Headquarters
US Army Armor Center and Fort Knox
Fort Knox, Kentucky 40121-2266
4 May 2010

Personnel - General

DONATIONS TO FAMILY READINESS GROUPS AND ARMY FAMILY PROGRAMS

Summary. This regulation provides Fort Knox implementation guidance for receipt, disbursement, and reporting of donations by Family Readiness Groups (FRGs) and private gifts presented to the installation community at large.

Applicability. This regulation applies to all US Army Armor Center (USAARMC) and Fort Knox major commands, activities, directorates, staff offices/departments, and Partners in Excellence.

Suggested Improvements. The proponent of this regulation is Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (DFMWR). Users are invited to send comments and suggested improvements on DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publication and Blank Forms) through channels to DFMWR (IMSE-KNX-MWA), Fort Knox, Kentucky 40121-2266.

1. Purpose. The purpose of this regulation is to prescribe policies, procedures, and responsibilities for donations to FRGs, as well as donations provided to the entire military community at Fort Knox.

2. References.

- a. Army Commander's Guide to Family Readiness Group Operations, 26 Sep 05.
- b. Memorandum, HQ IMCOM, IMWR-FP, 14 Mar 07, subject: Letter of Instruction (LOI) Family Readiness Group (FRG) Supplemental Mission Activity.
- c. AR 215-1, Military Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Programs and Nonappropriated Fund Instrumentalities, 31 Jul 07 (with RAR 002, 28 Mar 10).
 - d. AR 608-1, Army Community Service Center, 19 Sep 07.
- e. Joint Ethics Regulation (JER), DOD Directive 5500.07, Standards of Conduct, 29 Nov 07.
- f. Memorandum, HQ IMCOM, IMCG, 10 Apr 09, subject: Delegation of Authority to Accept Nonappropriated Fund Gifts.

3. Responsibilities.

- a. Commanders of all Fort Knox units. Primary responsibility for the management, oversight, and support of FRGs for their respective units.
- b. Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (DFMWR). Has overall staff responsibility for the training and oversight of FRG programs on the installation, as well as management of the Army Gifts Programs and the FRG Supplemental Mission Activity account that receives undesignated donations and donations in excess of \$1,000.
- c. Staff Judge Advocate (SJA). Provide ethics and regulatory advice to commanders and staff on Army Family readiness programs and donations.

4. Donations Acceptance Authority.

- a. Gifts valued less than \$1,000 offered to unit for unit FRG Informal Fund.
- (1) Upon receiving offer of an unsolicited gift/donation, a unit representative will delay acceptance or use of gift until they receive a legal review from the Office of the SJA (OSJA) or the appropriate brigade judge advocate. The OSJA review will be completed within 14 days from receipt of request.
- (2) If no legal objection exists, the unit commander can accept the gift on behalf of the unit FRG. If legal objection exists, unit commander must return the gift.
- (3) Unit representative will report receipt of the gift in accordance with (IAW) reporting requirements set forth in Appendix C of this regulation.
- b. Undesignated gifts of any amount intended for the Fort Knox military community at large.
- (1) Any undesignated offer of gift to installation will be referred to the Army Gifts Coordinator, DFMWR.
- (2) Upon notification of a gift/donation, the Garrison Gifts Coordinator/Army Gifts Coordinator will contact OSJA for a legal review.
- (3) If no legal objection exists, the Army Gifts Coordinator will contact approval authority for acceptance of the gift(s). These gifts will be deposited in the FRG Supplemental Mission Activity account, designated for the receipt of these donations.
 - c. Any gift exceeding \$1,000 in value.
- (1) Any undesignated offer of gift to installation will be referred to the Army Gifts Coordinator, DFMWR.

