital to public health or safety, the damage to which the President determines would create an imminent threat of death or serious bodily harm.

e. When deadly force reasonably appears to be necessary to prevent the commission of a serious offense that involves imminent threat of death, or serious bodily harm (for example, setting fire to an inhabited dwelling or sniping), including the defense of other persons, where deadly force is directed against the person threatening to commit the offense. Examples include murder, armed robbery, and aggravated assault.

f. When deadly force reasonably appears to be necessary to prevent the escape of a prisoner, provided there is probable cause to believe that such person(s) have committed or attempted to commit a serious offense, that is, one that involves imminent threat of death or serious bodily harm, and would pose an imminent threat of death or serious bodily harm to others.

g. When deadly force reasonably appears necessary to arrest or apprehend a person who, there is probable cause to believe, has committed a serious offense involving violence or threatened death or serious bodily harm and is a continued threat to the safety of others.

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4. Additional Specific Instructions

- a. You are prohibited from firing warning shots.
- b. Your weapon will only be removed from your holster when:
 - (1) The use of deadly force is authorized per paragraph 3 above.
 - (2) Ordered to do so by competent authority.
 - (3) Clearing it to return it to storage.
- c. You will show due regard for the safety of innocent bystanders when using force.
- d. If you remove your pistol from its holster for purposes other than clearing it to turn in, proper notifications will be made and a Statement of Force form completed.
- e. When clearing a firearm, you will follow current policies and procedures pertaining to firearms handling, clearing, and safety.
- f. Clearing will be accomplished only in a designated area (i.e., clearing barrel).
- g. You are prohibited from using a privately owned firearm or ammunition on duty.
- h. Report any violation of these policies or procedures immediately to the proper authority.
- i. Immediately notify MAGTF/TC, MCAGCC Combat Duty Officer at (760) 830-7200 of any incidents involving firearms.

Enclosure (1)