



Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service

18 August 2014

Ms. Kim Mills
Director, Family and MWR
Department of the Army
Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare, and Recreation
5820 21st Street
Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5937

Dear Ms. Mills:

I shop at Fort Belvoir almost every weekend, and yesterday I picked up the most recent copy of *Belvoir Life*. I was quite surprised to see on page 2 a listing of "Those eligible to use MWR facilities" that omitted the commissioned officers of both the US Public Health Service and NOAA. I direct your attention to Department of Defense Instruction Number 1015.10, July 6, 2009, Incorporating Change 1, May 6, 2011. On page 15 of this Instruction (as changed) is Table 1, which provides a listing of those groups which receive "Unlimited Use Authorized for All MWR Programs." As checked on the copy I have enclosed is the category of "Other uniformed service members and their family member." Under that heading is "Members of the Commissioned Corps of the United States Public Health Service and the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration on active duty." Following this is "Other Uniformed Military Service and other uniformed service [that means USPHS and NOAA, as they are the other uniformed services] retirees and their family members Retired from active duty."

I trust that this is as clear to you as it is to me. The commissioned corps officers of the USPHS and of NOAA comprise the "other" uniformed services of the United States. There are no other federal uniformed services. They are certainly included under this Instruction, as are their retirees. I point out that members of these two services receive military pay and benefits, including commissary and exchange privileges, as well as all benefits administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs. There are not so many of them that you need fear that they will overrun DoD MWR facilities, but I saw at least two of them shopping at Fort Belvoir yesterday, and I must wonder how they felt if they saw the same thing in *Belvoir Life* that I did.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Col. James T. Currie, USA (ret.)
Executive Director

DoD Instruction

Number 1015.10

July 6, 2009

12CORP. Ch 1, May 6, 2011

17.15

- a. Table 1 shows groups authorized unlimited use of all MWR programs.
- b. Table 2 shows groups authorized limited use of military MWR activities at the discretion of the installation commander. Commanders may open activities to these patrons based on local demand and capacity. Resale of food, state tax-free beverages, and tobacco products is restricted to amounts consumed on the premises and to convenience merchandise incidental to daily participation (such as golf tees). APF and NAF civilian personnel employed by MWR activities, and their family members, may purchase merchandise without restrictions from MWR resale activities (not exchanges).

DoDI 1015.10, July 6, 2009

Change 1, 05/06/2011 2 1 ENCLOSURE 4

Table 1. Unlimited Use Authorized for All MWR Programs

CATEGORY AUTHORIZED GROUP

Military Uniformed

Service members and
their family members

Members on active duty (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast
Guard).

Members of the Reserve Components (Ready Reserve and National Guard;
Reservists in training).

Cadets of Service Academies and U.S. Merchant Marine Cadets.

✓ Other uniformed service
members and their
family member

✓ Members of the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service and the
Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration on active duty.

Other Uniformed

Military Service *and*

other uniformed service

✓ retirees and their family
members

Retired from active duty.

Retired from the Reserve Components with pay and retired without pay (gray
area).

Others separated from
the Military Services and
their family members

Honorably discharged veterans with 100 percent Service-connected disability
and involuntarily separated Service members under the Transition Assistance
Management Program.

Medal of Honor recipients.

Former and/or surviving
spouses and family
members

Un-remarried surviving spouses of personnel who died while on active duty
or while in retired status.

Un-remarried former spouses who were married to Military Service members
for at least 20 years while the Service member was on active duty.

Surviving children of Service members who have not been adopted by new
parents and are under 21 years old (or over if they are incapable of supporting