



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON GARMISCH
UNIT 24515
APO AE 09053-4515

IMEU-GAR-SO

19 October 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Driving While Distracted Policy

1. References:

a. Executive Order, Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging While Driving, 1 October 2009

b. AER 190-1, Driver and Vehicle Requirements and the Installation Traffic Code for the US Forces in Germany, 4 February 2009

c. Grafenwoehr Policy Letter 32, Driving while Distracted, 6 October 2009

2. Scope and Punitive Effect: The scope of this policy applies to all Soldiers, civilians, Family members, government employees, contractors, organizations and units assigned or TDY to US Army Garrison (USAG) Garmisch installations and residing in the USAG Garmisch Area of Responsibility (AOR). Violators of this policy and leaders who fail to take the appropriate action may be subject to administrative actions or punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).

3. Policy: Driving while distracted is a serious safety issue for the community. Driving is an activity that requires full attention to the road and surrounding areas. The following are a list of distractive hazards that are punishable and may result in administrative, civilian misconduct, or UCMJ actions, and may result in the loss of driving privileges:

a. Cell Phones. The use of hand-held cell phones when driving a vehicle or riding a bicycle is prohibited. "Hands-free" speaking systems that can be used without the driver having to take his or her hands off the steering wheel and that do not force the driver to take his or her eyes off the road may be used. Hand-held telephones may be used only when the vehicle is stationary and the motor is turned off.

b. Excessive Noise. Vehicle operators and occupants will not play their sound systems so loudly that they can be heard more than 10 feet from the vehicle with the windows up. Vehicle operators will not make noise with their motor, exhaust, or tires that is louder than normal use (for example, racing motors, using exhaust systems that are not issued by the vehicle manufacturer, squealing tires).

IMEU-GAR-SO

SUBJECT: Driving While Distracted Policy

c. Texting. Vehicle operators will not text while they are driving. Recent deadly crashes involving drivers distracted by text messaging while behind the wheel highlight a growing danger on our roads. Text messaging causes drivers to take their eyes off the road and at least one hand off the steering wheel, endangering both themselves and others.

4. Point of contact is the USAG Garmisch Safety Office at DSN 440-3595.


KARIN H. SANTOS
Garrison Manager

DISTRIBUTION:

All Garmisch Employees
Scott Fischman, Safety Representative
Edelweiss Lodge & Resort
CW4 Hopson, Safety Representative
George C. Marshall Center
SFC Mann, Safety Representative NATO School
Michael Holtz, Safety Representative DoDDS
Norbert Boehmert, DeCA Representative
Tamy Hinson, AAFES Representative