



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON, DC

DAFI 31-126\_DAFGM 2024-01

9 October 2024

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION C  
MAJCOMs/FLDCOMs/FOAs/DRUs

FROM: AF/A4  
1030 Air Force Pentagon, Suite 4E154  
Washington DC 20330-1030

SUBJECT: Department of the Air Force Guidance Memorandum to AFI 31-126, DoD Military Working Dog (MWD) Program

By Order of the Secretary of the Air Force, this DAF Guidance Memorandum (DAFGM) implements the "Military Working Dog Welfare in 341st Training Squadron Kennel Facilities" and associated enclosures: Kennel Management Principles and Kennel Management Procedures, and re-designates AFI 31-126, *DoD Military Working Dog (MWD) Program* as Department of the Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 31-126, *DoD Military Working Dog (MWD) Program*.

Unless otherwise noted, the guidance and procedures outlined in this instruction apply to all Air Force, Space Force, Army, Navy, and Marine Corps units, DoD Agencies, and DoD Law Enforcement Organizations with a military or contract working dog requirement or supporting role within the United States, its territories and in foreign countries. To the extent its direction is inconsistent with other DAF publications, the information herein prevails in accordance with Department of the Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 90-160, *Publications and Forms Management* and Department of the Air Force Manual (DAFMAN) 90-161, *Publishing Processes and Procedures*.

Ensure all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this DAGM are maintained in accordance with AFI 33-322, *Records Management and Information Governance Program*, and disposed of in accordance with the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule located in the Air Force Records Management System. This memorandum becomes void after one year has elapsed from the date of this memorandum or upon publishing of an interim change, rewrite of DAFI 31-126, or replacement, whichever is earlier.

TOM D. MILLER  
Lieutenant General, USAF  
DCS/Logistics, Engineering & Force Protection

Attachment:  
Guidance Changes



**DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY**  
7700 ARLINGTON BOULEVARD, SUITE 5101  
FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA 22042-5101

February 17, 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR: Program Manager, Department of Defense Executive Agent, Military Working Dog Program

SUBJECT: Military Working Dog Welfare in 341<sup>st</sup> Training Squadron Kennel Facilities

In accordance with Department of Defense (DoD) Directive (DoDD) 5136.01, *Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs (ASD(HA))*, the ASD(HA) exercises authority, direction, and control over the DoD medical and dental programs and develops policies, procedures, and standards that govern the management of DoD health and medical programs, inclusive of DoD veterinary services. DoDD 6400.04E, *DoD Veterinary Public and Animal Health Services* includes the responsibility to advocate for and provide consultation for animal welfare on DoD installations.

Army Regulation 40-905/Secretary of the Navy Instruction 6401.1B/AFI 48-131, *Veterinary Health Services* requires commanders of major DoD commands and installations to support and give command emphasis to programs that protect and maintain the health and welfare of DoD-owned animals.

This memo provides guidance to be implemented in the support of Military Working Dog (MWD) welfare in the 341<sup>st</sup> Training Squadron kennel environment. MWD wellness and wellbeing must be adequately addressed to support the mission effectiveness of the MWD, as part of the MWD team.

Code of Federal Regulations, Title 9, Chapter 1, Subchapter A, *Animal Welfare*, Part 3, Subpart A, *Specifications for the Humane Handling, Care, Treatment, and Transportation of Dogs and Cats* sets standards for MWD housing facilities and husbandry. This is the benchmark for welfare for all working dogs housed in the 341<sup>st</sup> Training Squadron (TRS) kennel environment.

The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) functions as a medical authority for the health and welfare of animals, setting industry standards. The AVMA policy, *Animal Welfare Principles*, AVMA animal welfare principles | American Veterinary Medical Association, offers eight principles for developing and evaluating animal welfare policies, resolutions, and actions. In addition, the *Companion Animal Care Guidelines* policy, Companion animal care guidelines | American Veterinary Medical Association (avma.org), provides guidelines for proper care and humane treatment of animals, including procedures for personnel, animal husbandry, housing environment, and sanitation.

Enclosures 1 and 2 expand on the requirements in the above-mentioned references in order to meet MWD-specific welfare needs at the 341<sup>st</sup> TRS.

The Joint doctrine, organization, training, materiel, leadership and education, personnel, facilities, and policy (DOTmLPE-P) Change Recommendation (DCR) for DoD Working Dog Enterprise Management, approved by the Joint Requirements Oversight Council (JROC) in

JROC Memorandum 051-22, identifies multiple recommendations to address MWD welfare in the kennel environment and specifically prioritizes recommendation #7 within the DCR to conduct a manpower study of 341st TRS and DoD MWD Veterinary Service to determine the appropriate number, type, and allocation of DoD WD trainers, caretakers, and veterinary personnel. Additionally, DCR recommendation #31 describes development of a DoD Manual that provides DoD-wide kennel design, inspection, maintenance, sustainment, restoration, and modernization guidance. The references and recommendations described in this memorandum can guide development of the DoD Manual to identify uniform procedures for managing MWD health and welfare in DoD kennel environments.

CROSLAND.TELITA.1017383040  
ITA.1017383040

Digitally signed by  
CROSLAND.TELITA.1017383040  
Date: 2023.02.17 18:19:00 -05'00'

TELITA CROSLAND  
LTG, USA  
Director

#### Enclosures

1. Kennel Management Principles
2. Kennel Management Procedures

## Kennel Management Principles

1. Kennel management procedures must support MWD welfare, which, as defined by the AVMA<sup>1</sup>, provides for an animal's physical and mental needs. Humans are responsible for ensuring animal welfare, including providing for their wellness and wellbeing. Wellness encompasses the prevention and management of disease within the physical body of the MWD, including reducing risk factors for disease. Wellbeing deals with actions that meet an MWD's physical, social, cognitive, and species-specific needs. Wellbeing includes elements such as kennel management practices, effects of human interactions, and provisions to ensure MWD comfort and psychological health.
2. MWDs will be treated with dignity and respect throughout their lives and be cared for in ways that minimize fear, pain, stress, and suffering. In order to achieve these standards, the 341<sup>st</sup> personnel will:
  - a. Provide a safe environment.
  - b. Ensure predictable and consistent human-MWD interactions.
  - c. Understand canine-specific behaviors, communication, and body language.
  - d. Be able to recognize welfare indicators.
  - e. Report issues or abnormalities.
3. These provisions result in the reduction of undesirable behaviors, lost medical days, and early termination from service. While the psychological and emotional effects of unmet basic needs are not always intuitive, there are observable and measurable physical or behavioral welfare indicators. These indicators manifest in the form of abnormal, inappropriate, or nuisance behavioral problems. Examples of these welfare indicators include:
  - a. Stimulus-driven and non-stimulus-driven inappropriate vocalization (e.g., barking)
  - b. Stereotypic inappropriate repetitive behavior (e.g., pacing, circling, spinning, bouncing, and backflips)
  - c. Inappropriate interaction with the kennel environment (e.g., chewing fencing, chewing beds, and flipping water buckets).
  - d. Self-injury or trauma from inappropriate behavior or kennel activity (e.g., tail tip trauma).
  - e. Medical sequelae from chronic stress (e.g., diarrhea or skin issues).
  - f. Gear-directed or human-directed aggression.
  - g. Performance failure.
4. Policy and procedures developed to support MWD welfare must be continually evaluated and revised, when indicated. Additionally, periodic assessments will be conducted and documented to monitor program effectiveness.

---

<sup>1</sup> Animal welfare: What is it? | American Veterinary Medical Association (avma.org)

## **Kennel Management Procedures**

1. For the purposes of this document, kennel management procedures will be categorized into personnel, animal husbandry, housing environment, and sanitation procedures. Transportation standards for MWDs are located in Title 9, Chapter 1, Subchapter A, Part 3 sections 14-20.
2. Personnel Procedures
  - a. In addition to the requirements in Title 9, Chapter 1, Subchapter A, Part 3.12, all personnel responsible for the management, training, and care of MWDs will be screened, selected, and trained to ensure appropriate performance of their duties. Training will address animal and human safety, appropriate handling procedures, utilization of basic commands, recognition of signs of stress and MWD communication tools (e.g., fidgeting, avoidance, freezing, and vocalization/growling). Appropriate responses to MWD communication tools must be used to de-escalate situations where the MWD is not able to cooperate with the desired task(s). Inappropriate responses and unpredictable human behavior can lead to escalation of stress and result in aggressive MWD communication or behavior.
  - b. Personnel must be able to recognize early and subtle signs of pain, injury, and disease and provide immediate stabilization care for a painful, injured, or sick MWD.
  - c. Handling, management, and safety measures shall be adhered to. Utilizing basic commands and consistent and predictable movements during management practices including feeding, watering, kennel sanitation, grooming, and placing of gear prevent fear and distress.
    - i. When placing gear, personnel will not lean over the MWD (whether straddling or standing beside) or corner them in the kennel run; instead, the MWD must be allowed to approach.
    - ii. All MWDs will be acclimated to loose-leash walking techniques, and these techniques shall be used with all on-leash activities. Jerking on the leash, dragging an MWD, or lifting an MWD off its front legs are prohibited techniques, regardless of the stage of acclimation.
3. Animal husbandry
  - a. Feeding
    - i. MWDs are fed a standardized, commercially available diet that meets the specifications as determined by the U.S. Army Veterinary Service as described in Army Regulation 40-905/Secretary of the Navy Instruction 6401.1B/AFI 48-131, *Veterinary Health Services*. The appetite of each MWD will be recorded at every

meal, and any abnormalities, including reluctance to eat in the presence or absence of humans, shall be reported to veterinary personnel.

- ii. In addition to the requirements in Title 9, Chapter 1, Subchapter A, Part 3.9, food will be provided in a clean food pan or approved enrichment feeding device. Food must not be tossed or scattered in the kennel run or on the floor. Restricting food as a punishment or used negatively (e.g., teasing, or dietary deprivation) to manipulate MWD behavior is prohibited. Food can be used as a reward during husbandry practices.
- iii. MWDs will be conditioned to a structured process (e.g., “house” command or being asked to move to a designated place in the kennel run) during feeding to avoid stress or conflict.

#### b. Provision of water

- i. MWDs shall always have free-choice access to clean water when in their kennel run, as described in CFR Title 9, Chapter 1, Subchapter A, Part 3.10. Water intake must be monitored, and any abnormalities will be reported to veterinary personnel. This includes behavior that results in chewing or flipping the water bucket, which may result in the MWD not having access to water.
- ii. The MWD and kennel run must remain dry when refilling water. The pressure of the water hose will be at a level that prevents splashing or spraying outside of the water container.

### 4. MWD Environment

#### a. Kennel Facility

- i. CFR Title 9, Chapter 1, Subchapter A, Part 3, Sections 1, 3, 5 and 6 provide minimum requirements for sheltered and mobile housing facilities and primary enclosures (i.e. kennel run). MWDs shall have sheltered protection from adverse environmental elements. The sheltered part of sheltered housing facilities for MWDs must be sufficiently heated and cooled to protect the MWD from temperature or humidity extremes and to provide for their health and well-being. The ambient temperature must not fall below 45 °F (7.2 °C) for more than 4 consecutive hours and must not rise above 85 °F (29.5 °C) for more than 4 consecutive hours.
- ii. U.S. Air Force guidance is located in the Air Force MWD Standard Facility Design, Military Working Dog Kennel | WBDG - Whole Building Design Guide. This design guidance has been codified in Air Force Instruction 32-1023, *Designing and Constructing Military Construction Projects*.
- iii. A rest area that is elevated, not in contact with the floor, and conformable to the MWD’s body (e.g., sling bed) will be provided. Certain visual stimuli (e.g., high-traffic areas) may be stressful for some MWDs. Visual barriers that block

these stimuli ((e.g., solid construction for the lower half of the kennel run) may reduce MWD frustration or stress and will be utilized. Some natural visual stimuli (e.g., natural light, viewing the outdoors, or other MWDs) can reduce arousal, frustration, and fear and will be maintained.

#### b. Kennel Environment

- i. Human, environmental, and equipment noise must be minimized or mitigated. Mitigation for human noise includes situational awareness and careful handling of highly acoustic objects in and around the kennels. Conditioning the MWDs to quiet kennel behavior, use of sound panels, and locating the kennel away from the main garrison traffic are effective ways to mitigate environmental noise. If a piece of equipment requires the user to wear hearing protection, it is prohibited for use around MWDs.
- ii. Light - Lighting must be sufficient to illuminate the kennel area from ceiling to floor, allow for effective MWD monitoring, and provided at a duration and intensity that supports the natural circadian rhythm. Natural light is preferred to light from artificial sources.

#### c. Enrichment

- i. An MWD's physical, social, and cognitive needs must be met every day through enrichment. Rotation of the type of enrichment provided from each category shall be done to maintain novelty and engagement.
- ii. The MWD must voluntarily interact with the enrichment for it to result in improved physical and psychological health.
- iii. Physical Enrichment – In addition to the requirements in Title 9, Chapter 1, Subchapter A, *Animal Welfare*, Part 3, MWDs will be provided with five hours a day of structured, safe, and varied physical activity. Any physical activity during training and/or utilization helps fulfill this requirement. All remaining physical activity must be accumulated outside of training and/or utilization. Examples of appropriate physical activity include intentional play time (with people, dogs, or approved tactile enrichment), exploration of their environment during walks (enrichment walks), purposeful locomotion activities such as walking, running, retrieving, or machine-guided movement (e.g., treadmill or automated walker).
- iv. Social Interaction Enrichment - Dogs are a social species, and they require physical and visual access to companions, including humans and other dogs. Any social interaction during training, utilization, physical activity, or cognitive engagement helps fulfill this requirement. If social interaction is not a part of these activities, the MWD must receive dedicated social interaction. Examples of appropriate human social interaction include positive interactions during physical activity, play, and grooming. Examples of appropriate canine social interactions

include visual access to other MWDs and allowing proximity to other MWDs (e.g., during training or physical activity).

