AIR STATION ORDER 10570.1C

From: Commanding Officer
To: Distribution List

Subj: CONTROL AND TREATMENT OF PETS

Ref: (a) MCO P1000.22 Ch 6
     (b) Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1978, Section 6-4
     (c) Assimilative Crimes Act (18 U.S.C. 13) (NOTAL)
     (d) NAVCOMPTMAN VOL IV Par 041512 (NOTAL)
     (e) MOU between Beaufort County Animal Shelter and MCAS Beaufort

Encl: (1) Pet Warning Letter
     (2) Termination of Privilege to Maintain Pets in Housing

1. Purpose. To publish revised procedures for the control and treatment of pets and wild animals aboard Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort and the Laurel Bay housing area in accordance with the references.

2. Cancellation. ASO 10570.1B.

3. Background

   a. Every year, numerous area residents are bitten or attacked by dogs/pets. Many bite victims are substantially injured and children sustain the majority of injuries. As a result of these incidents, owners are subject to administrative action and may also incur criminal responsibility or civil liability.

   b. Pet owners are responsible for ensuring their animals do not harm or endanger the health and safety of people and other animals. Since most pet incidents occur on or near the owner’s premises, they are normally preventable if reasonable precautions are taken.

   c. Pet owner responsibility goes beyond the concern for incidents involving bites/attacks. Consideration must be given to other residents who rightfully expect all pet owners to comply with this Order and to maintain their pets in a manner that is conducive to good order and discipline.

4. Summary of Revision. This revision contains a substantial number of changes and should be reviewed in its entirety.

5. Definitions

   a. Air Station. All areas under the command and control of the Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Air Station, Beaufort, South Carolina, to include the Laurel Bay Housing area.

DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A: Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.
b. Animal Bite. Wherein an animal has bitten another animal or person and has caused a break in the skin, and/or has drawn blood, and/or has caused the skin to bruise, as will be determined and documented by appropriate medical personnel. Vicious attempts will be processed in the same manner as an animal bite.

c. Authorized Pets. Includes dogs (except full or mixed breeds of Pit Bulls, Rottweilers and canine/wolf hybrids which are prohibited), cats, tropical fish, gerbils, guinea pigs, hamsters, and small birds (provided they are not taken from the wild).

d. Dangerous Animal. Any animal that unprovoked has attacked, bitten, or inflicted injury on a person or another animal.

e. Exotic/Wild Animals. Includes, but is not limited to, subhuman primates, ocelots, raccoons, skunks, bats, opossums, farm animals (such as pigs, chickens, rabbits, etc.), lions, panthers, any type of reptile and any other species or animal not usually considered to be domestic from whatever species.

f. Inhumane Treatment. The imposing of pain or suffering, inadequately providing food, water, and shelter, or medical care to an authorized pet. Treatment imposed by lack of sympathy, pity, warmth, compassion, and treatment resulting from cruelty and brutality.

g. Installation Veterinarian. Veterinarian for the Tri-Command. The veterinarian clinic is located on Parris Island at 517A Alaska Boulevard, phone number (843) 228-3317.

h. Menace to Health. Any pet that is suffering from any disease contagious to man or from some noxious disfiguring disease or condition determined by the Installation Veterinarian.

i. Nuisance. Any action of a pet, which endangers life or health, gives offense to the senses, violates laws of decency, or obstructs reasonable or comfortable use of property. For example, an animal may be deemed a nuisance if it habitually or repeatedly barks in such a manner or to such an extent that it disturbs others, or if it interferes or obstructs persons engaging in exercise or physical activity, or if it defecates on the lawn of quarters not occupied by the owner. Other examples of nuisance are as follows:

1. Molests pedestrians or passing vehicles;
2. Attacks other animals;
3. Trespasses on school grounds;
4. At-large;
5. Bark, whine, howl, or screech in an excessive, continuous, or untimely fashion.

