



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, FORT CARSON
1626 ELLIS STREET, SUITE 200
FORT CARSON, CO 80913-4143

GC Policy #10

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

IMWE-CAR-ZA

27 October 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Installation Policy for the Supervision of Children

1. Reference:

a. Out of School Child Supervision Requirements for Elementary and Middle School Children and Youth During Parental Duty Hours, 11 September 2000

b. Army Regulation 608-10, Child and Youth Services, 15 July 1997

c. Army Regulation 608-18, Chapter 3, Army Family Advocacy Program, 30 May 2006

d. Army regulation 608-75, Exceptional Family Member Program, 15 February 2006

2. Purpose: To establish policies concerning supervision of children on Fort Carson.

3. Policy: Child supervision is necessary for the safety, protection, care, and management of children in our community. Child supervision is the responsibility of the parent. Parents must know where their children are and what they are doing at all times. Parents should continually evaluate their child's level of maturity and determine the degree of supervision that best meets the needs of their child. Parents are accountable for their decisions regarding child supervision and any incidents of misconduct by children under their care. This policy establishes rules governing control and supervision of children on Fort Carson. It applies to all military and civilian personnel and their Family members.

4. Definitions. The following definitions apply to this policy:

a. "Parent" means the mother or father of a child related by blood, marriage (step parent), adoption, a legal guardian, or any person charged with parental rights, duties, and responsibilities.

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b. "Child" means the unmarried child, whether a biological child, adopted child, foster child, step child, or ward of a military member or a civilian for whom treatment is authorized in a medical facility of the military service, who is under 18 years of age or incapable of self-support because of mental or physical incapacity.

c. "Qualified babysitter" means a person who has attained the age of 13 years and successfully completed the Red Cross Baby Sitting Course or similar course whose curriculum has been approved by Child Development Services (CDS). A qualified babysitter may also be a sibling, at least 13 years of age, who resides within the household of the child. While 13-year-old siblings are not required to be Red Cross trained to act as a babysitter, it is strongly advisable. Qualified babysitters under the age of 16 are limited to performing the role of babysitters for not more than 8 hours per day.

d. "Physical Presence" means the parent, adult, or qualified babysitter is in the home with the child or within the direct sight and hearing of the child.

e. "Supervision" means a planned, consistent way to provide ongoing care for children. Supervision requires the parent, guardian or babysitter to know where the child is at all times, and vice versa. Part of supervision requires children or caregivers to be able to contact the parent(s) or other qualified adult at all times. The direct supervision requirement is based on the local elementary school grade configuration, not the age of the child.

f. "Unsupervised" means a child is not in the physical presence of a parent, adult or a qualified babysitter as these terms is defined by this policy. When the parent is not physically present in the home, information on means to contact the parent or other responsible adult, to include emergency information, should be written and readily accessible, preferably posted close to the telephone.

g. "Adult" means a mentally and physically competent individual who is 18 years of age or older.

5. The following conduct is hereby prohibited by this policy:

a. Leaving a child, five years of age or younger, unsupervised at any time or place.

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b. Leaving a child, 6 through 8 years of age (1st through 3rd grade), unsupervised at any time or place, except while traveling to and from school or a Youth Services facility, or unless in the yard of quarters with the parent or adult present in the home.

c. Leaving a child, 9 through 12 years of age (4th through 6th grade), unsupervised at any time or place for more than four hours. This four-hour time period includes traveling to and from school or a Youth Services facility. A child in this age group should not be left unsupervised unless he or she is determined to be mature by the parent.

d. Leaving a child, 13 through 14 years of age (7th and 8th grades), unsupervised at any time or place for more than eight hours, unless arrangements are made with a friend or relative who is an adult to check on their behavior and whereabouts in person within that eight-hour period. This eight-hour period may not include any time between the hours of midnight and 0600. A child in this age group should not be left unsupervised unless he or she is determined to be mature by the parent.

e. Leaving a child, 15 through 17 years of age (9th through 12 grades, or high school), at any time or place for more than 12 hours, unless arrangements are made with a friend or relative who is an adult to check on their behavior and whereabouts in person within that 12-hour period.

6. Curfew. The following curfew applies to children who are physically present on Fort Carson:

a. Children under 14 years of age shall be inside their home or someone else's quarters, or the yards thereof, between 2100 and 0600 unless they are under supervision of an adult or are returning home directly from a community or school-organized function or facility, a Youth Services program, traveling to or from verifiable employment, or responding to a bona fide emergency.

b. Children who are 14 or more years of age, but less than 18 years of age, shall be inside their home or someone else's quarters, or the yards thereof, between 2200 and 0530 (from Sunday through Thursday), or between 2400 and 0530 (Friday and Saturday, or holidays), unless they are under supervision of an adult (21 years of age or older) or are returning home directly from a community or school-organized function or facility, a Youth Services program, traveling to or from verifiable employment, or responding to a bona fide emergency.

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c. The child's parent(s) or guardians are responsible for compliance with this curfew. If the child is in the company of an adult other than a parent during the period of curfew, the parent must have authorized the adult in advance to supervise and be responsible for the child. This is to prevent a young adult not much older than the child from claiming that the child is under his or her supervision without the parent(s)' express knowledge and approval.

7. Commanders will ensure this policy letter is well publicized to all parents and expectant parents in their units.

8. Child, Youth and School Services (CYSS), Directorate of Family & Morale, Welfare & Recreation (DFMWR), offers a variety of pre-school, school-age, and youth programs to assist parents in meeting their responsibilities under this policy.

9. Report all suspected incidents of child neglect to Social Work Services at 526-4585. If Social Work Services cannot be reached report incidents to the Military Police at 526-2333.

10. This policy is punitive. A violation of this policy may result in adverse administrative or disciplinary action. Violation of this policy may result in referral to the Case Review Committee, formerly known as the Family Advocacy Case Management Team, or El Paso County Department of Human Services. A violation of this policy may result in termination of the privilege of occupying Family housing.

11. The POC for this action is CYSS, DFMWR at telephone 526-4188.



ROBERT F. McLAUGHLIN
COL, FA
Garrison Commander

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