- v. Cognitive engagement enrichment – MWDs require cognitive stimulation to encourage creativity and learning. Any cognitive engagement during training, utilization, or physical activity helps fulfill this requirement. If cognitive engagement is not a part of these activities, the MWD must receive dedicated cognitive engagement. Examples of appropriate cognitive engagement include training sessions for husbandry tasks, puzzle games, foraging opportunities, and food-releasing devices.
- vi. Sensory stimulation enrichment - Sensory enrichment will be performed at a frequency of two to three times a week or more frequently to supplement daily needs where welfare indicators are present or medical status restricts physical activity. Kenneled MWDs that cannot control their environment require the addition of a variety of opportunities that stimulate one or more of the senses (sight, sound, smell, pheromone, touch, and taste). Any dedicated sensory stimulation during training, utilization, physical activity, sensory stimulation, or cognitive engagement helps fulfill this requirement. Examples of appropriate sensory stimulation include:
  - a. Sight - natural daylight, bubble blowers, and observing other MWD and human activities.
  - b. Sound - calming music or sound (some classical music, books on tape, real-time talking or reading to them).
  - c. Smell and taste - scent stations, food rewards, and food games.
  - d. Touch - ball play, grooming, and digging opportunities.

## 5. Sanitation

- a. Required cleaning, sanitation, and pest management practices are described in the CFR Title 9, Chapter 1, Subchapter A, Part 3.11 and AVMA references noted above as well as applicable DoD references.
- b. Scare-tactics are prohibited during cleaning. Spraying an MWD or using any physical object (e.g., squeegee) to interact with the MWD is prohibited. Objects must not be used to make an MWD back away when entering the kennel run or to get an MWD to go into their house.
- c. Hygiene - MWDs will be bathed at a frequency to prevent the obvious visual presence of dirt, urine, or feces on their bodies. MWDs will be groomed at a frequency to maintain an appropriate haircoat and prevent matting. The frequency of bathing and grooming will vary between MWDs. Each MWD will be assessed to determine the appropriate frequency of bathing and grooming required to meet these requirements.





DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON, DC

AFI 31-126 DAFGM 2023-01

29 November 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION C  
MAJCOMs/FLDCOMs/FOAs/DRUs

FROM: AF/A4  
1030 Air Force Pentagon, Suite 4E154  
Washington DC 20330-1030

SUBJECT: Department of the Air Force Guidance Memorandum to AFI 31-126, DoD Military Working Dog (MWD) Program

By Order of the Secretary of the Air Force, this DAF Guidance Memorandum (DAFGM) implements the "Military Working Dog Welfare in 341st Training Squadron Kennel Facilities" and associated enclosures: Kennel Management Principles and Kennel Management Procedures, and re-designates AFI 31-126, *DoD Military Working Dog (MWD) Program* as Department of the Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 31-126, *DoD Military Working Dog (MWD) Program*.

Unless otherwise noted, the guidance and procedures outlined in this instruction apply to all Air Force, Space Force, Army, Navy, and Marine Corps units, DoD Agencies, and DoD Law Enforcement Organizations with a military or contract working dog requirement or supporting role within the United States, its territories and in foreign countries. To the extent its direction is inconsistent with other DAF publications, the information herein prevails in accordance with Department of the Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 90-160, *Publications and Forms Management* and Department of the Air Force Manual (DAFMAN) 90-161, *Publishing Processes and Procedures*.

Ensure all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this DAGM are maintained in accordance with AFI 33-322, *Records Management and Information Governance Program*, and disposed of in accordance with the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule located in the Air Force Records Management System. This memorandum becomes void after one year has elapsed from the date of this memorandum or upon publishing of an interim change, rewrite of DAFI 31-126, or replacement, whichever is earlier.

TOM D. MILLER  
Lieutenant General, USAF  
DCS/Logistics, Engineering & Force Protection

Attachment:  
Guidance Changes



**DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY**  
7700 ARLINGTON BOULEVARD, SUITE 5101  
FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA 22042-5101

February 17, 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR: Program Manager, Department of Defense Executive Agent, Military Working Dog Program

SUBJECT: Military Working Dog Welfare in 341<sup>st</sup> Training Squadron Kennel Facilities

In accordance with Department of Defense (DoD) Directive (DoDD) 5136.01, *Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs (ASD(HA))*, the ASD(HA) exercises authority, direction, and control over the DoD medical and dental programs and develops policies, procedures, and standards that govern the management of DoD health and medical programs, inclusive of DoD veterinary services. DoDD 6400.04E, *DoD Veterinary Public and Animal Health Services* includes the responsibility to advocate for and provide consultation for animal welfare on DoD installations.

Army Regulation 40-905/Secretary of the Navy Instruction 6401.1B/AFI 48-131, *Veterinary Health Services* requires commanders of major DoD commands and installations to support and give command emphasis to programs that protect and maintain the health and welfare of DoD-owned animals.

This memo provides guidance to be implemented in the support of Military Working Dog (MWD) welfare in the 341<sup>st</sup> Training Squadron kennel environment. MWD wellness and wellbeing must be adequately addressed to support the mission effectiveness of the MWD, as part of the MWD team.

Code of Federal Regulations, Title 9, Chapter 1, Subchapter A, *Animal Welfare*, Part 3, Subpart A, *Specifications for the Humane Handling, Care, Treatment, and Transportation of Dogs and Cats* sets standards for MWD housing facilities and husbandry. This is the benchmark for welfare for all working dogs housed in the 341<sup>st</sup> Training Squadron (TRS) kennel environment.

The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) functions as a medical authority for the health and welfare of animals, setting industry standards. The AVMA policy, *Animal Welfare Principles*, AVMA animal welfare principles | American Veterinary Medical Association, offers eight principles for developing and evaluating animal welfare policies, resolutions, and actions. In addition, the *Companion Animal Care Guidelines* policy, Companion animal care guidelines | American Veterinary Medical Association (avma.org), provides guidelines for proper care and humane treatment of animals, including procedures for personnel, animal husbandry, housing environment, and sanitation.

Enclosures 1 and 2 expand on the requirements in the above-mentioned references in order to meet MWD-specific welfare needs at the 341<sup>st</sup> TRS.

The Joint doctrine, organization, training, materiel, leadership and education, personnel, facilities, and policy (DOTmLPP-P) Change Recommendation (DCR) for DoD Working Dog Enterprise Management, approved by the Joint Requirements Oversight Council (JROC) in

JROC Memorandum 051-22, identifies multiple recommendations to address MWD welfare in the kennel environment and specifically prioritizes recommendation #7 within the DCR to conduct a manpower study of 341st TRS and DoD MWD Veterinary Service to determine the appropriate number, type, and allocation of DoD WD trainers, caretakers, and veterinary personnel. Additionally, DCR recommendation #31 describes development of a DoD Manual that provides DoD-wide kennel design, inspection, maintenance, sustainment, restoration, and modernization guidance. The references and recommendations described in this memorandum can guide development of the DoD Manual to identify uniform procedures for managing MWD health and welfare in DoD kennel environments.

CROSLAND.TELITA.1017383040  
ITA.1017383040

Digitally signed by  
CROSLAND.TELITA.1017383040  
Date: 2023.02.17 18:19:00 -05'00'

TELITA CROSLAND  
LTG, USA  
Director

#### Enclosures

1. Kennel Management Principles
2. Kennel Management Procedures

## **Kennel Management Principles**

1. Kennel management procedures must support MWD welfare, which, as defined by the AVMA<sup>1</sup>, provides for an animal's physical and mental needs. Humans are responsible for ensuring animal welfare, including providing for their wellness and wellbeing. Wellness encompasses the prevention and management of disease within the physical body of the MWD, including reducing risk factors for disease. Wellbeing deals with actions that meet an MWD's physical, social, cognitive, and species-specific needs. Wellbeing includes elements such as kennel management practices, effects of human interactions, and provisions to ensure MWD comfort and psychological health.
2. MWDs will be treated with dignity and respect throughout their lives and be cared for in ways that minimize fear, pain, stress, and suffering. In order to achieve these standards, the 341<sup>st</sup> personnel will:
  - a. Provide a safe environment.
  - b. Ensure predictable and consistent human-MWD interactions.
  - c. Understand canine-specific behaviors, communication, and body language.
  - d. Be able to recognize welfare indicators.
  - e. Report issues or abnormalities.
3. These provisions result in the reduction of undesirable behaviors, lost medical days, and early termination from service. While the psychological and emotional effects of unmet basic needs are not always intuitive, there are observable and measurable physical or behavioral welfare indicators. These indicators manifest in the form of abnormal, inappropriate, or nuisance behavioral problems. Examples of these welfare indicators include:
  - a. Stimulus-driven and non-stimulus-driven inappropriate vocalization (e.g., barking)
  - b. Stereotypic inappropriate repetitive behavior (e.g., pacing, circling, spinning, bouncing, and backflips)
  - c. Inappropriate interaction with the kennel environment (e.g., chewing fencing, chewing beds, and flipping water buckets).
  - d. Self-injury or trauma from inappropriate behavior or kennel activity (e.g., tail tip trauma).
  - e. Medical sequelae from chronic stress (e.g., diarrhea or skin issues).
  - f. Gear-directed or human-directed aggression.
  - g. Performance failure.
4. Policy and procedures developed to support MWD welfare must be continually evaluated and revised, when indicated. Additionally, periodic assessments will be conducted and documented to monitor program effectiveness.

---

<sup>1</sup> Animal welfare: What is it? | American Veterinary Medical Association (avma.org)

## **Kennel Management Procedures**

1. For the purposes of this document, kennel management procedures will be categorized into personnel, animal husbandry, housing environment, and sanitation procedures. Transportation standards for MWDs are located in Title 9, Chapter 1, Subchapter A, Part 3 sections 14-20.
2. Personnel Procedures
  - a. In addition to the requirements in Title 9, Chapter 1, Subchapter A, Part 3.12, all personnel responsible for the management, training, and care of MWDs will be screened, selected, and trained to ensure appropriate performance of their duties. Training will address animal and human safety, appropriate handling procedures, utilization of basic commands, recognition of signs of stress and MWD communication tools (e.g., fidgeting, avoidance, freezing, and vocalization/growling). Appropriate responses to MWD communication tools must be used to de-escalate situations where the MWD is not able to cooperate with the desired task(s). Inappropriate responses and unpredictable human behavior can lead to escalation of stress and result in aggressive MWD communication or behavior.
  - b. Personnel must be able to recognize early and subtle signs of pain, injury, and disease and provide immediate stabilization care for a painful, injured, or sick MWD.
  - c. Handling, management, and safety measures shall be adhered to. Utilizing basic commands and consistent and predictable movements during management practices including feeding, watering, kennel sanitation, grooming, and placing of gear prevent fear and distress.
    - i. When placing gear, personnel will not lean over the MWD (whether straddling or standing beside) or corner them in the kennel run; instead, the MWD must be allowed to approach.
    - ii. All MWDs will be acclimated to loose-leash walking techniques, and these techniques shall be used with all on-leash activities. Jerking on the leash, dragging an MWD, or lifting an MWD off its front legs are prohibited techniques, regardless of the stage of acclimation.
3. Animal husbandry
  - a. Feeding
    - i. MWDs are fed a standardized, commercially available diet that meets the specifications as determined by the U.S. Army Veterinary Service as described in Army Regulation 40-905/Secretary of the Navy Instruction 6401.1B/AFI 48-131, *Veterinary Health Services*. The appetite of each MWD will be recorded at every

meal, and any abnormalities, including reluctance to eat in the presence or absence of humans, shall be reported to veterinary personnel.

- ii. In addition to the requirements in Title 9, Chapter 1, Subchapter A, Part 3.9, food will be provided in a clean food pan or approved enrichment feeding device. Food must not be tossed or scattered in the kennel run or on the floor. Restricting food as a punishment or used negatively (e.g., teasing, or dietary deprivation) to manipulate MWD behavior is prohibited. Food can be used as a reward during husbandry practices.
- iii. MWDs will be conditioned to a structured process (e.g., “house” command or being asked to move to a designated place in the kennel run) during feeding to avoid stress or conflict.

#### b. Provision of water

- i. MWDs shall always have free-choice access to clean water when in their kennel run, as described in CFR Title 9, Chapter 1, Subchapter A, Part 3.10. Water intake must be monitored, and any abnormalities will be reported to veterinary personnel. This includes behavior that results in chewing or flipping the water bucket, which may result in the MWD not having access to water.
- ii. The MWD and kennel run must remain dry when refilling water. The pressure of the water hose will be at a level that prevents splashing or spraying outside of the water container.

### 4. MWD Environment

#### a. Kennel Facility

- i. CFR Title 9, Chapter 1, Subchapter A, Part 3, Sections 1, 3, 5 and 6 provide minimum requirements for sheltered and mobile housing facilities and primary enclosures (i.e. kennel run). MWDs shall have sheltered protection from adverse environmental elements. The sheltered part of sheltered housing facilities for MWDs must be sufficiently heated and cooled to protect the MWD from temperature or humidity extremes and to provide for their health and well-being. The ambient temperature must not fall below 45 °F (7.2 °C) for more than 4 consecutive hours and must not rise above 85 °F (29.5 °C) for more than 4 consecutive hours.
- ii. U.S. Air Force guidance is located in the Air Force MWD Standard Facility Design, Military Working Dog Kennel | WBDG - Whole Building Design Guide. This design guidance has been codified in Air Force Instruction 32-1023, *Designing and Constructing Military Construction Projects*.
- iii. A rest area that is elevated, not in contact with the floor, and conformable to the MWD’s body (e.g., sling bed) will be provided. Certain visual stimuli (e.g., high-traffic areas) may be stressful for some MWDs. Visual barriers that block

these stimuli ((e.g., solid construction for the lower half of the kennel run) may reduce MWD frustration or stress and will be utilized. Some natural visual stimuli (e.g., natural light, viewing the outdoors, or other MWDs) can reduce arousal, frustration, and fear and will be maintained.

#### b. Kennel Environment

- i. Human, environmental, and equipment noise must be minimized or mitigated. Mitigation for human noise includes situational awareness and careful handling of highly acoustic objects in and around the kennels. Conditioning the MWDs to quiet kennel behavior, use of sound panels, and locating the kennel away from the main garrison traffic are effective ways to mitigate environmental noise. If a piece of equipment requires the user to wear hearing protection, it is prohibited for use around MWDs.
- ii. Light - Lighting must be sufficient to illuminate the kennel area from ceiling to floor, allow for effective MWD monitoring, and provided at a duration and intensity that supports the natural circadian rhythm. Natural light is preferred to light from artificial sources.