- (2) Upon notification of a gift/donation, the Garrison Gift Coordinator/Army Gifts Coordinator will contact OSJA for a legal review.
- (3) If no legal objection exists, the Garrison Gift Coordinator/Army Gifts Coordinator will contact approval authority for acceptance of the gift(s). These gifts will be deposited in the FRG Supplemental Mission Activities Mission account, designated for the receipt of these donations.
 - d. Gifts/donations designated for DFMWR or Army Community Service (ACS) programs.
- (1) These gifts will be processed through the Garrison Gift Coordinator/Army Gifts Coordinator.
- (2) Upon receiving an offer, the Garrison Gift Coordinator/Army Gifts Coordinator will receive a legal review from OSJA.
- (3) If no legal objection exists, the Garrison Gift Coordinator/Army Gifts Coordinator will contact approval authority for acceptance of the gift(s).
- (4) If accepted, the Garrison Gift Coordinator/Army Gifts Coordinator will distribute directly to designated DFMWR or ACS program.
- e. Acknowledgement of Gifts and Donations. While gifts may not be solicited or acknowledged publicly, the Garrison Gifts Coordinator will prepare thank you notes from the CG for donations exceeding \$1000.
- 5. Reporting Donations. Donations to unit FRGs and the Supplemental Mission Activity account must be reported. Commanders will report all donations IAW the standards and format outlined at Appendix C of this regulation.
- 6. MWR Supplemental Mission Fund Process. Undesignated donations and donations exceeding \$1,000 are deposited in the Supplemental Mission Activity account. Disbursement from this account will be executed by the fund manager after receiving direction from the

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Garrison Commander. The Garrison Commander will convene, on an "as needed" basis, a committee consisting of senior command representatives from all Fort Knox commands to review funds available and needs of all unit FRGs subject to this regulation.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

JEFFREY L. DAVIDSON

Colonel, AR Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

MICHAEL G. CARROLL Acting Director, Human Resources

DISTRIBUTION:

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Appendix A Frequently Asked Questions

A-1. Can my FRG accept a donation and deposit it into our Informal Funds checking account?

Answer. Yes. The FRG may accept unconditional donations of \$1,000 or less into the FRG's Informal Fund from an individual, business, or private organization after gaining approval from the unit commander and SJA ethics counselor. The FRG Informal Fund account may not exceed \$10,000 income per year, nor shall it exceed \$5,000 balance at any time unless earmarked for a special event approved by the commander. Donations count towards these maximums. The FRGs may not accept donations that exceed \$1,000. The Garrison Commander may accept donations, including those exceeding \$1,000 for the Supplemental Mission Activity account.

A-2. If a unit commander stationed at Fort Knox receives an offer from a local business to make a \$20,000 donation to support "local Army Families," may the unit commander accept the donation?

Answer. The unit commander should inform the Garrison Commander of the donation offer. The Garrison Commander may accept this donation meant for Family support, into the Supplemental Mission Activity account, as provided at AR 215-1, paragraph 7-39, and AR 608-1, paragraph 3-2. The FRG intended gifts/donations are accounted for separately from other supplemental mission uses. The Garrison Commander should request OSJA review the gift offer prior to acceptance.

A-3. Several FRGs receiving support from the Supplemental Mission Activity account have heard about a donation to the account. The FRGs request permission to use the supplemental mission nonappropriated funds (NAFs) to provide transportation and tickets to a festival or amusement park. May they do so?

Answer. Possibly. Supplemental mission NAFs may be used for FRG social activities. To receive use of some of the donated funds, unit commanders must submit a request to withdraw funds IAW paragraph 6 above. The request should provide a brief description of the item(s) requested, total funds required, dates the items are needed, and vendor or source of the items to be purchased to the DFMWR for processing. Depending on the amount, the unit could be given petty cash to make the purchase, or DFMWR will purchase the items using a NAF government purchase card.

A-4. Does supplemental mission donations given to an FRG count as income to the FRG Informal Fund?

Answer. No. These are two entirely separate pots of monies. Supplemental mission donations belong to the Army's Nonappropriated Fund Instrumentality. Informal Funds belong to the Informal Fund's members. Therefore, supplemental mission donations have no impact on the FRG Informal Fund income cap.

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A-5. Is the \$10,000 cap for Informal Funds enforceable retroactively?

Answer. The FRG's Informal Funds may not exceed an annual gross income cap of \$10,000 per calendar year. If your FRG informal funds exceed \$10,000, the FRG cannot engage in any further fundraising. The cap is established to prevent potential IRS tax issues. Note that money generated from fund raising activities and donations from private organizations or individuals counts as income for the \$10,000 annual income cap. Funds received from the FRG Supplemental Mission Program do not count as FRG income.

