



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY COMBINED ARMS SUPPORT COMMAND AND FORT LEE
2221 ADAMS AVENUE
FORT LEE, VIRGINIA 23801-2102

CASCOM POLICY 21-21

ATCL-CG (100)

DEC 21 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Lee, Virginia 23801

SUBJECT: United States Army Combined Arms Support Command and Fort Lee
Installation Freedom of Religion Policy

1. References.

- a. Department of Defense Instruction 1300.17, Accommodation of Religious Practices Within the Military Services, 22 January 2014
- b. Secretary of Defense Memorandum, "Extending Benefits to the Same-Sex Spouses of Military Members," dated 13 August 2013.
- c. Joint Publication 1-05, Religious Affairs in Joint Operations, 13 November 2013
- d. Army Regulation 165-1, Army Chaplain Corps Activities, 23 June 2015
- e. Field Manual 1-05, Religious Support, 5 October 2012.
- f. The Manual for Courts-Martial, Military Rules of Evidence, Rule 503. Communications to Clergy, 2019 Edition.

2. Applicability. This policy applies to all Department of Defense (DoD) Military and Civilian personnel, contractors, and all other authorized U.S. Civilians employed at or residing on Fort Lee. The purpose of this policy is to establish Fort Lee policy governing religious support activities and Chaplains' support within the Fort Lee command areas of responsibility.

3. Policy. The free exercise of religion is a basic principle of our nation's Constitution. The DoD places a high value on the rights of members of the Armed Forces to observe the tenants of their respective religions. As Commanding General, it is my responsibility to ensure all members of this command have access to their constitutionally guaranteed right to the free exercise of religion. Equally important is that members of the Fort Lee community practice different religious customs and rituals; and members of this command will respect all religious traditions of others at all times.

- a. Religious support is a commander's responsibility. The designated staff element that is responsible to carry out the Command Master Religious Plan is the U.S. Army Garrison Fort Lee Religious Support Office.

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b. Worship services exist in response to the spiritual needs of Service Members and other authorized personnel. All worship services and religious program activities will be open and available to all eligible personnel.

c. Religious Holidays. Most faith groups require adherents to observe certain days. When mission requirements permit, directors, commanders and leaders will allow their personnel opportunities to engage in religious or spiritual observances. Some faith groups have special dietary and/or activity requirements around their special holidays. Leadership at all levels should support religious holidays if training requirements permit to allow personnel who are required by conscience to observe prescribed customs or rituals, or attend religious services.

d. Counseling and Confidentiality. A communication is confidential if made to a Chaplain or to a Chaplain's assistant in their official capacity as a spiritual adviser and if such communication is made either as a formal act of religion or as a matter of conscience and is not intended to be disclosed to third persons. Chaplains will perform counseling directly to, or provide counseling options for DoD personnel without compromising their religious tradition or ecclesiastical endorsement requirements.

4. This policy is in effect until superseded or rescinded.

5. The proponent for this policy memorandum is the Garrison Chaplain at (804) 734-6494.



MARK T. SIMERLY
Major General, U.S. Army
Commanding

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