#### c. Enrichment

- i. An MWD's physical, social, and cognitive needs must be met every day through enrichment. Rotation of the type of enrichment provided from each category shall be done to maintain novelty and engagement.
- ii. The MWD must voluntarily interact with the enrichment for it to result in improved physical and psychological health.
- iii. Physical Enrichment – In addition to the requirements in Title 9, Chapter 1, Subchapter A, *Animal Welfare*, Part 3, MWDs will be provided with five hours a day of structured, safe, and varied physical activity. Any physical activity during training and/or utilization helps fulfill this requirement. All remaining physical activity must be accumulated outside of training and/or utilization. Examples of appropriate physical activity include intentional play time (with people, dogs, or approved tactile enrichment), exploration of their environment during walks (enrichment walks), purposeful locomotion activities such as walking, running, retrieving, or machine-guided movement (e.g., treadmill or automated walker).
- iv. Social Interaction Enrichment - Dogs are a social species, and they require physical and visual access to companions, including humans and other dogs. Any social interaction during training, utilization, physical activity, or cognitive engagement helps fulfill this requirement. If social interaction is not a part of these activities, the MWD must receive dedicated social interaction. Examples of appropriate human social interaction include positive interactions during physical activity, play, and grooming. Examples of appropriate canine social interactions

include visual access to other MWDs and allowing proximity to other MWDs (e.g., during training or physical activity).

- v. Cognitive engagement enrichment – MWDs require cognitive stimulation to encourage creativity and learning. Any cognitive engagement during training, utilization, or physical activity helps fulfill this requirement. If cognitive engagement is not a part of these activities, the MWD must receive dedicated cognitive engagement. Examples of appropriate cognitive engagement include training sessions for husbandry tasks, puzzle games, foraging opportunities, and food-releasing devices.
- vi. Sensory stimulation enrichment - Sensory enrichment will be performed at a frequency of two to three times a week or more frequently to supplement daily needs where welfare indicators are present or medical status restricts physical activity. Kennelled MWDs that cannot control their environment require the addition of a variety of opportunities that stimulate one or more of the senses (sight, sound, smell, pheromone, touch, and taste). Any dedicated sensory stimulation during training, utilization, physical activity, sensory stimulation, or cognitive engagement helps fulfill this requirement. Examples of appropriate sensory stimulation include:
  - a. Sight - natural daylight, bubble blowers, and observing other MWD and human activities.
  - b. Sound - calming music or sound (some classical music, books on tape, real-time talking or reading to them).
  - c. Smell and taste - scent stations, food rewards, and food games.
  - d. Touch - ball play, grooming, and digging opportunities.

## 5. Sanitation

- a. Required cleaning, sanitation, and pest management practices are described in the CFR Title 9, Chapter 1, Subchapter A, Part 3.11 and AVMA references noted above as well as applicable DoD references.
- b. Scare-tactics are prohibited during cleaning. Spraying an MWD or using any physical object (e.g., squeegee) to interact with the MWD is prohibited. Objects must not be used to make an MWD back away when entering the kennel run or to get an MWD to go into their house.
- c. Hygiene - MWDs will be bathed at a frequency to prevent the obvious visual presence of dirt, urine, or feces on their bodies. MWDs will be groomed at a frequency to maintain an appropriate haircoat and prevent matting. The frequency of bathing and grooming will vary between MWDs. Each MWD will be assessed to determine the appropriate frequency of bathing and grooming required to meet these requirements.



**BY ORDER OF THE  
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE,  
ARMY AND NAVY**



**AIR FORCE INSTRUCTION**

**31-126,**

**ARMY REGULATION 700-81,  
OPNAVINST 5585.3B, MCO 5585.6,  
Distribution: PCN 102 08621200**

**17 JANUARY 2019**

**Security**

**DOD MILITARY WORKING DOG  
(MWD) PROGRAM**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

---

**ACCESSIBILITY:** Publications and forms are available on the e-Publishing website at [www.e-Publishing.af.mil](http://www.e-Publishing.af.mil) for downloading or ordering.

**RELEASABILITY:** There are no releasability restrictions on this publication.

---

OPR: AF/A4SX

Certified by: AF/A4S,  
(Brig Gen Andrea D. Tullos)

Supersedes: AFI 31-126,  
28 February 2017

Pages: 29

---

This instruction implements Air Force Policy Directive (AFPD) 31-1, *Integrated Defense*, and DoD Directive 5200.31E, *DoD Military Working Dog (MWD) Program*, and establishes procedures governing the logistics aspect of the DoD MWD Program. It assigns responsibilities for operating, budgeting, funding, accounting, procuring, distributing, redistributing and reporting of dogs and procedures to follow in submitting dog requirements and requisitions. Unless otherwise noted, the guidance and procedures outlined in this instruction apply to all active Air Force, Army, Navy, Marine Corps and DoD Civilian Police agencies as appropriate within the United States, its territories and in foreign countries. Additionally, this Inter-Service/Multi-Service Instruction applies to each Service's Reserves, National Guard, Government owned-contractor operated facilities, direct reporting units (DRUs) and field operating agencies (FOA) not located on DoD installations and any other federal agency electing to participate in the DoD MWD program. Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) using the AF Form 847, Recommendation for Change of Publication; route AF Forms 847 from the field through the appropriate functional chain of command. Any organization may supplement this instruction. Major commands (MAJCOM), FOAs and DRUs send a draft copy of their proposed supplement to AF/A4S for coordination prior

to approval; other commands send one copy of each supplement to the next higher headquarters. This instruction applies to all Air Force active military personnel and civilians, contractor employees in the performance of their duties to an Air Force contract, the Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard and Civil Air Patrol when performing functions for the Air Force, and in accordance with (IAW) DoD 5100.03, Support of the Headquarters of Combatant and Subordinate Joint Commands. It also applies where the Air Force is the executive agent. Ensure all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with Air Force Manual 33-363, *Management of Records*, and disposed of in accordance with the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule located in the Air Force Records Information Management System. “The authorities to waive wing/unit level requirements in this publication are identified with a Tier (“T-0, T-1, T-2, T-3”) number following the compliance statement. See AFI 33-360, *Publications and Forms Management*, for a description of the authorities associated with the Tier numbers. Submit requests for waivers through the chain of command to the appropriate Tier waiver approval authority, or alternately, to the requestors commander for non-tiered compliance items.

### ***SUMMARY OF CHANGES***

This publication establishes policy for DoD personnel on the proper disposition of military working dogs, regardless of the method of procurement, in accordance with Title 10 U.S.C. § 2583, *Military Animals: Transfer and Adoption*. This publication provides mandated Congressional Changes in the adoption process for military working dogs as established in the National Defense Act of 2018. It also mandates Service MWD Program Managers (PMs) maintain accurate data in the DoD Working Dog Management System (WDMS), to include any non-traditional program dogs. Furthermore, this change relocates adoption forms to the WDMS library.

<b>AFI31-126 17 JANUARY 2019</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Chapter 1— GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE MWD PROGRAM</b>	<b>4</b>
1.1.    Responsibilities and Functions. ....	4
1.2.    Annual Trained Dog Requirements (TDR). ....	6
1.3.    US Secret Service Missions (USSS). ....	7
<b>Chapter 2— INSTRUCTIONS, PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR MWD                   PROCUREMENT AND MANAGEMENT</b>	<b>8</b>
2.1.    Requisitioning MWDs. ....	8
2.2.    Shipping/Transportation of MWDs. ....	8
2.3.    Procuring MWDs. ....	9
2.4.    DoD Owned/Contract Supported Working Dogs. ....	9
2.5.    Accountability. ....	11
2.6.    Nomenclatures and National Stock Numbers (NSN). ....	11
2.7.    Validation of 341 TRS Detector Dogs. ....	12
2.8.    Reporting of Worldwide Assets. ....	13
2.9.    Redistribution and Reporting of an Overage of Trained MWDs. ....	13
2.10.   MWDs that fail initial field evaluation. ....	14
2.11.   Euthanasia. ....	15
2.12.   Disposition of Trained, Failure to Qualify and Medically Eliminated MWDs. ....	16
2.13.   Local Training of Qualified Patrol and Detection MWDs. ....	19
2.14.   Inquiries Concerning Procurement. ....	19
2.15.   Deployment Categories and Deployment Medical Procedures for MWDs. ....	19
<b>Attachment 1— GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Attachment 2— BITE MUZZLE VIDEO EVALUATION PROGNOSIS KEY FOR                   VETERINARIANS, PROVOST MARSHALS/SECURITY FORCES                   COMMANDERS AND KENNEL MASTERS</b>	<b>28</b>

## Chapter 1

### GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE MWD PROGRAM

**1.1. Responsibilities and Functions.** DoD designated the Secretary of the Air Force (SecAF) to serve as the DoD Executive Agent (EA) for the MWD Program in DoD Directive (DoDD) 5200.31E, *DoD Military Working Dog Program*. In turn, the SecAF delegated those duties to Headquarters Air Force/Director of Security Forces (AF/A4S). The Air Force (AF) Director of Security Forces will act on the behalf of the SecAF as the EA.

1.1.1. The Director of Security Forces (SF) will appoint a DoD MWD PM to operate independently from the AF MWD Program. **(T-0)**

1.1.2. AF/A4S supports the DoD MWD PM. The DoD MWD PM manages the DoD MWD program, develops policy, and provides guidance to service component PMs, DoD Police Agencies, and the 341st Training Squadron (341 TRS). The DoD MWD PM will:

1.1.2.1. Manage the DoD MWD program for the EA. **(T-0)**

1.1.2.2. In accordance with DoDD 3025.13, *Employment of DoD Capabilities in Support of the U.S. Secret Service (USSS), Department of Homeland Security (DHS)*, coordinate with all program participants on the development of uniform procedures and standards. **(T-0)**

1.1.2.3. Provide management oversight to the development of required training programs for MWDs, instructors, and handlers. **(T-0)** This is inclusive of all DoD Civilian Law Enforcement (LE) agencies, conducting their canine programs under **Chapter 4** of the National Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST).

1.1.2.4. Develop standard MWD operational guidance and make such guidance available to the DoD Components and other federal agencies participating in the DoD MWD Program. **(T-0)**

1.1.2.5. Obtain current information from the MWD Component PMs regarding MWD authorizations and utilization to ensure the ready availability of MWD assets when needed. **(T-0)**

1.1.2.6. Develop servicing agreements with all participants, including federal agencies. **(T-0)**

1.1.2.7. Chair the Joint Service MWD Committee (JSMWDC). **(T-0)**

1.1.2.7.1. The primary purpose of the committee is to frame the joint DoD program. The committee is a unified team, representing the interests of the DoD. Each service PM will have an equal vote.

1.1.2.7.2. The JSMWDC will consist of a representative from each of the DoD Components and DoD civilian law enforcement agencies that use MWDs and the Director, DoD Veterinary Services Program. **(T-0)**

1.1.2.7.3. The JSMWDC will meet at least annually or at the call of the Chair. **(T-0)**

1.1.2.7.4. The JSMWDC will be codified by charter, created and maintained by the DoD MWD PM. **(T-0)**

1.1.2.7.5. The JSMWDC is a unified committee that will address operational, policy, technical, training and doctrinal issues relevant to the DoD MWD Program. Members will develop best practices by collaboratively assessing current and future tactical and strategic MWD requirements and initiatives. MWD requirements and initiatives, developing best practices. By direction of the Chairman, sub-working groups may be directed to research and define specific objectives and operational requirements.

1.1.3. The Department of the Air Force, as EA, is responsible for DoD procurement for the part of National Stock Class 8820 that pertains to MWDs and integrated material management responsibilities for all MWDs used by the DoD Components. Headquarters, United States Air Force, Directorate of Security Forces (AF/A4S) is assigned functional user management responsibility, and the 341 TRS. Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland (JBSA-Lackland), TX is assigned logistical management responsibilities.

1.1.3.1. Dog support equipment and supply items are available through supply channels within each service department or defense agency. Each DoD Component is responsible for procurement and funding their respective services MWD equipment. **(T-3)**

1.1.3.2. The 37th Training Wing, JBSA-Lackland, TX, is responsible for MWD commodity management, procurement and logistics support through the 341 TRS. In this capacity, the 341 TRS commander will:

1.1.3.2.1. Acquire, evaluate, receive and process prospective MWDs. **(T-1)**

1.1.3.2.2. Account for, determine requirements, control records, budget for, price, catalog and perform other related inventory management responsibilities. **(T-1)**

1.1.3.2.3. Maintain custody and care for MWDs under direct control of the 341 TRS. **(T-1)**

1.1.3.2.4. Maintain appropriate levels of dog supplies and equipment, such as dog gear, shipping crates and food to support the kennel population, as well as perform other support requirements. **(T-1)**

1.1.3.2.5. Receive, train and provide distribution of successfully evaluated and mission capable MWDs. 341 TRS is responsible for the shipment of dogs to using agencies by commercial and military air transportation. **(T-1)**

1.1.3.2.6. Provide disposition instructions to DoD components worldwide for the return, redistribution or other disposition of excess dogs. **(T-1)**

1.1.3.2.7. Maintain a central repository for all retired, adopted or deceased DoD dog records. **(T-0)**

1.1.3.2.8. Ensure, through veterinary support, newly acquired dogs meet health and physical standards and ensure proper nutritional, kenneling and sanitary needs are met. **(T-1)**

1.1.4. The Air Force through Air Force Installation and Support Center; Primary Subordinate (AFIMSC PSU) and Air Force Security Center (AFSFC), Army, Navy and Marine Corps will:

1.1.4.1. Establish a central point of contact or clearing unit to submit MWD procurement and replacement requirements to the 341 TRS.

1.1.4.2. Monitor and approve subordinate agencies' MWD requirements.

1.1.4.3. Report excess or overage in trained MWDs as indicated in **Paragraph 2.9**, on a quarterly basis to the DoD MWD PM.

1.1.4.4. The PM maintains a current prioritized list of MWD shortages by base. This list will be utilized when the Service point-of-contact responds to the 341 TRS on inquiries concerning distribution of available qualified MWDs.

1.1.4.5. The PM identifies minimum monthly/weekly/work-cycle substance detection utilization and proficiency training standards for service certified MWDs within individual service guidance.

1.1.5. The Air Force through AFIMSC PSU (AFSFC) will:

1.1.5.1. Serve as the Federal Working Dog sub-Category Management Lead. The scope of this assignment is limited to dogs performing patrol and detection missions; it does not include service dogs or dogs used for medical related activities.