A-6. My mother wants to donate \$100 to our FRG Informal Fund. Can we accept it?

Answer. Yes. As long as the FRG has not exceeded the \$10,000 annual income cap. The FRG can accept donations of \$1,000 or less for its Informal Fund; however these donations count as income to the FRG.

A-7. May my FRG send letters to local businesses seeking support for our Welcome Home party?

Answer. No. Solicitation by FRGs and FRG Informal Funds is prohibited by Army regulations and the DOD Joint Ethics Regulation.

Appendix B Army Gifts Program

Gifts to the Army Wounded Warrior Program

Include: Cash, Goods, Services

Contact: aw2donations@conus.army.mil or 703.325.9956

Gifts Directly to a Wounded Warrior

Include: Cash, Goods, Services

Examples: Concert Tickets, Sports Game Tickets, Dinner, Hotel Stay Note: If value of gift exceeds \$335 per occasion or \$1,000 (total) per source per year, the recipient must obtain an ethics review.

For more information visit:

Gifts to Army Website http://giftstoarmy.aamy.mil

How You Can Give to Those Who Give So Much



America's Army - Soldiers, Families and Civilians epitomize what is best about America. Their willingness to sacrifice to build a better future for others and preserve our way of life is a great strength to our nation.

There are many ways for individuals, groups, and corporations to support U.S. Army Soldiers and their Families. This information is in response to your expressed interest in donating a gift.

For additional assistance, email: AmyGiftProgram@hoda.army.mil

Gifts to Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (FMWR); Soldier and Family Assistance Centers (SFACs) supporting Warrior in Transition Units; Family Readiness Groups (FGRs)

Include: Cash and Goods

Contributions less than \$10K can be donated online on the Gifts to Army website a http://giftstoarmy.army.mil, click on Soldiers and Families Examples: Video Games for SFACs, Fitness Equipment for Gyms, Library Books, Electronic Games/TVs for Youth Centers, Computers Contributions Support: Soldier and Family Programs such as Child Care Centers, Youth Activities, Recreation Centers, Libraries, Craft Shops, Sports Contact: mwrgifts@conus.army.mil or your Garrison Headquarters for Gift Coordinator's contact information

*100% of all contributions to the above programs are used as quality of file adjuncts to services for Soldiers and their Families. Fig part of the contribution is used to offset administration expenses."

Gifts to the Army (other than FMWR, SFACs, FRGs)

Include: Cash, Goods, Real or Personal Property

Examples: Horses to the Old Guard, Road on an Installation, Electronic Locks for Barracks

Contact: ArmyGiftProgram@hqda.army.mil or your Garrison Headquarters for Gift Coordinator's contact information

Gifts for Distribution to Soldiers

Include: Goods - No Cash

Examples: Popcorn, Christmas Trees, Coffee, Energy Bars, Phone Cards
These contributions promote Health, Comfort, Convenience, and Moraie
Contact: mwrgifts@conus.army.mil or your Garrison Headquarters for Gift
Coordinator's contact information

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Appendix C Reporting Requirements and Reporting Format

- C-1. Recent updates to federal law require the reporting of donations to the Army and Army personnel. United States Code 10, 2601(a) and (b), require the reporting of all gifts offered under the provisions of AR 1-100 (Gifts to the Army); AR 1-101 (Gifts to the Army for distribution to individuals); AR 215-1 (Gifts to MWR entities); and gifts to Wounded Warriors, their Families, or the Soldier and Family Assistance Center. There is no need to report the offer of a gift to an individual a ticket, a book, a meal unless the individual is a Wounded Warrior. This requirement requires the reporting of all gifts to the Army, the installation, or a unit at Fort Knox.
- C-2. The Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation has responsibility for ensuring the regulatory requirements of AR 1-100 are met and has been tasked to report all gifts and donations Fort Knox receives on a quarterly basis.
- C-3. Request addressees designate a gifts and donations individual within their organization and forward via e-mail, their name, phone number and e-mail address in order to fulfill future reporting requirements. Upon compliance, further guidance will be provided. Information should be sent the NAF Support Division (IMSE-KNX-MWMC), DFMWR, no later than the last duty day of each quarter.
- C-4. Point of contact is Commercial Concerns at 624-4737.

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