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TAG MEMORANDUM 04-12*

15 May 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR Commanders, New Jersey National Guard

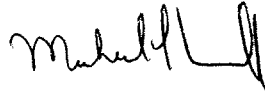
SUBJECT: Prohibited Relationships

1. References: AR 600-20, AFL 36-2909
2. Relationships between soldiers and airmen of different rank are prohibited if:
 - a. They compromise, or appear to compromise, the integrity of supervisory authority or the chain of command;
 - b. Cause actual or perceived partiality or unfairness;
 - c. Involve, or appear to involve, the improper use of rank or position for personal gain;
 - d. Are, or are perceived to be, exploitive or coercive in nature; or
 - e. Create an actual or clearly predictable adverse impact on discipline, authority, morale, or the ability of the command to accomplish the mission.
3. Certain types of personal relationships between officers and enlisted personnel are specifically prohibited, regardless of service branch and chain of command. Among these prohibited relations are dating, shared living accommodations other than those directed by operational requirements, and intimate or sexual relationships. The only exceptions to this prohibition are:
 - a. Preexisting marriages;
 - b. Non-compliance due to a change in status of one of the members (e.g. a case where two enlisted members are married and one of them is subsequently commissioned or selected as a warrant officer); and
 - c. Personal relationships that result from civilian acquaintanceships and not from military membership, unless the individuals are on active duty or FTNGD.

**This memorandum supersedes TAG Memorandum 5-05 dated 7 September 2005.*

4. Commanders will ensure that the excepted relationships listed above do not interfere with good order and discipline, training, readiness or personnel actions.

5. It is the responsibility of commanders and supervisors at all levels to ensure compliance with the applicable Army Regulation (AR 600-20) or Air Force Instruction (AFI 36-2909) through proper training and leadership by example. Commanders and supervisors at all levels have the authority and the responsibility to maintain good order, discipline and morale within their units. They may be held accountable for failing to act in appropriate cases. Should inappropriate relationships occur, commanders have a wide range of responses available to them. These include counseling, issuing a cease and desist order, reassignment, reprimand and/or other adverse action. Commanders must carefully consider all of the facts and circumstances in reaching a disposition that is warranted, appropriate and fair. Consult the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate for guidance and training in this area.



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