1.1.5.2. Form a government-wide team to research and analyze each participating Agencies' working dog program requirements and industry/academia capabilities.

1.1.5.3. Develop courses of action to identify opportunities for more effective/efficient multi-agency sourcing strategies and opportunities to close gaps between current practices and government/industry/academia best practices.

1.1.5.4. Document all information in a Federal Working Dog Category Intelligence Report and submit it to the Federal Security and Protection Category Manager for signature. Review report annually and update as required.

**1.2. Annual Trained Dog Requirements (TDR).** The JSMWDC determines annual MWD requirements through the TDR process. The JSMWDC will convene a meeting in the third quarter of each fiscal year or as directed by the JSMWDC chair to review and confirm the TDR for the three years following the coming FY and identify any out-of-cycle requirements. The steady-state TDR is the required MWD production number to maintain an acceptable operational readiness to meet the needs of the services. MWD requirements are independent of student training quotas placed on the 341 TRS. Each Service's TDR may be modified based on dog trainer manpower commitment shortfalls throughout the FY. Manpower requirements generate from the Manpower Calculation Equation determine the numbers of service instructors required to meet the annual trained dog requirement. The Joint Services will ratify the results prior to implementation. This will be presented and ratified by the JSMWDC no earlier than 18-24 months prior to any proposed changes in manning. The manpower equation will be provided to Service MWD PMs and be placed on file at the 341 TRS.

1.2.1. Service Initiated Revision of TDR. The Service MWD PM can request an out-of-cycle increase in existing MWDs that will result in a revised service TDR for the current four year plan. Requests should be addressed in writing to the DoD MWD PM stating reasons for the TDR revision. Requests are reviewed on a case-by-case basis; however, these are kept to a minimum and used only to support unexpected urgent mission changes. **(T-1)**

1.2.2. 341 TRS Initiated Adjustment of TDR. Based on historical MWD training data, the EA in concert with Air Education Training Command and the JSMWDC shall compute the projected 341 TRS MWD Training Section requirement 18 to 24 months prior to the beginning

of each FY and in turn, forecast the manpower requirement for each service based on the agreed TDR. The service manning level established at the beginning of the FY will be the basis for computing manpower shortfalls during the remainder of the FY. The 341 TRS may adjust each Service's TDR based on semi-annual reviews of each service's trainer manpower support to the 341 TRS.

1.2.3. The DoD and service components will perform a needs assessment evaluating MWD requirements every three years. The assessment will address current and future capabilities, maintain continuity of operations, and project MWD requirements to support future combatant command (COCOM), Defense Support to Civil Authorities (DSCA), and inter-agency missions.

**1.3. US Secret Service Missions (USSS).** The DoD provides joint service support for Presidential and Vice Presidential Travel. Upon completion of all USSS missions prepare an after action report within five (5) days through their respective service PMs and provide to the Security Forces Operations Tasking Cell. The tasking cell will review forward to USSS Technical Support Division. After action reports will be reviewed to ensure continuity of operations, asses trends to identify and resolve and improve operational support.

## Chapter 2

### INSTRUCTIONS, PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR MWD PROCUREMENT AND MANAGEMENT

**2.1. Requisitioning MWDs.** Requisitions for MWDs are independent of student training quotas. Requisitions are filled on an equitable distribution basis. Each Service has a set number of MWDs they receive each year based on the steady-state TDR. The Service's MWD PM should distribute the MWDs to their units as needed.

2.1.1. Requests for an initial or increase in existing MWD authorization(s) should be forwarded by the Service MWD PM to the DoD MWD PM stating where (by installation/fleet command) each new authorization should be applied. The installation/fleet command will send the request to the service MWD PM, including the reason for the MWD request and any supporting documentation (e.g. service validation letter, mission change verification, etc.). **(T-0)** Service MWD PMs will validate the request against inter-agency manpower authorizations. **(T-0)** Funded manpower position(s) or billet(s) should be in place 90 days after the date the increase is submitted. If the request cannot be validated or does not meet manpower criteria, new authorization increases are not recognized and requisition(s) not entered. It is the responsibility of the Service MWD PM to validate all authorization increases using these criteria. A memorandum, signed by the first O-6 or civilian equivalent in the Service MWD PM's chain of command, stating all requirements of this paragraph have been met, must accompany each request for authorization increase. **(T-0)**

2.1.2. Each Service MWD PM should publish instructions relating to the establishment, validation and adjustment of MWD authorizations on military bases. The Service MWD PM will request TDR revisions IAW [Paragraph 1.2.1](#) **(T-0)**

2.1.3. Service PMs will ensure MWDs are used as long as they are physically and temperamentally fit to perform their duties. Service PMs will not identify MWDs as excess to requirements on the basis of age alone. **(T-1)**

**2.2. Shipping/Transportation of MWDs.** MWDs are shipped according to Defense Transportation Regulation (DTR) 4500.9-R, [Part I](#); Passenger Movement; DTR, [Part II](#), Cargo Routing and Movement, and Air Mobility Command Instruction (AMCI) 24-101, Vol. 11, Cargo and Mail. PMs returning MWDs to the 341 TRS, must coordinate all MWD transportation to JBSA-Lackland, TX with the 341 TRS Logistics Flight Freight Rate Specialist at [MWD.Transportation@us.af.mil](mailto:MWD.Transportation@us.af.mil). **(T-2)**

2.2.1. MWDs shipped Outside the Continental United States (OCONUS), from or to JBSA-Lackland, must be escorted by a person who has successfully completed a recognized DoD MWD handler course. **(T-2)** If an escort from JBSA-Lackland is not available, the appropriate Service MWD PM is notified and will be responsible for providing a qualified escort (at requesting service's expense) within 15 days of notification that a MWD is available.

2.2.2. MWDs shipped within the Continental United States (CONUS), may be shipped by commercial air without an escort; however, situations may dictate an escort is required at the discretion of the 341 TRS (e.g., live animal embargo due to weather, etc.). Escorts should have sufficient funds to defray the cost of reimbursable variations for additional airlines MWD expense as excess baggage and possible pet fees per the Joint Travel Regulations (JTR),



Appendix G. Escorts for initially trained MWDs which are shipped against requisitions, will be provided on the DD Form 1834, Military Working Dog Service Record and an AF Form 2110A, Health Record. **(T-3)**

2.2.3. MWD shipments are closely monitored by all personnel involved to ensure compliance with rules and regulations of carriers governing classifications and tariffs. Personnel must ensure proper safety and comfort standards are maintained at all times. **(T-3)**

2.2.4. Shipper will pay costs for MWD when shipped as freight. **(T-3)** When an MWD travels accompanied by a handler, the MWD is ticketed as (excess baggage) per the JTR, Appendix G, and charged to the traveler's fund cite using Controlled Spending Accounts or Individually Billed Accounts.

**2.3. Procuring MWDs.** The 341 TRS is the only agency authorized to procure and distribute MWDs for use by DoD components or other agencies participating in the DoD MWD Program, unless written authorization is provided by the DoD MWD program management office and the Veterinary Corps, to the requester's Service MWD PM. Pre-screened dogs who meet qualification standards are obtained through procurement [MWD.Procurement@us.af.mil](mailto:MWD.Procurement@us.af.mil) or donation to the 341 TRS from United States and foreign country sources. The DoD MWD PM will authorize any deviation to policy, in writing.

2.3.1. DoD components may be requested to support the 341 TRS by providing temporary kenneling facilities, veterinary and logistics support for MWD acquisition campaigns.

2.3.2. Military veterinarians are responsible for performing physical examinations on all prospective MWDs to determine if they are medically suitable for the DoD MWD Program.

2.3.3. When a dog is accepted as Government property, it is assigned a tattoo number, which is placed on the underside of the left ear. Tattoo numbers should not be issued, changed or reassigned by any service/agency other than the 341 TRS.

**2.4. DoD Owned/Contract Supported Working Dogs.** The use of Contract supported Working Dogs procured and trained for a specific service mission are MWDs for operational standards, care, and housing. MWD procurement outside the MWD pipeline is restricted to those situations the DoD MWD pipeline is unable to meet operational demands, and it is essential for mission accomplishment in terms of numbers of dogs, training required and duration of use. The Service MWD PM requesting such contractor support shall coordinate in advance through the DoD MWD program management office and the Veterinarian Corps. These programs will be limited to a last resort, utilized as a solution for emerging requirements identified by service branches. Dogs procured under these contracts will be entered in the Working Dog Management System (WDMS) data base at the time of procurement and disposition assessment of dogs for temporary non-traditional military missions will be performed by the owning Service in accordance with [Paragraph 2.12](#), of this instruction.

2.4.1. Contract coordination will be conducted by a panel consisting of the DoD MWD program management office, and the Director, LTC Daniel E. Holland Military Working Dog Hospital. The panel will confer with the JSMWDC members for lessons learned in past contract efforts. This panel reviews all aspects of the proposed contract, and the DoD MWD PM will provide comments to the servicing PM within seven workdays of the request. **(T-0)**

2.4.2. Services' requirements for contracted working dogs will be forwarded to the EA for review and concurrence prior to contract award. The DoD retains accountability for any service contracted dog that is procured by the services and entered into the DoD inventory.

2.4.3. If the 341 TRS cannot meet the Service MWD requirement and contractor support procurement is utilized, the requester shall coordinate with the Director, Department of Defense Veterinary Service Activity to determine if DoD veterinary support is authorized and available. If such support is available, ensure the contract includes provisions stipulating the contractor will fully reimburse the government for all costs associated with provision of veterinary care. **(T-0)** If DoD veterinary support is not available, the contractor will be solely responsible for veterinary availability and care of its dogs, and the contract should stipulate this fact. **(T-0)**

2.4.4. Contract Working Dog (CWD) teams that are contracted as a service and not owned by the DoD are not normally eligible for military veterinary services. If applicable, and included in the provisions of the contract, non-emergency veterinary services may be provided to CWDs, within the capabilities of the deployed veterinary unit in the theater of operations, on a reimbursable and space available basis. Upon termination of these contracts, the DoD is not responsible for the disposition and adoption of contractor owned CWDs; however, the CWDs cannot be abandoned in deployed areas and must be returned to the contractor's facilities in CONUS. **(T-1)**

2.4.5. Emergency veterinary procedures required to prevent undue suffering or to save the life or limb of CWDs may be provided by military veterinarians, on a reimbursable basis, as time and resources permit, before referral of such cases to a civilian practitioner for follow-up care.

2.4.6. Payment for civilian veterinary medical care (emergency and non-emergency) of CWDs in the theater of operations remains the responsibility of the contractor.

2.4.7. Contract statement of work should require dogs or dog teams to be certified or validated at the frequency and task performance standards as established by the using Service's component directive for DoD MWDs.

2.4.8. Although CWDs are to meet or exceed established Service component performance standards for MWDs, they should only be classified as or referred to as MWDs when procured/owned by the DoD.

2.4.9. Service branches responsible for CWD programs or contracts being executed to augment their MWD program will address disposition and retirement events within the CWD contracts or individual service policies, to ensure the contractor provides proper care for the dogs.

2.4.9.1. Upon contract termination, all MWDs and Contract Supported Working Dogs procured or owned by the DoD will be absorbed into the DoD MWD program within the owning service. If these dogs are excess to owning service demands, they will be distributed/transferred as MWDs to other service branches according to current fair share standards or as operational demands dictate. When a DoD procured/owned, contractor trained MWD is deemed excess, they will be processed for adoption from 341 TRS or the closest DoD Installation MWD kennel per Title 10 U.S.C. § 2583 and established DoD standards as outlined within this instruction and its attachments, regardless of the method of procurement. **(T-0)**

2.4.10. The 341 TRS, DoD Dog Training Center, through the EA may exercise adoption or disposition responsibility of special program canines, if not required by individual Services. The service responsible for the contract will be responsible for disposition of the dogs. Regardless of the method of procurement or specialized capability, the disposition and adoption of MWDs shall occur in accordance with Title 10 U.S.C. § 2583 and established DoD standards as outlined within this instruction and its attachments. **(T-0)**

**2.5. Accountability.** The 341 TRS assumes accountability for all dogs accepted as DoD MWD Program dogs. The 341 TRS Inventory Manager maintains accountable records on all classifications of MWDs by a capability code number. Accountability transfers from the 341 TRS to the gaining installation/fleet command upon receipt of the MWD. Service MWD PMs may redistribute their MWDs within their installations/fleet commands with notification to the 341 TRS. Redistribution to another service requires Service MWD PM's approval and notification of redistribution in writing, to the 341 TRS. Written notification is mailed to the 341 TRS Inventory Manager, 1239 Knight Street, JBSA-Lackland, TX 78236-5151 within 15 days after transfer.

2.5.1. MWDs should be distributed from the 341 TRS to the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Transportation Security Administration at no cost to the gaining service/agency with the exception of second destination transportation costs.

2.5.2. Operational costs such as food, medical, transportation and other expenses related to welfare and kenneling of MWDs are considered common Service costs. When a shipment requires an escort, the receiving Service should provide funding for the MWD shipment and the escort. Dogs supplied to other federal or governmental agencies should be shipped on a reimbursable basis according to agreements between supplying and receiving activities.

2.5.3. Adopted, transferred or deceased MWDs should be removed from accountable records of the owning installation/fleet command according to appropriate materiel management directives, within 15 days of adoption, transfer or death (includes euthanasia). The 341 TRS is provided a copy of the MWDs original DD Form 1834, Service Record, with the final disposition and date boxes annotated and when adopted by a former handler indicated in the remarks section; Covenant Not to Sue; or DD Form 1743, Death Certificate, will be provided to the 341 TRS. A copy of DD Form 1834 and/or DD Form 1743 should be maintained and forwarded to the 341 TRS/DOL Central Repository, 1239 Knight Street, JBSA-Lackland, TX, 78236-5151 for retention. In the event of death, a copy of the DD Form 1743 may be faxed or emailed to the 341 TRS/DOL Central Repository, 1239 Knight Street, JBSA-Lackland, TX, 78236-5151 for retention. In the case of an adoption or transfer, a copy of the "Covenant not to Sue with Indemnity Agreement" (located in WDMS library) should be faxed or emailed to the 341 TRS for retention by the adoption/disposition coordinator, ([MWD.Disposition@us.af.mil](mailto:MWD.Disposition@us.af.mil)). (Refer to AFI 48-131, AR 40-905, SECNAVINST 6401.1B, Veterinary Health Services, for regulatory guidance for disposition of medical records).