j. Pet Owner. Will include any person owning, keeping, stable, or harboring an animal within the jurisdiction of the Commanding Officer, Marine
j. **Pet Owner.** Will include any person owning, keeping, stabling, or harboring an animal within the jurisdiction of the Commanding Officer, MCAS, Beaufort, S.C.. In cases where the subject animal has not been properly registered, the service member responsible for the subject housing unit shall be deemed the owner of any pet kept or harbored in that housing unit. An animal shall be deemed harbored if it is fed or sheltered for three (3) consecutive days or more (Ref. S.C. Code 47-5-20).

k. **Positive Control.** Any animal, regardless of type, must be under the immediate physical or voice control of its owner and must be kept inside the home or within the resident’s fenced and gated back yard (if the resident has a gated back yard). Otherwise, it must be on a leash and accompanied by and under the resident’s control. A “leash” means any strap of leather, nylon, cotton, or similar material not exceeding six feet in length, being held in the hand of a person actually controlling the animal to which it is attached.

l. **Restraint/Control.** Animal secured by a leash or lead, under the control of a responsible person within the boundaries of the owner’s property or any public property. The animal must be controlled and not able to come in contact with a person or another animal.

6. **Information**

   a. **Number of Authorized Pets.** No more than two dogs or two cats (or a combination of a dog and cat, not exceeding two) are routinely authorized while residing in housing. Requests for exceptions or waivers to this policy may be submitted by AA Form to the Military Housing Office (MHO). Each request will be considered on a case-by-case basis. There is no restriction to the number of tropical fish. Other authorized pets, must be housed in a domicile appropriate for such pets and sanitary conditions must be maintained.

   b. **Breeding.** Breeding of dogs or cats, whether intentional or accidental, is expressly prohibited aboard Marine Corps Installations. Breeding of any pet for sale, barter, exchange, reimbursement, or any other purpose is prohibited.

   c. **Farm Animals or Exotic/Wild Animals.** Will not be permitted as pets aboard the Air Station or housing except as allowed by separate directives. In instances of dispute, the Installation Veterinarian, Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MCRD) Parris Island, South Carolina, will determine the acceptability of the animal.

   d. **Registration**

      (1) All pets must be registered through the Installation Veterinarian, MCRD Parris Island, S.C and proof of registration submitted to the local MHO prior to entry to housing units. Proof of civilian or military veterinarian certification of required vaccinations and a functioning microchip device will be required for registration. Vaccinations must be kept current while residing in military housing.

      (2) Animals that are too young (as deemed by S.C State law) to receive certain vaccinations/inoculations are still required to be properly
registered and must receive the required vaccinations/inoculations as soon as eligible.

(3) Pet owners must provide any and all documentation regarding their pet(s) upon the request of an appropriate authority. Failure to do so implies that the pet is not properly registered and constitutes a violation.

(4) If impounded, unregistered pets will not be allowed to return to housing until proper registration and inoculations are acquired.

e. Licensing Requirements

(1) Marine Corps Order (MCO) P11000.22 requires that all dogs and cats must wear a collar at all times. A current rabies vaccination tag and pet registration tag, in compliance with applicable state and local law, must be attached to the collar.

(2) No license (tag) may be transferred to or used for any animal other than the one for which it was issued.

f. Pet Identification

(1) Within 30 days of assignment to housing, owners will ensure a tag with the current address of the owner is attached.

(2) This information goes a long way in limiting the number of pets released to the Beaufort County Animal Shelter as well as helping neighbors return friendly pets without notification of Military Police. All residents are encouraged to help in the effort to maintain a safe and healthy living environment. However, residents should be extremely careful when trying to identify or detain unfamiliar animals. Children are especially vulnerable to animal bites. When uncertain, take note of the stray animal's description and location, notify Military Police, and do not attempt to detain the animal.

g. Microchip Identification

(1) Per reference (g), microchip implants are required for a pet in order to live in on-base housing.

(2) A microchip is a small, rice-sized chip that is injected just under the skin between the shoulders. Placement of the chip allows animal control personnel to scan and identify lost pets. Rapid identification will result in fewer pets being turned over to Beaufort County Animal Shelter and will reduce the risk of harm to animals by expediting their return to their owners.

