



READINESS AND FORCE
MANAGEMENT

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

JUL 30 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
(CIVILIAN PERSONNEL AND QUALITY OF LIFE)
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
(MILITARY MANPOWER AND PERSONNEL)
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
(FORCE MANAGEMENT INTEGRATION)

SUBJECT: Review of DoD Policies Concerning Farmers Markets on Military Installations

Installation commanders may authorize farmers markets on their installation as outlined in this memorandum. Farmers markets are defined by the Farmers Market Coalition as a recurrent assembly of farmers or their representatives, selling directly to consumers food which they have produced themselves. Farmers markets may be operated by the Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA), a Military Service morale, welfare, and recreation (MWR) program, a military exchange, or by a non-Federal entity. Farmers markets hosted on military installations must comply with all applicable merchandise, public health, and other DoD policies.

The DeCA may sell produce in a farmers market-like event as an extension of the commissary store, but only to authorized commissary patrons pursuant to DoD Instruction (DoDI) 1330.17, "Armed Services Commissary Operations." Others who have access to the installation (e.g., DoD civilian employees stationed in the U.S, contractors working on the installation, and guests, along with their families) are not authorized to purchase from a DeCA commissary store or DeCA operated farmers market-like concept.

A Military Service MWR program may sponsor a farmers market. DoD policy does not prohibit MWR involvement in farmers markets or similar programs that are provided for the general welfare and benefit of the installation community. Community programs like an MWR-sponsored farmers market, flea market or bazaar, could be open to the entire installation community including DoD civilians, contractors working on the installation, and guests, along with their families. The installation commander has the authority to approve such community programs.

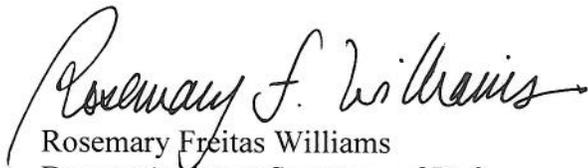
A military exchange may operate a farmers market for authorized patrons under very limited circumstances. Pursuant to DoDI 1330.21, "Armed Services Exchange Regulations," the Secretary of the Military Department involved may approve a military exchange service to operate a fresh meat or produce department only when no commissary store is available on the installation and when fresh meat and produce is not available within a reasonable distance.

The installation commander in certain circumstances may authorize a non-Federal entity to host a farmers market on the installation in accordance with DoDI 1000.15, "Procedures and Support for Non-Federal Entities Authorized to Operate on DoD Installations." The installation

commander must determine that the farmers market supplements but does not compete with appropriated or nonappropriated funded activities. Installation commanders also must exercise care to avoid the appearance of preferential treatment in the selection of participants for the farmers market.

A farmers market may not sell non-food items or patron services unless authorized by the military exchange service at that installation. Pursuant to DoDD 1330.09, "Armed Services Exchange Policy," the military exchange service shall be the primary resale on DoD installations for non-food merchandise or patron services. This primacy for resale authority extends to the use of any lawful means for selling merchandise or services.

For additional information, please contact Mr. Justin Hall, 703-588-0898.



Rosemary Freitas Williams
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
(Military Community and Family Policy)

cc:
Director, Defense Commissary Agency