**2.6. Nomenclatures and National Stock Numbers (NSN).** MWDs are sensitive high valued assets with assigned NSNs to identify capabilities; however, they are not referred to as equipment since they require continuous training to maintain that capability. The exception to this terminology is use of MWDs in support of civilian law enforcement as defined in DoDI 3025.21, Defense Support of Civilian Law Enforcement Agencies, and 10 United States Code (USC) sections 272, 274. All MWDs have a tattoo and chip identification number much like military

personnel have a social security number; the MWD identification number is used to track and account for MWDs. MWD Nomenclatures and NSNs are:

- 2.6.1. Patrol Dog (PD), 8820-00-435-9005
- 2.6.2. Patrol/Drug Detector Dog (P/DDD), 8820-00-243-7542
- 2.6.3. Patrol/Explosive Detector Dog (P/EDD), 8820-00-188-3880
- 2.6.4. Drug Detector Dog (DDD)/Large, 8820-00-238-8577
- 2.6.5. Drug Detector Dog (DDD)/Small, 8820-01-271-3929
- 2.6.6. Explosive Detector Dog (EDD), 8820-00-043-3526
- 2.6.7. Untrained, 8820-00-935-6677
- 2.6.8. Mine Detector Dog (MDD), 8820-01-535-4047
- 2.6.9. Specialized Search Dog (SSD), 8820-01-526-4588
- 2.6.10. Combat Tracker Dog (CTD), 8820-01-535-4048
- 2.6.11. Improvised Explosive Device Detector Dog (IDD), 8820-01-590-5770
- 2.6.12. Patrol/Explosive Detector Dog – Enhanced (P/EDD-E), 8820-01-677-3032

**2.7. Validation of 341 TRS Detector Dogs.** The 341 TRS conducts training and validation for new DoD MWD assets.

2.7.1. The following is a list of drug odors trained and validated by 341 TRS:

- 2.7.1.1. Cocaine (CO)
- 2.7.1.2. Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA)
- 2.7.1.3. Heroin (HE)
- 2.7.1.4. Marijuana (MJ)
- 2.7.1.5. Methamphetamine (METH)

2.7.2. The following is a list of explosive odors and DoD Identification Codes (DODIC) trained and validated by 341 TRS:

- 2.7.2.1. Ammonium Dynamite (AD)/M585
- 2.7.2.2. Ammonium Nitrate (AN)/(Locally Procured)
- 2.7.2.3. Composition C4 (C-4)/M023
- 2.7.2.4. Detonation Cord (DC)/M456
- 2.7.2.5. Potassium Chlorate (PC)/(Locally Procured)
- 2.7.2.6. Single Base Smokeless Powder (SP)/MY57
- 2.7.2.7. Sodium Chlorate (SC)/(Locally Procured)
- 2.7.2.8. Trinitrotoluene (TNT)/M032
- 2.7.2.9. Semtex 1A (SX)/MN82

**2.8. Reporting of Worldwide Assets.** Working Dog Management System (WDMS) is the accepted DoD program management computer system for MWDs at all units. The PM for WDMS is the DoD MWD PM assigned at AF/A4SX. DoD components will maintain accurate data, to include any non-traditional program dogs, in WDMS to enable accountability of MWDs. (T-1)

2.8.1. The WDMS manages the full lifecycle of an MWD. This information is fully integrated within WDMS, capturing all data on when MWDs are procured, trained, and then assigned into active service in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps. The system provides a critical function by enabling Service PMs to have a comprehensive view of the operational readiness of all MWDs and their handlers across the Service's MWD programs. The system is employed at all units with MWDs, supporting over 1,800 users.

2.8.2. The WDMS Configuration Manager is responsible for maintaining configuration control of WDMS. The Configuration Control Board (CCB) is the official body for final review and documentation of changes to the established WDMS baseline. Only the CCB Chairperson, or designated representative, has the authority to approve or disapprove the actions of the CCB. Functional users are persons authorized to log-on to resources on WDMS. When logging-on to resources on WDMS, every functional user must comply with WDMS security policies and procedures outlined in CJCSI 6510.0 IE Information Assurance (IA) and Computer Network Defense (CND) as well as report security incidents to the Information Assurance Officer. (T-0)

2.8.3. Users are given access to the WDMS based on a need to perform specific work. Access to WDMS is granted by local system administrators. Assigned users shall access only the data, control information, software, hardware, and firmware for which they are authorized access and have a need-to-know, and assume only those roles and privileges for which they are authorized. (T-0) Users shall not divulge account access procedures to any unauthorized user. (T-0) All WDMS users must have an approved DD Form 2875, System Authorization Access Request (SAAR) and signed WDMS System Rules of Behavior on file with their MWD PM prior to being approved access for to WDMS. (T-0) A copy of the WDMS System Rules of Behavior is located at the web site <https://cs2.eis.af.mil/sites/10139/SitePages/WDMS.aspx>.

2.8.4. A WDMS standard user is any individual who has an account which does not have elevated permissions (e.g., a dog handler). A Functional System Administrator (FSA) is any individual with elevated WDMS permissions (e.g., a Kennel Master (KM), a MAJCOM/Regional Representative (Rep), a Service PM Rep or a DoD Rep. In the event a standard user or a FSA temporarily (e.g., a security violation that is being reviewed, a supervisor decision, or a Commander decision) or permanently (e.g., a permanent change of station, retirement, a commanders decision) should no longer have access to the system, it is the responsibility of a FSA to ensure the user's access is removed within 48 hours of the event. Any unit with personnel who access WDMS, is required to have an action within their unit's out-processing procedures (service variations: Change of Station or Separation Checklist) to remove a departing user's access to WDMS.

**2.9. Redistribution and Reporting of an Overage of Trained MWDs.** Only the 341 TRS should authorize return of an MWD to the 341 TRS. Trained MWDs over and above the requirements of a unit are reported to the appropriate MAJCOM/Army Command (ACOM)/Fleet Command (Cmd), who should determine if there is a need for the MWD within that command. If the MWD is an overage to the command, it should be reported to the appropriate Service MWD

PM for possible redistribution within that service. If the Service MWD PM determines the MWD is an overage, a letter should be sent to the 341 TRS requesting assistance in redistributing the MWD to another service/agency.

2.9.1. The overage letter should contain the following information:

2.9.1.1. Reason MWD has been declared overage such as unit deactivation, or reduced authorization, etc.). Include a statement that no requirement exists (include endorsements declaring the MWD excess to the MAJCOM/ACOM/Fleet Command and Service MWD PM).

2.9.1.2. Name, tattoo number and NSN.

2.9.1.3. Age and length of service.

2.9.1.4. Statement regarding MWD temperament and qualification status.

2.9.2. If the MWD is approved for return to the 341 TRS, the MWD is dropped from the owning unit/activity's account upon acceptance at the 341 TRS. If instructions authorize redistribution directly to another DoD Component, accountability should be dropped by the shipping unit/activity and assumed by the gaining unit/activity on transfer of the MWD. Additionally, the transfer should be indicated in the accountability documents referred to in [Paragraph 2.5](#)

2.9.3. When a MWD is approved for return to the 341 TRS, shipments are made using the losing service's fund cite. When an MWD is approved for transfer (either within the service or to another service), shipments are made using the gaining unit/agency's funds cite.

**2.10. MWDs that fail initial field evaluation.** Upon arrival at the MWD's initial assignment, the gaining unit is to conduct all of the MWD transition activity and initial evaluations IAW the "Qualified MWD Field Transition and Evaluation Guide" distributed by the 341 TRS. The purpose of this process is to determine if the MWD can successfully operate in the field environment and perform at the level as certified on upon leaving the 341 TRS. If the MWD is unfit or unable to successfully pass the gaining unit's initial field evaluation, the following action applies:

2.10.1. If the MWD has a medical disqualifier, obtain a statement from the attending veterinarian supporting that the MWD's physical condition has a bearing on the failure.

2.10.2. If the MWD has a skill performance issue, document the apparent deficiency. All MWD team familiarization, training and qualification activity will be recorded in WDMS. All initial qualification evaluations at the owning unit are to be based on the MWD performance levels during evaluation at the time of transfer from the 341 TRS as described in the "Qualified MWD Field Transition and Evaluation Guide".

2.10.3. By the 75th calendar day after arrival at the owning unit, the KM is to complete the MWD field evaluation questionnaire located in the WDMS. The MWD performance is documented as to whether the MWD meets the standard or there are deficiencies identified based off the "Qualified MWD Field Transition and Evaluation Guide". In cases where deficiencies are noted, the KM should explain the deficiency in the comments section. If additional assistance is required from the Service PM and/or the 341 TRS; contact should be made IAW service program directives.

2.10.4. If an MWD successfully completes initial evaluation but displays performance issues during the gaining unit's subsequent advanced MWD training (e.g., new odor imprinting, buried aid detection, etc.) and detection validation, the Service PM shall contact the 341 TRS for assistance. After 120 calendar days in the field, an MWD with performance issues will not be considered for return/exchange unless the 341 TRS was previously notified of the situation by the Service PM. MWDs returned prior to the 120 day deadline will not be counted as a qualified delivery on the Service's TDR and the Service will receive another MWD IAW **Paragraph 1.2**

2.10.5. As directed by the 341 TRS, the Service PM should forward a complete documentation package to the 341 TRS point of contact at [341TRS.Evaluations@us.af.mil](mailto:341TRS.Evaluations@us.af.mil), or the 341 TRS/DOQE, 1220 Truemper Street, Suite 2, JBSA-Lackland, TX, 78236-5151. This package should include complete copies of all training and utilization records as generated from WDMS in addition to any clarification deemed necessary utilizing the <https://safe.arl.army.mil/> web page.

2.10.6. After review of the documentation package, the 341 TRS advises the service to either continue retraining efforts per the specific guidance given, or process the MWD for disposition IAW the instructions provided.

**2.11. Euthanasia.** On the authority of the Accountable Unit Commander (AUC) or designated representative, MWDs may be euthanized after consultation with the attending military veterinarian. With the exception of medical conditions that warrant emergent euthanasia, attending military veterinarians must consult with military specialists at the DoD MWD Veterinary Service (DoD MWD VS), JBSA-Lackland, TX. (T-0) When an MWD is experiencing undue suffering with a poor prognosis for return to duty, the attending veterinarian is authorized to euthanize the MWD without prior consultation with DoD MWD VS personnel. Euthanasia is in accordance with acceptable standards as outlined in the American Veterinary Medical Association's Council on Euthanasia. Anytime an MWD is euthanized, the attending veterinarian must complete and submit a DD Form 1743, listing the reason for euthanasia, to the DoD MWD VS and provide a copy of this form to the unit commander to allow requisition of a replacement MWD. (T-0)

2.11.1. An MWD may be euthanized under the following circumstances:

2.11.1.1. To terminate suffering caused by disease, injury or permanent physical disability.

2.11.1.2. To prevent the spread of contagious disease.

2.11.1.3. When unable to perform as the result of an incurable disease or physical disability.

2.11.1.4. When behavioral disorders are diagnosed that are not responsive to humane training therapy designed to return the MWD to normal use.

2.11.2. When other conditions exist which may warrant euthanasia, such as viciousness or behavioral instability, the unit and the attending veterinarian must consult with the DoD MWD VS before euthanasia is authorized. (T-0)

2.11.3. If the MWD is in a deployed location, remains may be hand-carried or shipped by United States Postal Service. Ensure they are in a non-metal, sift-proof container such as

double bagged and in a cardboard box. If shipped, handlers need to identify on the customs label as cremated remains.

**2.12. Disposition of Trained, Failure to Qualify and Medically Eliminated MWDs.** MWDs are deemed excess to the needs of the DoD, by the 341 TRS, before they are disposed of by any DoD component or participating federal agency through adoption, transfer to Law Enforcement or euthanasia. The disposition process established by the 341 TRS is governed by the requirements of Title 10 U.S.C. § 2583. Once an owning unit has determined their MWD can no longer meet mission requirements, the unit may begin the disposition process. The owning unit will contact their MWD PM to identify their MWD as a possible candidate for elimination from the MWD program and to initiate the disposition process. (T-0) The owning unit will ensure no MWD procured for utilization in the DoD MWD program is disposed of by transfer to any agency (e.g., medical, research and development or clinical investigation) for the purpose of invasive research or training that would potentially compromise the health of the MWD. (T-0)

2.12.1. To initiate disposition of a MWD, the AUC should coordinate the package through the Service MWD PM who submits it to the 341 TRS Adoption/Disposition coordinator utilizing the <https://safe.arl.army.mil/> web page. All pertinent documents involving the MWDs disposition are scanned and uploaded to this website for submission (DD form 810-1, DD form 810-2, DD Form 810-3, DD form 810-4, DD form 810-5, DD form 810-6, DD form 810-7). A Bite Muzzle Video (reference, Evaluation Prognosis Key, **Attachment 10** located in WDMS), is recorded and submitted for all patrol trained, previously patrol trained, or any MWD that displays aggressive behaviors; and uploaded using Windows Media Player, unless a safety exemption by a local Veterinary staff is needed. When this occurs, the attending veterinarian must submit a letter explaining the safety reasons the MWD cannot safely perform the evaluation. (T-0). Air Force packages should be submitted via their respective chain of command determined by their Service MWD PM. Army packages are submitted through Army Command (ACOM)/Army Service Component Commands (ASCC)/Direct Reporting Unit (DRU), with an information copy provided to the Service MWD PM. Navy and Marine Corps packages should be submitted through the chain of command to the Service MWD PM. Note: An Adoption Suitability Assessment, DD form 810-3, and bite muzzle video is NOT required for MWDs that will only be considered for Transfer to law enforcement agencies (LEA).

2.12.2. Service PMs will scan all disposition packages in the following order (checklist provided in WDMS library). (T-1)

2.12.2.1. Recommendation letter signed by the AUC, which identifies a medical problem or the cause of failure and a summary of retraining efforts (located in WDMS library).

2.12.2.2. AFSFC/MWD PM recommendation for USAF units, Service MWD PM letter for Army, Navy and Marine Corps units.

2.12.2.3. Bite muzzle video, for MWDs that are or, have received bite work training, or display aggressive behaviors. The regional veterinarian will evaluate the video prior to submission.