(3) The microchip is valid in all states and most countries where universal scanners are available. Owner identification can be updated with their microchip company each time the owner moves, to ensure an accurate address and phone number is available. The companies usually provide this service at no additional cost for the first year. A minimal fee is required after the first year.
(4) Microchipping can be accomplished for a minimal fee by scheduling an appointment at the Parris Island Veterinary Treatment Facility. Local Veterinary clinics are also available.

7. Laurel Bay Riding Club. Horses that are privately owned, but stabled at the Laurel Bay Riding Club, must meet the following requirements:

   a. Club Officials will ensure that all vaccinations and requirements are current prior to entry and will have the owner demonstrate proof to the Installation Veterinarian within ten working days and annually thereafter of a Health Certificate (on entry), negative Coggins test, and vaccinations for tetanus, rabies, encephalitis (WEE and EEE), West Nile Virus (WNV), influenza, and rhinopneumonitis.

   b. The constitution and by-laws of the Laurel Bay Riding Club may require additional vaccinations/requirements as appropriate to protect the health of horses stabled on Laurel Bay.

   c. The riding of horses through Laurel Bay housing is prohibited. The horses may be ridden on the designated riding trails in Laurel Bay. Horses are prohibited on the paved roads of Laurel Bay housing.

8. MCAS Sportsman Club

    a. The MCAS Sportsman Club will be held to the same standards pertaining to the vaccinations and identification of hunting dogs. The Installation Veterinarian Treatment Facility will conduct monthly inspections of the kennel facilities and ensure that all vaccinations are up-to-date.

    b. The MCAS Sportsman Club is responsible for maintaining control of their canines. If a hunting dog remains loose after a hunt and is picked up by Military Police Animal Control, the Hunting Club will be subject to the same penalties as individual animal owners.

9. Pet Control and Care

    a. Provisions set forth in Paragraph 5(i) apply. Principles of responsible pet ownership require that animals will be restrained by an enclosure or by a leash. The enclosure should be constructed in accordance with current housing regulations and in a manner that prevents the animal from escaping and deters unauthorized access. It shall be a violation of regulations for any owner of any pet to permit running at-large at any time upon any street or property within the jurisdiction of MCAS Beaufort/Laurel Bay.

    b. If unattended, the dog must be in an enclosed area, to include a fence (as authorized and approved by Atlantic Marine Corps Communities at Tri-Command), an approved dog kennel, or an enclosed run. Requirements for a dog in an enclosure must provide a minimum amount of floor space, using the following formula: (length of dog in inches + 6) x (length of dog in inches + 6). This will give the required amount of space needed in square inches. To convert that to square feet, divide it by 144. (Example for a 24" dog: (24 + 6) x (24 + 6) = 30 x 30 = 900 square inches. 900/144 = 6.25 square feet) Formula comes from Code of Federal Regulations, Title 9.
c. Pets cannot be chained or tethered outside the home at any time. Invisible fences are not deemed appropriate fencing for the housing of domestic animals.

d. The pet owner or a designated representative will provide the animal with adequate food, water, and shelter. If the pet is an outdoor animal or remains outdoor for extended periods of time, the shelter must be a doghouse.

e. Required/routine veterinary care, including flea and heartworm treatment, is expected.

f. The pet's owner or designated representative is responsible for cleaning up after their pets around their home, other yards, and common areas while walking their pets. It is required that all persons walking their pet have in their possession a bag or other means of cleaning up after their pet.

g. If a person has reason to believe that an animal is being treated inhumanely, that person may file a complaint with the Military Police. All allegations of inhumane or inadequate treatment will be investigated by the Provost Marshal's Office (PMO) and/or the Installation Veterinarian when warranted.

h. Pets are the direct responsibility of their owners. In cases where violations occur while the pet is subject to the supervision of a designated representative, that representative may be subject to the same penalties as the owner if the investigating authority deems it appropriate.

i. Other than allowed by separate directives, animals are not permitted in the Branch Clinic, Bachelor Enlisted Quarter's (BEQ), Bachelor Officer Quarter's (BOQ), club facilities, exchange activities, or other public facilities.

