



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
HEADQUARTERS, FORT BLISS  
1733 PLEASANTON ROAD  
FORT BLISS, TEXAS 79916-6816

**COMMAND POLICY**  
**A-6**

DEC 01 2009

AFBL-CG

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Motorcycle Safety Requirements Policy

1. REFERENCES:

- a. AR 385-10, The Army Safety Program, 23 Aug 07
- b. DODI 6055.4, DoD Traffic Safety Program, 20 Apr 09
- c. Fort Bliss Regulation 385-10, Ft Bliss Installation Safety Program, 20 Apr 09
- d. Fort Bliss 190-5, Motor Vehicle Traffic Supervision, 1 Oct 02.

2. PURPOSE: This policy outlines safety standards for operating motorcycles on and off the installation.

3. APPLICABILITY: This safety policy is applicable to all personnel operating motorcycles on the installation. All service members and on duty DOD civilians will comply with the safety constraints cited in this policy when operating motorcycles on and off the installation. Although adherence to the safety constraints cited in this policy is encouraged by all on and off the installation, this policy does not apply to off duty DOD civilians, non-DOD civilians, contractors, retirees, and dependents operating motorcycles off the installation.

4. Before operating any motorcycle, on or off the installation, Soldiers shall:

- a. Within 7 days of arrival to Fort Bliss or acquisition of a motorcycle, enroll in an approved Motorcycle Safety Foundation Course (MSF).
- b. Successfully complete an approved MSF course as outlined above.
- c. Execute a written motorcycle safety contract (see attachment) with their commander.
- d. Carry at all times while operating a motorcycle, the MSF card issued as proof of course completion.

e. Not wear portable headphones, earphones, or other listening devices is prohibited while operating a motorcycle. Motorcycle operators may wear motorcycle helmets equipped with operator-passenger intercom systems.

5. **MOTORCYCLE MANDATORY TRAINING:** Motorcycle training consists of Basic Rider Course (BRC), Experienced Rider Course (ERC), Military Sport Rider Course (MSRC), and the Motorcycle Refresher Training (MRT). Anyone (Soldiers, civilians, and Family Members) who operates a motorcycle on the installation will successfully complete a Motorcycle Safety Foundations approved motorcycle rider safety course. All training is provided on the installation at no cost to the motorcycle riders. Motorcycle Training for military members can be scheduled through the Installation's Army Traffic Safety Training Program (ATSTP) by contacting the Installation Safety Office. All military motorcycle riders will complete the progressive training described in the following paragraphs.

6. **MOTORCYCLE PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE):** Soldiers are required to comply with the following PPE requirements while either a motorcycle operator or passenger. At a minimum, Soldiers shall wear the following PPE whenever they ride or operate a motorcycle.

a. A Department of Transportation (DOT) approved motorcycle helmet properly fastened under the chin.

b. Full fingered gloves designed for use on a motorcycle.

c. Long sleeved shirt/jacket and long trousers.

d. Boots or sturdy over the ankle shoes. ACU canvas boots are acceptable.

e. Impact or shatter resistant goggles, wrap around glasses or full face shield attached to the helmet in the down position. Windshields, eyeglasses, and fairings do not meet this requirement. The goggles may be darkened for daylight use; however, they must be clear during the hours of darkness or adverse weather conditions.

f. A brightly colored (white, yellow, orange, silver, etc.) upper garment (vest or jacket) during the day and a reflective upper garment during dusk, dawn and at night. Outer garments will be properly secured, clearly visible, and not covered. Items may be worn on top of the outer garment, but they must meet the same visibility requirements of the outer garment. Brightly colored/reflective belts do not meet the upper garment or backpack requirement.

7. **MOTORCYCLE MENTORSHIP PROGRAM:** Commanders/Leaders will support and promote unit level motorcycle mentorship program including activities that reinforce positive training, mentoring, and riding. All commanders will:

a. Identify unit motorcycle riders and ensure face-to-face counseling (to include a brief on this policy) between first-line supervisors and Soldiers. Riders must be identified by type of motorcycle and assigned to appropriate mentor. Soldiers shall execute a written motorcycle safety contract with the commander.

b. Enforce motorcycle training requirements outlined in this policy letter. Commander/ISG will maintain a list of their Soldiers who have completed the motorcycle training and/or need the appropriate course.

c. Establish unit mentorship programs at brigade or battalion level. Select and appoint suitable mentors (both standard/cruiser and sport/sport touring motorcycles) to coach unit motorcycle riders. Each program will have a Senior Mentor to administer the program. Unit mentors will:

(1) Be an experienced rider (five years or more on the appropriate motorcycle type) and current motorcycle rider in good standing. Mentor should be mature and a leader.

(2) Complete the BRC and/or ERC. Sport bike mentors will complete the MSRC.

(3) Act as conduit of information to Soldiers for motorcycle safety education and awareness.

(4) Set the standard for responsible motorcycle riding.

(5) Mentor Soldiers in purchasing, riding, and maintaining their motorcycles.

(6) Monitor and evaluate Soldiers skill development and recommends appropriate training. Ensure Soldiers attend appropriate training.

(7) Track and inform the commander of Soldier riding progress and completed training.

(8) Organize and promote activities to enhance motorcycle safety by unit affiliation or riding events.

(9) Promote command objectives related to motorcycle safety.