2.12.2.4. Bite muzzle test assessment form, DD form 810-3, for MWDs that are or, have received, bite work training, or display aggressive behaviors (located in WDMS library).



- 2.12.2.5. MWD Adoption Suitability Checklist, DD form 810-1, which includes the AUC determination of MWD suitability for adoption (located in WDMS library). (T-2)
- 2.12.2.6. Training records (only if a training issue exists). Included when the unit recommends the MWD returns to the 341 TRS as a training aid, the included records will cover from the start of the training issue to the present time.
- 2.12.2.7. Veterinarian letter to AUC describing the MWD's physical condition as it relates to performance failure or medical eligibility for adoption. (T-1)
- 2.12.2.8. Consultation/Referral Form from Veterinarian.
- 2.12.2.9. DD Form 2619, Master Problem List.
- 2.12.2.10. DD Form 1829, Record of Military Working Dog Physical Examination, rendered within 30 days of the report and containing a complete synopsis of the medical history.
- 2.12.2.11. Relevant SF 600, Chronological Record of Medical Care.
- 2.12.2.12. Relevant SF 519-B, Radiologic Consultation Request/Report.
- 2.12.3. Any change to required supporting items or documents is enumerated on the 341 TRS web site, <https://www.37trw.af.mil/Units/37th-Training-Group/341st-Training-Squadron/> or published Disposition and Adoption Procedures Guidelines.
- 2.12.4. Following the review of the package, the 341 TRS Disposition Review Board will provide a recommendation. (T-1) If the MWD is deemed excess to the needs of the DoD, this written recommendation is forwarded to the MAJCOM/ACOM/Navy/Marine Corps PM.
- 2.12.5. The Disposition Review Board may take the following actions:
  - 2.12.5.1. Declare the MWD excess to the DoD.
  - 2.12.5.2. Direct the MWD to stay on duty at present location.
  - 2.12.5.3. Direct return of the MWD to JBSA-Lackland, TX, for use in training. The unit will coordinate transportation arrangements with the 341 TRS inventory manager and freight rate specialist. (T-3) When the MWD fails to initially certify or the MWD is returned to the 341 TRS as a training aid, the 341 TRS will be responsible for the cost of returning the MWD. (T-2) The accountable unit that has a MWD will fund any transportation fees associated with a military escort of the MWD back to the United States. (T-0)
- 2.12.6. When a MWD is declared excess or unsuitable for DoD use by 341 TRS and deemed by the AUC as suitable for adoption, the MWD should be disposed of to the greatest extent possible by the following priorities: (T-0)
  - 2.12.6.1. Former handlers will have first preference when determined to be in the best interest of the MWD or DoD owned CWDs. Other persons capable of humanely caring for the dog will have secondary preference. It is the MWD handler's responsibility to make adoption requests known to the KM. The KM is to annotate the "loss remarks" box in the "MWD Management" Tab of WDMS when a handler has identified their request to adopt their MWD upon retirement. In the event of multiple handlers desiring to adopt a retiring MWD, the AUC will determine the adopter in the best interest of the MWD and the KM

will inform all handlers of the decision. See [Attachment 9](#) in WDMS for the MWD Adoption Form application, DD form 810-7, which should be completed by candidate adopter and maintained by the AUC or designee.

2.12.6.2. Transfer to a Law Enforcement Agency (LEA). MWDs that have not successfully completed training or operational MWDs that are considered too aggressive for adoption by private citizen or a handler should be considered for transfer, if otherwise healthy.

2.12.6.3. Humane euthanasia by Veterinary Corps Officer (VCO) supporting the AUC when not disposed of under above methods. Euthanasia should only be used as a last resort when all other methods have been exhausted.

2.12.7. The Covenant not to Sue with Indemnity Agreement located in WDMS library, is completed for both an (adoption to a private citizen, DD form 810-5) and a transfer (to a Law Enforcement/Government agency, DD form 810-6).

2.12.8. Veterinary Corps Officer (VCO) will neuter or spay all MWDs prior to adoption, but this can be waived for transfer to Law Enforcement/Government agency. (T-1)

2.12.9. In the case of a MWD located OCONUS at the time of retirement that is suitable for adoption at that time, the Secretary of the military department concerned shall undertake transportation of the dog to the CONUS (including transportation by contract at United States expense) for adoption under this section, unless the MWD is adopted OCONUS or transportation of the dog to the continental United States would not be in the best interests of the dog for medical reasons. (T-0)

2.12.10. The service department of a MWD that is OCONUS at the time of retirement and is also suitable for adoption, is responsible for the MWD's transportation back to CONUS (including transportation by contract), unless the MWD is adopted OCONUS or transportation to CONUS would not be in the MWD's best interests for medical reasons. The Secretary of each military service will carry out a program to provide for the award of one or more medals or other commendations to handlers of military working dogs under the jurisdiction of such Secretary to recognize valor or meritorious achievement by such handlers and dogs." (T-0) Any medal or commendation awarded pursuant to a program shall be of such design, and include such elements, as the Secretary of the military department concerned shall specify. The Secretary concerned may use an existing award to carry out such program. Any medal or commendation awarded pursuant to a program may be presented to and accepted by the handler concerned on behalf of the handler and the military working dog concerned.

2.12.11. The bite muzzle evaluation, DD form 810-3, and video are routed to their respective regional veterinarian for behavioral evaluation. In unique cases where a determination cannot be made, the animal behavior specialist assigned to the LTC Daniel E. Holland Military Working Dog Hospital at JBSA-Lackland, TX will provide necessary input for evaluation. (T-2) All regional veterinarians conducting adoption suitability evaluations must be trained by the animal behavior specialist. (T-2) The only exceptions to the bite muzzle evaluation are:

2.12.11.1. The MWD is a danger to itself and/or others (these records have a Behavior Consult in them with a "DO NOT ADOPT" statement, concurring with the VCO's decision to humanely euthanize the MWD).

2.12.11.2. Completing the video would severely compromise the MWDs welfare (severe injury/disease/pain; these records also contain a Behavior Consult supporting this decision and providing a working prognosis if the MWD is otherwise adoptable).

2.12.11.3. When a MWD poses an immediate threat to kennel staff or is suffering due to an incurable medical illness, the local Veterinarian may euthanize the MWD.

**2.13. Local Training of Qualified Patrol and Detection MWDs.** With MAJCOM/ACOM/Fleet Cmd approval, units may locally train single purpose detector dogs that have received training by the 341 TRS in explosives or drugs as patrol/detector dogs. Units will contact the 341 TRS/DOQE for current training protocol prior to initiating training. (T-2) Non-341 TRS patrol MWD evaluators will conduct patrol certification evaluations using the 341 TRS Operating Instruction (OI) patrol certification protocols. (T-2) Contact 314 TRS/DOQ for current protocols. 341 TRS evaluators will assist with consultation about those standards and their application, and provide the OI and evaluation forms. (T-2)

2.13.1. Following a successful patrol, drug, or explosive MWD certification, non-341 TRS patrol MWD evaluators should transmit copies of completed and signed JBSA-Lackland Form 375 for each certified MWD to their MWD PM, who should execute a cover letter and forward this letter along with any other required documentation to 341 TRS Evaluations. 341 TRS Evaluations forwards these copies, along with letters requesting appropriate NSN changes, for approval by the commander and for action by the logistics flight.

2.13.2. DoD Law Enforcement Evaluations. DoD civilian law enforcement agencies will execute their respective canine programs under National Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) standards. DoD LE agencies will execute certifications of MWDs by a recognized, approved non DoD agency. DoD LE contracted canine statements of work and performance work statements will be reviewed and approved by the DoD MWD PM.

**2.14. Inquiries Concerning Procurement.** Persons offering dogs for sale or donation to the Government should contact 341 TRS/DOLMP, 1239 Knight Street, JBSA-Lackland, TX 78236-5151, DSN 473-5895, or toll free 1-800-531-1066 or via [MWDprocurement@us.af.mil](mailto:MWDprocurement@us.af.mil).

**2.15. Deployment Categories and Deployment Medical Procedures for MWDs.** MWDs are frequently deployed to austere environments with high operational tempos and limited veterinary care. Consequently, it is important that all VCOs and KMs continually evaluate and prepare MWDs in a consistent manner to meet medical readiness requirements. This ensures the MWD arrives fit for duty.

2.15.1. IAW AR 40-905/SECNAVINST 6401.1B/AFI 48-131 and AR 40-3 Medical, Dental and Veterinary Care, it is the joint responsibility of the VCO and the KM to meet no less than quarterly to discuss the medical condition, training proficiency and physical fitness status of each MWD. VCOs advise and support KMs and MWD unit commanders on MWD medical issues affecting readiness and fitness for duty.

2.15.2. MWDs are assigned a deployment category as defined herein by the attending VCO in consultation with the KM. This deployment categorization serves as a valuable management tool to define current medical readiness for each MWD, and is intended for use by KMs, unit commanders and service MWD PMs to apportion MWD assets based upon medical readiness and fitness for duty. Only the attending VCO assigns the deployment category. VCOs should ensure that the medical deployment categories of all MWDs are updated at least monthly, at

every routine exam or sick call, or any time a medical condition develops that warrants a change in the deployment category. VCOs should also ensure this information is concurrently documented in the Health Record (HR), updated in the WDMS database and provided to the KM and MWD unit commander.

2.15.3. Deployment categories for MWDs are as follows:

**2.15.3.1. CATEGORY 1, Unrestricted Deployment.**

2.15.3.1.1. Medically fit for any contingency or exercise.

2.15.3.1.2. No limiting or compromising factors such as lack of stamina, etc.

2.15.3.1.3. No existing or recurring medical problems that limit performance. Chronic or minor medical problems may exist or be under treatment but do not limit performance. Medications or special diets are not considered limiting factors unless unavailable.

**2.15.3.2. CATEGORY 2, Restricted Deployment.**

2.15.3.2.1. Medically fit for regions or missions after consideration of known medical problems and consultation with KM.

2.15.3.2.2. No significant limiting or compromising factors.

2.15.3.2.3. Medical problems may exist which slightly limit performance but are controlled.

2.15.3.2.4. Reason for restriction is reported in the HR and to the KM, MWD unit commander and service MWD PMs.

**2.15.3.3. CATEGORY 3, Temporarily Non-deployable.**

2.15.3.3.1. Medical condition exists that impedes daily duty performance and is under diagnosis, observation or treatment.

2.15.3.3.2. Reason for non-deployability is reported in the HR and to the KM, MWD unit commander and Service MWD PMs.

2.15.3.3.3. An Estimated Release Date (ERD) is reported in the HR and to the KM, MWD unit commander and service MWD PMs. A MWD in CATEGORY 3 requires periodic follow-up exams, further consultation with Veterinary Corps Clinical Specialists and consistent reevaluation of the diagnostic and therapeutic plan for return to duty.

**2.15.3.4. CATEGORY 4, Non-deployable.**

2.15.3.4.1. Unresolved medical or physical problems exist that frequently or regularly impede daily duty performance and ERD cannot be given.

2.15.3.4.2. Medical or physical conditions warrant submission to the MWD Disposition Process with subsequent replacement within one year. CATEGORY 4 MWDs are specifically authorized for limited missions on their installation, within their medical condition and training proficiency capabilities at the discretion of the KM and MWD unit commander.

- 2.15.3.4.3. Reason for non-deployability is reported in the HR and to the KM, MWD unit commander and PMs.
- 2.15.4. VCOs in conjunction with the MWD unit, will use the following procedures for pre-deployment assessments:
- 2.15.4.1. Determine eligibility of the MWD. Generally, MWDs are in CATEGORY 1 or 2 status to be eligible for deployment OCONUS or outside their home theater of operation. For all MWD deployments, however, the final deployment authority resides with the MWD unit commander.
  - 2.15.4.2. Check deployment medical requirements. VCOs will refer to deployment medical intelligence assets before deployment to determine any specific medical requirements. (T-2) This information is conveyed to the KM, MWD handler and unit commander to ensure widest dissemination of this critical information.
  - 2.15.4.3. Conduct a physical examination of the MWD and ensure all required immunizations confirm fitness for duty and to issue a health certificate.
  - 2.15.4.4. A Deployment Health Record accompanies the MWD handler whenever it deploys. MWD health records are reviewed evaluating specific COCOM/deployment area veterinary considerations. At the time of MWD return to home station, all new forms and data are transferred into the permanent HR.
  - 2.15.4.5. VCOs send an adequate supply of all chronic and prophylactic medications, such as heartworm and ectoparasite preventives, sufficient to last through the duration of anticipated deployment. (T-2)
  - 2.15.4.6. Vector-borne infections are a major concern for MWDs in most deployed areas of operation. Aggressive vector control efforts are required. Provide all MWDs a monthly oral heartworm preventive combined with an intestinal parasite preventive and monthly broad-spectrum topical non-permethrin non-organophosphate acaricide or acaricide with insect growth regulator. The attending VCO will provide these items. (T-2)
  - 2.15.4.7. Supplement routine prophylaxis with amitraz collars and/or daily non-permethrin, non-organophosphate acaricide (such as fipronil spray), if necessary, when a MWD deploys to an area with high risk of tick-borne illness (e.g., Southeast Asia, Southwest Asia, the Balkans).
  - 2.15.4.8. Supplement routine prophylaxis with a four percent deltamethrin collar when a MWD deploys to an area with endemic or epidemic leishmaniasis and sand fly infestation (e.g., the Mediterranean basin, Southwest Asia).
  - 2.15.4.9. The VCO will issue a health certificate not more than 10 days prior to travel. (T-2)
- 2.15.5. The attending VCO will instruct the MWD handler on general dog care and any special instructions necessary for the geographic region to include the following: (T-2)
- 2.15.5.1. Feed only the standard diet to MWDs, and only the prescribed diet to other MWDs as directed by the attending VCO. Ensure proper storage of MWD diet, with particular attention to rodent control and protection from contamination.
  - 2.15.5.2. Use only potable water for MWD's.