j. Pet owners will ensure that if they are absent from their home in excess of 24 hours (on leave, TAD, etc.), their pet is either placed in an appropriate pet boarding facility or cared for by a designated representative. Any pet found to be left abandoned in or about quarters in excess of the 24 hours period will be seized and impounded by Military Police.

k. The proper disposition of animals no longer desired by personnel residing on MCAS or Laurel Bay housing area is the responsibility of the owner. Animals will not be abandoned.

l. Owners will not leave pets unattended in a vehicle aboard the Air Station or Laurel Bay housing area when, in the judgment of PMO personnel a combination of temperature and humidity poses a health risk to the animal.

m. The owner of any animal shall immediately notify the Installation Veterinarian upon the sudden death of their animal and shall submit the animal for examination for the presence of disease.

n. In the event that the owner of a stray animal is known but cannot be contacted, the owner's command should be notified prior to turning the pet
over to the Beaufort County Animal Shelter. In special cases, (i.e., the owner is on extended leave or deployed) the command may desire to designate someone to retrieve and care for the pet until the owner returns. The owner will still be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

10. **Responsibilities**

   a. All instances of a person being bitten by an animal will be reported immediately to the Military Police.

   b. Anyone who becomes a victim of an animal bite or scratch while aboard the Air Station or Laurel Bay is encouraged to seek appropriate medical care. Victims are required to provide all information needed to complete the Animal Bite Report Form (DD Form 2341).

   c. The Provost Marshal will assume overall responsibility for administration of the provisions of this Order. In this regard, the Provost Marshal shall:

      (1) Respond to the call and complete an Incident/Complaint report on each violation and make a blotter entry to include pet owner’s name and address.

      (2) Issue a Pet Warning Letter at the time of response detailing required actions of the pet owner.

      (3) Forward the Incident/Complaint report to points of contact at the Installation Veterinarian’s Office, Naval Hospital Beaufort and appropriate Military Housing Office.

      (4) Order to quarantine any animal that has bitten or scratched a person aboard the Air Station or Laurel Bay housing for a period of ten days. While on the scene, PMO will make determination if the pet should be removed from the Air Station or Laurel Bay housing area during the quarantine period or if the pet can remain at the owner’s home during quarantine. Determination will be based on:

         (a) Severity of the bite, scratch, or attack.

         (b) Behavior/demeanor of pet as observed by the officer on scene.

         (c) Information gathered during interview of the owner, victim, and witnesses.

      (5) If the sum of information and observations indicate a vicious or problematic pet, PMO will direct the pet be removed from the Air Station or Laurel Bay housing for quarantine. If information and observation indicate a controllable pet with small probability of recurrence, the pet may be allowed to stay in the home during the quarantine period.

      (6) Quarantine Options as determined by the officer on the scene:

         (a) In the home (pet will not be allowed to be walked in the neighborhood or left outside the home during the quarantine)
(b) If pet has to be removed for quarantine, the following order of precedence will be followed:

1. PMO Officer will call Beaufort County Animal Shelter to see if space is available. If so, the owner is responsible for transporting the pet to the Animal Shelter.

2. If no space is available at the Animal Shelter, the owner will be given an option to take the pet to an animal clinic or boarding facility of their choice.

(c) In all instances, the cost of quarantine is the responsibility of the pet owner or family housing resident with responsibility for the pet.

(7) Pet Warning Letter to pet owners will include the following:

(a) Quarantine period of ten days or as directed by a veterinarian.

(b) Owner must contact Installation Veterinarian within 24 hours of the incident to schedule pet evaluation.

(c) Owner must have the pet evaluated within 48 hours of the incident by the Installation Veterinarian.

(d) Owner must complete a follow up visit with Installation Veterinarian ten days after the visit or as determined by Installation Veterinarian.

(e) Owner must provide a copy of all medical and veterinarian documentation to PMO for inclusion in the incident report.

(8) In the case of Stray Animals, PMO shall:

(a) Respond to the call.