8. Individual Responsibilities: Comply with installation, local, state, and Army motorcycle training, licensing, and operating requirements. The Motorcycle Safety Foundation card issued as proof of course completion shall be carried at all times while operating a motorcycle and be presented when entering the installation. Civilians, contractors, Family members, and visitors are required to show proof of motorcycle safety course completion in order to ride on the installation.

a. Use composite risk management in purchasing, riding, and maintaining motorcycles.

- b. Properly maintain and wear the appropriate PPE for both on and off post riding. Operators must ensure that passengers comply with PPE requirements. Anyone operating or riding a motorcycle on military installations must wear the required PPE.
- c. Support installation and unit motorcycle safety initiatives.
- d. Identify themselves to their chain of command at the time of assignment to the unit, or when planning to purchase a motorcycle.
- e. Seek out mentorship from skilled, responsible, and positive riders. **Demonstrate self discipline and defensive driving when operating a motorcycle. Recognize the inherently dangerous nature of motorcycles operation and do not join or participate in activities that contribute to high risk behavior.**

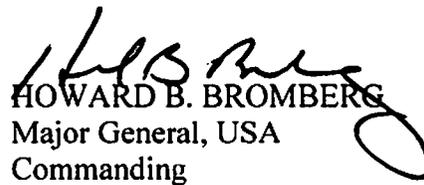
9. SPECIAL TRAINING: Commanders will ensure motorcycle operators are properly licensed and trained. Soldiers deployed six months or more and those who upgrade 400 cc or more or purchase "high boost" motorcycles, will attend refresher training conducted by qualified MSF instructors. Commanders' mentorship programs will include procedures for identifying operators that need refresher training. Soldiers returning from deployment of 6 months or more are not authorized to operate a motorcycle on or off the installation, except to commute to and from training sites, until they have completed the required refresher training.

10. The number of Soldier motorcycle riders continues to increase. Our current concerns over motorcycle operation will require the personal involvement of leaders at all levels and the personal discipline of motorcycle operators. Across the installation we must foster an environment for safe motorcycle operation. Together, we keep our Soldier safe.

11. PUNITIVE ORDER. Soldiers who fail to comply with the requirements of this policy are subject to adverse administrative action and/or punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).

12. EXPIRATION. This CG Command Policy Letter will remain in effect until superseded or rescinded. This policy will be permanently posted on unit bulletin boards and will be posted at each entry/exit gate. Point of contact for this policy is the Installation Safety Office at 915-568-7973.

2 Encls  
1. Information Paper  
2. Motorcycle Contract

  
HOWARD B. BROMBERG  
Major General, USA  
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:  
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### Motorcycle Safety Information Paper

**Basic Rider Course.** The BRC is the initial training for all motorcycle riders which provides basic motorcycle skills and prepares them for licensing procedures. A state licensed motorcycle operator who has passed the BRC is then permitted to register their motorcycle for up to 90 days on the installation.

**Experienced Rider Course.** The ERC is designed for riders who have successfully completed the BRC or for riders who possess basic riding skills, already licensed and frequently ride. Within 90 days of completing the BRC and obtaining a motorcycle operator's license, motorcycle riders WILL complete the ERC. Successful completing of the ERC will permit a rider to obtain a long term vehicle registration and access.

**Military Sport Bike Rider Course.** Motorcycle manufacturers categorize specific models as "Sport" and "Sport Touring" motorcycles. All military "Sport" and "Sport Touring" motorcycle riders will complete the MSRC as soon as possible after completing the BRC/ERC. Unit Commanders have the responsibility for tracking sport bike riders and the successful completion of their command directive. Sport Bike mentors will complete the MSRC.

MOTORCYCLE OPERATOR'S CONTRACT

I understand that I am a Soldier 24 hours a day and the following actions are required for me to operate a motorcycle on or off post:

I must register my motorcycle with the Installation Provost Marshal.

I must complete the required motorcycle safety courses.

My personal protective equipment (PPE) will consist of a Department of Transportation (DOT) approved helmet (properly fastened under the chin) with face shield or impact/shatter resistant goggles, full-fingered gloves or mittens designed for use on a motorcycle, a long sleeve shirt or jacket, long pants, boots or sturdy over the ankle shoes, and a brightly colored (white, yellow, orange, silver, etc.) upper garment (vest or jacket) during the day and a reflective upper garment during dusk/dawn and at night.

PPE also applies to any passenger.

No matter what the state law is, I will always wear a DOT approved helmet.

I understand that failure to comply with Army regulations could result in my loss of motorcycle driving privileges. If I am involved in a motorcycle accident and I have violated any of the military regulations governing motorcycles, I could be held liable for all medical costs that I incur. Additionally, if I violate any of the requirements and sustain fatal injuries, my survivors could be denied military benefits, including SGLI.

I will always operate my motorcycle in a safe and disciplined manner.

Make \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ Engine (cc displacement) \_\_\_\_\_

I am associated with the following motorcycle organization(s):

Name of organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address of organization \_\_\_\_\_

At any time I purchase a different (or additional) motorcycle or become associated with a motorcycle organization, I will update this contract with my chain of command (within 72 hours).

I understand that motorcycle organizations rules on operating a motorcycle or wearing of PPE do not take precedence over Army or Fort Bliss policies or regulations. Additionally, motorcycle organization rules do not relieve me from personal responsibility to operate a motorcycle safely and not to engage in dangerous activities on a motorcycle, both on or off post.

Operator Signature and Date \_\_\_\_\_

1SG Signature and Date \_\_\_\_\_

Commander Signature and Date \_\_\_\_\_