- 2.15.5.3. Administer heartworm preventive and external parasite preventive monthly. Administer oral doxycycline or tetracycline with food and water as directed by the attending VCO. Remove medicated collars when the MWD is not under direct physical control in order to reduce risk of accidental ingestion and intoxication.
- 2.15.5.4. Examine MWDs for external parasites daily and report any infestation to the KM.
- 2.15.5.5. Employ heat and cold prevention measures, as appropriate, and emergency first aid treatment for heat exhaustion or hypothermia.
- 2.15.6. MWD medical procedures during deployment are as follows:
- 2.15.6.1. MWD handlers and KMs will watch individual MWDs for behavior and health problems, and report problems to their supporting veterinary personnel. (T-2)
- 2.15.6.2. MWD handlers, KMs and theater PMs must establish reliable communications with veterinary assets in theater as soon as possible to coordinate veterinary support, medical evacuation and emergency care policies and procedures. (T-2)
- 2.15.6.3. Because of the potential adverse effect on a MWD, use of non-approved items such as: cooling vests, pad covers, booties, ballistics vests, goggles and so forth, should be discussed with the KM and theater veterinary personnel before use.
- 2.15.7. VCOs, in conjunction with the MWD's unit, will conduct the following procedures during redeployment and within 72 hours of arrival of an MWD returning from OCONUS missions due to the potential introduction of foreign animal diseases as well as the health of the MWD:
- 2.15.8. Conduct a physical examination and evaluation including submission of clinically appropriate lab tests, update of permanent HR and nutrition (diet and weight) information.
- 2.15.8.1. Treat the MWD for any external parasites and internal parasites.
- 2.15.8.2. Separate the MWD from other MWDs as much as possible for 14 days. The MWD may continue to work during this time provided it does not show any signs of illness.
- 2.15.8.3. Collect and submit post-deployment blood samples.
- 2.15.8.4. Screen for screwworm. MWDs returning to CONUS from any region of the world where screwworm exists (e.g., Central and South America, Cuba, Southwest Asia) should be accompanied by a certificate signed by the VCO or a full-time salaried veterinary official of the exporting region stating that the dog was inspected within five days preceding shipment to CONUS and was found to be either free of screwworm or was found to be infested with screwworm and was held in quarantine and treated until free prior to leaving the region of export. These MWDs are re-examined at five days and 14 days after arrival at home station.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARIES OF THE  
AIR FORCE, THE ARMY, AND THE NAVY  
OFFICIAL

WARREN D. BERRY  
Lieutenant General, USAF  
DCS/Logistics, Engineering & Force Protection

MARK A. MILLEY  
General, USA  
Chief of Staff OFFICIAL

DIXON R. SMITH  
Vice Admiral, USN  
Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for  
Fleet Readiness and Logistics OFFICIAL

BRIAN D. BEAUDREAULT  
Lieutenant General, USMC  
Deputy Commandant for Plans, Policies, and  
Operations

**Attachment 1****GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

10 USC 2583, Military animals: transfer and adoption 2016

10 USC 272 & 274, Use of military equipment and facilities/Maintenance and operation of equipment, 7 Jan 2011

AFI 48-131, Veterinary Health Services 15 Nov 2013

AMCI 24-101 Vol. 11, Cargo and Mail 27 Feb 2013

AR 40-3, Medical, Dental and Veterinary Care 22 Apr 2013

AR 40-905/SECNAVINST 6401.1B Veterinary Health Services 29 Aug 2006

CJCSI 6510.0 IE, Information Assurance (IA) and Computer Network Defense (CND) 15 Aug 2007

DTR 4500.9-R Part I, Passenger Movement 1 Nov 2011

DTR 4500.9-R Part 2, Cargo Routing and Movement, 10 Oct 2018

DoD 5100.03, Support of the Headquarters of Combatant and Subordinate Unified Commands 9 Feb 2011

DODD 3025.13, Employment of DoD Capabilities in Support of the US Secret Service (USSS), Department of Homeland Security (DHS) 8 Oct 2010

DODD 5200.31E, Military Working Dog (MWD) Program 10 Aug 2011

DODI 3025.21, Defense Support of Civilian Law Enforcement Agencies 27 Feb 2013

DODI 5015.02, DoD Records Management Program 24 Feb 2015

THE JOINT TRAVEL REGULATIONS, Uniformed Service Members and DoD Civilians

SECNAVINST 6401.1B, Veterinary Health Services 22 Sep 2006

***Adopted Forms***

AF Form 847, Recommendation for Change of Publication 22 Sep 2009

AF Form 2110A, Health Record 1 Jul 2004

DD Form 810-1, MWD Adoption Suitability Checklist

DD Form 810-2, Protocol for Video Behavioral Testing of Military Working Dogs

DD Form 810-3, Bite Muzzle Test Assessment Form

DD Form 810-4, Disposition Checklist

DD Form 810-5, Covenant Not to Sue (Adoption)

DD Form 810-6, Covenant Not to Sue (LEA Transfer)

DD Form 810-7, MWD Application



DD Form 1743, Death Certificate of a Military Animal 1 Jun 2013  
DD Form 1829, Record of Military Working Dog Physical Examination 1 Oct 1971  
DD Form 1834, Military Working Dog Service Record 1 Oct 1971  
DD Form 2619, Master Problem List 1 Jun 2013  
DD Form 2875, System Authorization Access Request Aug 2009  
JBSA-Lackland Form 375  
SF 513, Medical Record Consult Sheet 1 Apr 1998  
SF 519-B, Radiological Consultation Request/Report 1 Aug 1983  
SF 600, Chronological Record of Medical Care 5 Jun 1997

***Abbreviations and Acronyms***

**ACOM**—Army Command  
**AD**—Ammonium Dynamite  
**AETC**—Air Education and Training Command  
**AFI**—Air Force Instruction  
**AFIMSC**—Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center  
**AFSFC**—Air Force Security Forces Center  
**AMCI**—Air Mobility Command Instruction  
**AN**—Ammonium Nitrate  
**AR**—Army Regulation  
**ASCC**—Army Service Component Command  
**AUC**—Accountable Unit Commander  
**C4**—Composition C4  
**CO**—Cocaine  
**CCB**—Configuration Control Board  
**COCOM**—Combatant Command  
**CONUS**—Continental United States  
**CTD**—Combat Tracker Dog  
**CWD**—Contract Working Dog  
**DC**—Detonation Cord  
**DDD**—Drug Detector Dog  
**DHR**—Deployment Health Record  
**DHS**—Department of Homeland Security

**DoD**—Department of Defense

**DoD MWD VS**—Department of Defense Military Working Dog Veterinary Service

**DoDVSA**—Department of Defense Veterinary Service Activity

**DRU**—Direct Reporting Units

**DSCA**—Defense Support to Civil Authorities

**DTR**—Defense Transportation Regulation

**EA**—Executive Agent

**EDD**—Explosive Detector Dog

**ERD**—Estimated Release Date

**FSA**—Functional System Administrator

**HE**—Heroin

**HR**—Health Record

**IAW**—In Accordance With

**IDD**—Improvised Explosive Device Detector Dog

**JBSA**—Joint Base San Antonio

**JSMWDC**—Joint Service Military Working Dog Committee

**KM**—Kennel Master

**LE**—Law Enforcement

**MAJCOM**—Major Command

**MDD**—Mine Detector Dog

**MEDEVAC**—Medical Evacuation

**METH**—Methamphetamine

**MDMA**—Methylenedioxymethamphetamine

**MJ**—Marijuana

**MWD**—Military Working Dog

**NSN**—National Stock Number

**OCONUS**—Outside the Continental United States

**OI**—Operating Instruction

**PC**—Potassium Chlorate

**PD**—Patrol Dog

**P/DDD**—Patrol/Drug Detector Dog

**P/EDD**—Patrol/Explosive Detector Dog

**PM**—Program Manager  
**POST**—Peace Officers Standards of Training  
**R&D**—Research and Development  
**SC**—Sodium Chlorate  
**SECNAVINST**—Secretary of Navy Instruction  
**SOW**—Statement of Work  
**SP**—Smokeless Powder  
**SSD**—Specialized Search Dog  
**TDR**—Trained Dog Requirements  
**TNT**—Trinitrotoluene  
**TRS**—Training Squadron  
**TRW**—Training Wing  
**TSA**—Transportation Security Administration  
**USAF**—United States Air Force  
**USC**—United States Code  
**USSS**—United States Secret Service  
**VCO**—Veterinary Corps Officer  
**WDMS**—Working Dog Management System

### *Terms*

**Certification**—Process by which the 341 TRS documents, as a result of field evaluations, that an MWD meets the DoD established skill requirements for Basic Skills, Patrol, Detection or Tracking; depending on the NSN nomenclature of the MWD.

**Disposition Review Board**—Members of the 341 TRS who review requests for disposition instructions for MWDs belonging to the DoD MWD program.

**Medically Eliminated**—An MWD that fails to meet medical standards established by the DoD MWD program.

**Military Working Dog (MWD)**—Any Government-owned dog procured, acquired or bred to meet working dog requirements of the military departments and DoD agencies, collectively referred to as DoD components.

**Qualification**—Process by which the individual DoD Services document, as a result of field evaluations, that a MWD team (dog and handler) can successfully complete validations in each applicable skill; Basic Skills, Patrol, Detection or Tracking.

**Tattoo**—Identifying mark with inked series of alphabet letter and three numbers placed inside left ear of MWD.

**Attachment 2****BITE MUZZLE VIDEO EVALUATION PROGNOSIS KEY FOR VETERINARIANS,  
PROVOST MARSHALS/SECURITY FORCES COMMANDERS AND KENNEL  
MASTERS**

**A2.1.** Background: Bite Muzzle Video (BMV) is accomplished for each Military Working Dog (MWD) with prior training and/or employment in controlled-aggression that is being considered for adoption. This video is produced by the owning unit and evaluated by a veterinarian trained by the Veterinary Animal Behavior Specialist at the LTC Daniel E. Holland MWD Hospital at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, TX, for use by the attending veterinarian and owning unit Commander. The evaluation is accomplished as part of a Request for Disposition to determine whether a MWD is “Excess to Government Needs” (and, therefore, adoptable and/or transferrable outside of the DoD). It should be noted that the “Excess” determination is based on medical, behavioral and/or training deficiencies of a MWD, but the decision to adopt or not adopt a MWD determined to be “Excess” is the responsibility of the owning unit Commander in accordance with the guidelines provided in the below assessment chart. (Public Law 106-446, November 2000).

**A2.2.** Procedure: The Bite Muzzle video is accomplished according to a published protocol and forwarded as a digital video for evaluation. This video is evaluated for signs of overt aggression as well as canine behavior and body postures that are suggestive of increased or decreased potential for future aggressive behavioral problems. The video is assessed along with the Request for Disposition, Adoption Suitability Checklist (ASC) and Veterinary Record to provide an over-all assessment of liability for the adoption of a MWD. The assessment is reported on a Medical Record Consult Sheet (SF 513) to the MWDs attending veterinarian and owning unit chain of command. The attending veterinarian provides consultation to the owning unit commander regarding the advisability of adopting a MWD, based on its medical condition(s) and behavior. The fundamental behavioral recommendation is provided as a “Prognosis for Successful Adoption.”

Figure A2.1. Prognosis for Successful Adoption

Prognosis	Determining Factors	Interpretation	Comments
<b>Good<sup>1</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No aggression training or employment</li> <li>- No history of aggressive behavioral problems</li> <li>- No increased likelihood of aggressive behavior noted on ASC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>No increased risk</b> identified for successful adoption</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Only used for MWDs with NO aggression training or employment</li> <li>- Bite Muzzle Video is NOT required and cannot be evaluated</li> </ul>
<b>Fair<sup>1</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No history of aggressive behavioral problems</li> <li>- No increased likelihood of aggressive behavior noted on ASC</li> <li>- BMV does not indicate increased risk of offensive or defensive aggression</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>No additional increased risk</b> identified for successful adoption</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Best possible assessment for aggression-trained MWDs</li> <li>-- Acknowledges that MWDs with aggression training and/or employment have some inherent safety risk because of their training</li> <li>- Could also be used for MWDs without aggression training</li> </ul>
<b>Guarded<sup>1</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Some combination of:</li> <li>- Minor History of aggression</li> <li>- ASC notes possibility of aggressive behavior</li> <li>- BMV suggests some possibility of future aggression</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Some increased risk</b> of future aggression</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Commander should exercise caution in adoption</li> <li>-- MWD may be best suited for adoption by an MWD handler rather than by general public</li> <li>-- May have safety concerns in specific and limited situations</li> </ul>
<b>Poor<sup>1</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Some combination of:</li> <li>- Clear History of aggression</li> <li>- Multiple concerns of potential aggression noted on ASC</li> <li>- BMV shows clear increase in aggressive behavior</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>SIGNIFICANT risk</b> of future aggression</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In <b>MOST</b> cases, this MWD should NOT be considered for adoption</li> </ul>
<b>DO NOT ADOPT<sup>2</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ASC is marked "is not a candidate for adoption"</li> <li>- And:</li> <li>- Clear History of moderate to severe aggression, often with injury to one or more humans</li> <li>- Multiple concerns of potential aggression noted on ASC</li> <li>- BMV shows clear increase in aggressive behavior</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>HIGH PROBABILITY</b> of future aggression</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clear History of moderate to severe aggression</li> <li>- Strongest recommendation that MWD should NOT be adopted</li> </ul>

**BY ORDER OF THE  
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE,  
ARMY AND NAVY**



**AIR FORCE INSTRUCTION**

**31-126,**

**ARMY REGULATION 700-81,  
OPNAVINST 5585.3B, MCO 5585.6,  
Distribution: PCN 102 08621200**

**17 JANUARY 2019**

**Security**

**DOD MILITARY WORKING DOG  
(MWD) PROGRAM**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

---

**ACCESSIBILITY:** Publications and forms are available on the e-Publishing website at [www.e-Publishing.af.mil](http://www.e-Publishing.af.mil) for downloading or ordering.