(b) Scan the animal on scene to locate owner. If owner is identified, return pet to owner.

(c) If owner is not identified, PMO will pick up animal and hold temporarily while checking breed and description of pet against EMH pet data base.

(d) If owner cannot be located, PMO will call the Beaufort County Animal Shelter for boarding if available.

d. **Installation Veterinarian**

(1) Conduct semianual training of Animal Wardens and Military Policemen at PMO's request, in addition to providing technical assistance as required.
(2) Contact the Animal Warden after normal working hours for any unusual cases.

(3) Destroy in a humane manner, any animal unsuitable for release to the Beaufort County Animal Shelter or any animal whose body tissue is desired for laboratory testing, as deemed appropriate by the Veterinarian or an authorized representative.

(4) Examine any animal involved in a biting incident and advise the Provost Marshal and owner of the quarantine disposition.

(5) Will issue a letter of instruction for care of pets during home quarantine. A notification will be made to the Military Housing Office if pet owners fail to make the required appointments after a pet incident.

(6) In the case of a positive rabies examination, notify the Preventive Medicine Officer immediately and request assistance in conducting a thorough investigation to identify any humans or animals exposed.

   e. Naval Hospital Beaufort. The Medical Officer, or appropriate official, on duty at the Naval Hospital, will complete an Animal Bite Report and, in those instances not already reported, will provide the report to PMO for inclusion in the incident report as soon as possible. In the event the owner does not live in on-base housing, they will be instructed to report to the Beaufort County Public Health Department of Environmental Services for quarantine instructions.

11. Adjudicative Actions

   a. Impounded animals may be recovered by contacting the Military Police Desk Sergeant. In cases where the animal has already been released to the Beaufort County Animal Shelter, the owner will be subject to the penalties and fines imposed by Beaufort County Animal Shelter for pet retrieval. In both cases, a Pet Warning Letter (enclosure 2) is still warranted.

   b. All incidents involving pets will be adjudicated on the individual merits of each case using the following guidelines:

(1) When “on scene” ownership of a loose pet can be established, the pet will be released to the owner and a Pet Warning Letter will be issued for:

   (a) Permitting an animal to run loose.

   (b) Permitting an animal to become a nuisance.

   (c) A registration violation.

(2) When “on scene” ownership cannot be established, the pet will be impounded and released to Beaufort County Animal Shelter at the earliest possible convenience. When ownership is subsequently established, the provisions of paragraph 11(a) will apply.
c. Revocation of pet owning privileges aboard MCAS Beaufort and Laurel Bay housing. A pet owner's privilege to keep an animal aboard MCAS Beaufort or Laurel Bay housing may be revoked (Enclosure 3) if:

1. An animal owned by him/her aggressively bites or attacks a person or animal without provocation.

2. It has been determined that a pet owner has treated their pet in an inhumane/ neglectful manner.

3. Three violations of this order occur.

d. Appeals to revocations must be submitted in writing, within three working days of issue, to the Commanding Officer of MCAS Beaufort.

e. Revocations are effective immediately. Owners must ensure compliance by close of business the following day. If necessary, the Provost Marshal will facilitate removal. Owners who fail to comply with this instruction will be handled according to Military Police procedures for non-compliance.

12. Penalties for Inhumane Treatment

a. In accordance with reference (b), any person who overloads, overdrives, overworks, tortures, torments, needlessly mutilates, cruelly kills, ill-treats, deprives of necessary sustenance or shelter, or inflicts unnecessary pain or suffering upon any animal or causes the same to be done, whether such person is the owner of such an animal, or has the charge or custody of it, shall, for every such offense, be guilty of a misdemeanor and is subject to imprisonment and a fine.

b. When the above-mentioned conduct occurs on a Federal Reservation, it becomes a Federal Criminal Offense in accordance with reference (c). Accordingly, service personnel can be charged with a violation of Article 134, Uniform Code of Military Justice, and civilian violators may be issued a DD Form 1805 and prosecuted in the U.S. Magistrates Court of Federal District Court.

13. Assessments. Any expense incurred by the owner as a result of maintaining compliance with this order, and/or any expenses incurred at no fault of MCAS is the responsibility of the owner.

14. Action. All military personnel, dependents and civilians who reside or work within the limits of MCAS Beaufort and the Laurel Bay housing area will comply with the contents of this order.
15. Concurrence. The Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group-31 concurs with this order in so far as it pertains to Fleet Marine Force personnel assigned to Marine Corps Air Station, Beaufort.

[Signature]

B. C. MURTHA

DISTRIBUTION: A
AIR STATION ORDER 10570.1C Ch 1

From: Commanding Officer
To: Distribution List

Subj: CONTROL AND TREATMENT OF PETS AND WILD ANIMALS

Encl: (1) New page inserts

1. **Situation.** To transmit new page inserts to the basic order.

2. **Execution.** Remove the letterhead page and page 2, and replace with corresponding pages in the enclosure.

[Signature]

B. C. MURTHA

DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A: Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.
From: Provost Marshal
To: Sponsor's Name: ____________________________

Rank: ____________________________ SSN: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________ Phone: ____________________________
Organization: ____________________________

Subj: PET WARNING LETTER

Species (circle one): CANINE FELINE OTHER
Breed: ____________________________ Color: ____________________________

Ref: (a) CCN #: ____________________________
(b) MCO P11000.22 Ch 6

1. Reference (a) reports an incident in which your pet was involved in the following: Incident Type:

________________________________________________________________________

(1) Date & time: ____________________________ (2) Date & time Released: ____________________________
(3) Location: ____________________________ (4) Released by: ____________________________
(5) In-House Quarantine _______ (6) Released to: ____________________________
(7) Removed from MCRD/MCAS _______ Yes _______ No

2. Reference (b) provides direction on the control and treatment of pets. If your pet was involved in biting an individual, you are hereby directed to contact the Parris Island Veterinarian within 24 hours of the biting incident with a pet evaluation within 48 hours. If you pet is assigned to in-house quarantine it will have no contact with anyone outside of your immediate family and will not be allowed outside unless directly supervised for (10) days from the date of this letter.

3. You are informed that this incident may result in termination of your pet privileges aboard MCAS and MCRD housing areas at the discretion of the Installation/Depot Command.

4. You are directed to sign the below Acknowledgement statement.

FIRST Endorsement
From: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________
To: Provost Marshal

1. I have read the above Pet Warning Letter and understand that any further violation(s) involving my pet(s) may result in the termination of my privilege to maintain pet(s) in MCAS/MCRD housing areas.

ENCLOSURE (1)
From: Housing Director, Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort
To: Staff Sergeant John Doe XXX-XX-0000 USMC

Subj: REVOCATION OF PET PRIVILEGES

Ref: (a) Report of Pet Bite dtd 22 Oct 2010 "Dog Bite"
(b) Tri-Command Community Guidelines and Policy
(c) MCO P11000.22 Ch 6 dtd 11 Aug 09

1. The Military Housing Office (MHO) was notified on 22 October 2010 of a dog bite incident involving your German Shepherd and a child on Laurel Bay, reference (a). The incident report also revealed your dog was left outside, leashed and unattended which is against Tri-Command Policy per reference (b), Section II, paragraph 14.

2. Per reference (c), dangerous and vicious animals represent an unacceptable risk to the safety and tranquility of Marine Corps installations and their personnel. When a domestic animal is deemed dangerous or vicious, it will be prohibited from Marine Corps installations. The term "dangerous dog" means a canine or canine crossbreed that has attacked and bitten, or inflicted injury on a person or another animal, or killed another animal.

3. Due to the dog bite incident, your German Shepherd has been classified as "dangerous" and will not be allowed to come back on the installation or live in housing. It is your responsibility to find alternate living arrangements for your pet.

4. If you have any questions regarding the content of this letter, please feel free to call me at the Military Housing Office at (843) 228-6000 or (843) 228-6004.

GAIL BENTON

Acceptance of Letter ___________________________ Date: ___________________________