**RELEASABILITY:** There are no releasability restrictions on this publication.

---

OPR: AF/A4SX

Certified by: AF/A4S,  
(Brig Gen Andrea D. Tullos)

Supersedes: AFI 31-126,  
28 February 2017

Pages: 29

---

This instruction implements Air Force Policy Directive (AFPD) 31-1, *Integrated Defense*, and DoD Directive 5200.31E, *DoD Military Working Dog (MWD) Program*, and establishes procedures governing the logistics aspect of the DoD MWD Program. It assigns responsibilities for operating, budgeting, funding, accounting, procuring, distributing, redistributing and reporting of dogs and procedures to follow in submitting dog requirements and requisitions. Unless otherwise noted, the guidance and procedures outlined in this instruction apply to all active Air Force, Army, Navy, Marine Corps and DoD Civilian Police agencies as appropriate within the United States, its territories and in foreign countries. Additionally, this Inter-Service/Multi-Service Instruction applies to each Service's Reserves, National Guard, Government owned-contractor operated facilities, direct reporting units (DRUs) and field operating agencies (FOA) not located on DoD installations and any other federal agency electing to participate in the DoD MWD program. Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) using the AF Form 847, Recommendation for Change of Publication; route AF Forms 847 from the field through the appropriate functional chain of command. Any organization may supplement this instruction. Major commands (MAJCOM), FOAs and DRUs send a draft copy of their proposed supplement to AF/A4S for coordination prior

to approval; other commands send one copy of each supplement to the next higher headquarters. This instruction applies to all Air Force active military personnel and civilians, contractor employees in the performance of their duties to an Air Force contract, the Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard and Civil Air Patrol when performing functions for the Air Force, and in accordance with (IAW) DoD 5100.03, Support of the Headquarters of Combatant and Subordinate Joint Commands. It also applies where the Air Force is the executive agent. Ensure all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with Air Force Manual 33-363, *Management of Records*, and disposed of in accordance with the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule located in the Air Force Records Information Management System. “The authorities to waive wing/unit level requirements in this publication are identified with a Tier (“T-0, T-1, T-2, T-3”) number following the compliance statement. See AFI 33-360, *Publications and Forms Management*, for a description of the authorities associated with the Tier numbers. Submit requests for waivers through the chain of command to the appropriate Tier waiver approval authority, or alternately, to the requestors commander for non-tiered compliance items.

### ***SUMMARY OF CHANGES***

This publication establishes policy for DoD personnel on the proper disposition of military working dogs, regardless of the method of procurement, in accordance with Title 10 U.S.C. § 2583, *Military Animals: Transfer and Adoption*. This publication provides mandated Congressional Changes in the adoption process for military working dogs as established in the National Defense Act of 2018. It also mandates Service MWD Program Managers (PMs) maintain accurate data in the DoD Working Dog Management System (WDMS), to include any non-traditional program dogs. Furthermore, this change relocates adoption forms to the WDMS library.

<b>AFI31-126 17 JANUARY 2019</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Chapter 1— GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE MWD PROGRAM</b>	<b>4</b>
1.1.    Responsibilities and Functions. ....	4
1.2.    Annual Trained Dog Requirements (TDR). ....	6
1.3.    US Secret Service Missions (USSS). ....	7
<b>Chapter 2— INSTRUCTIONS, PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR MWD                   PROCUREMENT AND MANAGEMENT</b>	<b>8</b>
2.1.    Requisitioning MWDs. ....	8
2.2.    Shipping/Transportation of MWDs. ....	8
2.3.    Procuring MWDs. ....	9
2.4.    DoD Owned/Contract Supported Working Dogs. ....	9
2.5.    Accountability. ....	11
2.6.    Nomenclatures and National Stock Numbers (NSN). ....	11
2.7.    Validation of 341 TRS Detector Dogs. ....	12
2.8.    Reporting of Worldwide Assets. ....	13
2.9.    Redistribution and Reporting of an Overage of Trained MWDs. ....	13
2.10.   MWDs that fail initial field evaluation. ....	14
2.11.   Euthanasia. ....	15
2.12.   Disposition of Trained, Failure to Qualify and Medically Eliminated MWDs. ....	16
2.13.   Local Training of Qualified Patrol and Detection MWDs. ....	19
2.14.   Inquiries Concerning Procurement. ....	19
2.15.   Deployment Categories and Deployment Medical Procedures for MWDs. ....	19
<b>Attachment 1— GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Attachment 2— BITE MUZZLE VIDEO EVALUATION PROGNOSIS KEY FOR                   VETERINARIANS, PROVOST MARSHALS/SECURITY FORCES                   COMMANDERS AND KENNEL MASTERS</b>	<b>28</b>



## Chapter 1

### GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE MWD PROGRAM

**1.1. Responsibilities and Functions.** DoD designated the Secretary of the Air Force (SecAF) to serve as the DoD Executive Agent (EA) for the MWD Program in DoD Directive (DoDD) 5200.31E, *DoD Military Working Dog Program*. In turn, the SecAF delegated those duties to Headquarters Air Force/Director of Security Forces (AF/A4S). The Air Force (AF) Director of Security Forces will act on the behalf of the SecAF as the EA.

1.1.1. The Director of Security Forces (SF) will appoint a DoD MWD PM to operate independently from the AF MWD Program. **(T-0)**

1.1.2. AF/A4S supports the DoD MWD PM. The DoD MWD PM manages the DoD MWD program, develops policy, and provides guidance to service component PMs, DoD Police Agencies, and the 341st Training Squadron (341 TRS). The DoD MWD PM will:

1.1.2.1. Manage the DoD MWD program for the EA. **(T-0)**

1.1.2.2. In accordance with DoDD 3025.13, *Employment of DoD Capabilities in Support of the U.S. Secret Service (USSS), Department of Homeland Security (DHS)*, coordinate with all program participants on the development of uniform procedures and standards. **(T-0)**

1.1.2.3. Provide management oversight to the development of required training programs for MWDs, instructors, and handlers. **(T-0)** This is inclusive of all DoD Civilian Law Enforcement (LE) agencies, conducting their canine programs under **Chapter 4** of the National Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST).

1.1.2.4. Develop standard MWD operational guidance and make such guidance available to the DoD Components and other federal agencies participating in the DoD MWD Program. **(T-0)**

1.1.2.5. Obtain current information from the MWD Component PMs regarding MWD authorizations and utilization to ensure the ready availability of MWD assets when needed. **(T-0)**

1.1.2.6. Develop servicing agreements with all participants, including federal agencies. **(T-0)**

1.1.2.7. Chair the Joint Service MWD Committee (JSMWDC). **(T-0)**

1.1.2.7.1. The primary purpose of the committee is to frame the joint DoD program. The committee is a unified team, representing the interests of the DoD. Each service PM will have an equal vote.

1.1.2.7.2. The JSMWDC will consist of a representative from each of the DoD Components and DoD civilian law enforcement agencies that use MWDs and the Director, DoD Veterinary Services Program. **(T-0)**

1.1.2.7.3. The JSMWDC will meet at least annually or at the call of the Chair. **(T-0)**

1.1.2.7.4. The JSMWDC will be codified by charter, created and maintained by the DoD MWD PM. **(T-0)**

1.1.2.7.5. The JSMWDC is a unified committee that will address operational, policy, technical, training and doctrinal issues relevant to the DoD MWD Program. Members will develop best practices by collaboratively assessing current and future tactical and strategic MWD requirements and initiatives. MWD requirements and initiatives, developing best practices. By direction of the Chairman, sub-working groups may be directed to research and define specific objectives and operational requirements.

1.1.3. The Department of the Air Force, as EA, is responsible for DoD procurement for the part of National Stock Class 8820 that pertains to MWDs and integrated material management responsibilities for all MWDs used by the DoD Components. Headquarters, United States Air Force, Directorate of Security Forces (AF/A4S) is assigned functional user management responsibility, and the 341 TRS. Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland (JBSA-Lackland), TX is assigned logistical management responsibilities.

1.1.3.1. Dog support equipment and supply items are available through supply channels within each service department or defense agency. Each DoD Component is responsible for procurement and funding their respective services MWD equipment. **(T-3)**

1.1.3.2. The 37th Training Wing, JBSA-Lackland, TX, is responsible for MWD commodity management, procurement and logistics support through the 341 TRS. In this capacity, the 341 TRS commander will:

1.1.3.2.1. Acquire, evaluate, receive and process prospective MWDs. **(T-1)**

1.1.3.2.2. Account for, determine requirements, control records, budget for, price, catalog and perform other related inventory management responsibilities. **(T-1)**

1.1.3.2.3. Maintain custody and care for MWDs under direct control of the 341 TRS. **(T-1)**

1.1.3.2.4. Maintain appropriate levels of dog supplies and equipment, such as dog gear, shipping crates and food to support the kennel population, as well as perform other support requirements. **(T-1)**

1.1.3.2.5. Receive, train and provide distribution of successfully evaluated and mission capable MWDs. 341 TRS is responsible for the shipment of dogs to using agencies by commercial and military air transportation. **(T-1)**

1.1.3.2.6. Provide disposition instructions to DoD components worldwide for the return, redistribution or other disposition of excess dogs. **(T-1)**

1.1.3.2.7. Maintain a central repository for all retired, adopted or deceased DoD dog records. **(T-0)**

1.1.3.2.8. Ensure, through veterinary support, newly acquired dogs meet health and physical standards and ensure proper nutritional, kenneling and sanitary needs are met. **(T-1)**

1.1.4. The Air Force through Air Force Installation and Support Center; Primary Subordinate (AFIMSC PSU) and Air Force Security Center (AFSFC), Army, Navy and Marine Corps will:

1.1.4.1. Establish a central point of contact or clearing unit to submit MWD procurement and replacement requirements to the 341 TRS.

1.1.4.2. Monitor and approve subordinate agencies' MWD requirements.

1.1.4.3. Report excess or overage in trained MWDs as indicated in **Paragraph 2.9**, on a quarterly basis to the DoD MWD PM.

1.1.4.4. The PM maintains a current prioritized list of MWD shortages by base. This list will be utilized when the Service point-of-contact responds to the 341 TRS on inquiries concerning distribution of available qualified MWDs.

1.1.4.5. The PM identifies minimum monthly/weekly/work-cycle substance detection utilization and proficiency training standards for service certified MWDs within individual service guidance.

1.1.5. The Air Force through AFIMSC PSU (AFSFC) will:

1.1.5.1. Serve as the Federal Working Dog sub-Category Management Lead. The scope of this assignment is limited to dogs performing patrol and detection missions; it does not include service dogs or dogs used for medical related activities.

1.1.5.2. Form a government-wide team to research and analyze each participating Agencies' working dog program requirements and industry/academia capabilities.

1.1.5.3. Develop courses of action to identify opportunities for more effective/efficient multi-agency sourcing strategies and opportunities to close gaps between current practices and government/industry/academia best practices.

1.1.5.4. Document all information in a Federal Working Dog Category Intelligence Report and submit it to the Federal Security and Protection Category Manager for signature. Review report annually and update as required.

**1.2. Annual Trained Dog Requirements (TDR).** The JSMWDC determines annual MWD requirements through the TDR process. The JSMWDC will convene a meeting in the third quarter of each fiscal year or as directed by the JSMWDC chair to review and confirm the TDR for the three years following the coming FY and identify any out-of-cycle requirements. The steady-state TDR is the required MWD production number to maintain an acceptable operational readiness to meet the needs of the services. MWD requirements are independent of student training quotas placed on the 341 TRS. Each Service's TDR may be modified based on dog trainer manpower commitment shortfalls throughout the FY. Manpower requirements generate from the Manpower Calculation Equation determine the numbers of service instructors required to meet the annual trained dog requirement. The Joint Services will ratify the results prior to implementation. This will be presented and ratified by the JSMWDC no earlier than 18-24 months prior to any proposed changes in manning. The manpower equation will be provided to Service MWD PMs and be placed on file at the 341 TRS.

1.2.1. Service Initiated Revision of TDR. The Service MWD PM can request an out-of-cycle increase in existing MWDs that will result in a revised service TDR for the current four year plan. Requests should be addressed in writing to the DoD MWD PM stating reasons for the TDR revision. Requests are reviewed on a case-by-case basis; however, these are kept to a minimum and used only to support unexpected urgent mission changes. **(T-1)**

1.2.2. 341 TRS Initiated Adjustment of TDR. Based on historical MWD training data, the EA in concert with Air Education Training Command and the JSMWDC shall compute the projected 341 TRS MWD Training Section requirement 18 to 24 months prior to the beginning

of each FY and in turn, forecast the manpower requirement for each service based on the agreed TDR. The service manning level established at the beginning of the FY will be the basis for computing manpower shortfalls during the remainder of the FY. The 341 TRS may adjust each Service's TDR based on semi-annual reviews of each service's trainer manpower support to the 341 TRS.

1.2.3. The DoD and service components will perform a needs assessment evaluating MWD requirements every three years. The assessment will address current and future capabilities, maintain continuity of operations, and project MWD requirements to support future combatant command (COCOM), Defense Support to Civil Authorities (DSCA), and inter-agency missions.

**1.3. US Secret Service Missions (USSS).** The DoD provides joint service support for Presidential and Vice Presidential Travel. Upon completion of all USSS missions prepare an after action report within five (5) days through their respective service PMs and provide to the Security Forces Operations Tasking Cell. The tasking cell will review forward to USSS Technical Support Division. After action reports will be reviewed to ensure continuity of operations, asses trends to identify and resolve and improve operational support.

## Chapter 2

### INSTRUCTIONS, PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR MWD PROCUREMENT AND MANAGEMENT

**2.1. Requisitioning MWDs.** Requisitions for MWDs are independent of student training quotas. Requisitions are filled on an equitable distribution basis. Each Service has a set number of MWDs they receive each year based on the steady-state TDR. The Service's MWD PM should distribute the MWDs to their units as needed.

2.1.1. Requests for an initial or increase in existing MWD authorization(s) should be forwarded by the Service MWD PM to the DoD MWD PM stating where (by installation/fleet command) each new authorization should be applied. The installation/fleet command will send the request to the service MWD PM, including the reason for the MWD request and any supporting documentation (e.g. service validation letter, mission change verification, etc.). **(T-0)** Service MWD PMs will validate the request against inter-agency manpower authorizations. **(T-0)** Funded manpower position(s) or billet(s) should be in place 90 days after the date the increase is submitted. If the request cannot be validated or does not meet manpower criteria, new authorization increases are not recognized and requisition(s) not entered. It is the responsibility of the Service MWD PM to validate all authorization increases using these criteria. A memorandum, signed by the first O-6 or civilian equivalent in the Service MWD PM's chain of command, stating all requirements of this paragraph have been met, must accompany each request for authorization increase. **(T-0)**

2.1.2. Each Service MWD PM should publish instructions relating to the establishment, validation and adjustment of MWD authorizations on military bases. The Service MWD PM will request TDR revisions IAW [Paragraph 1.2.1](#) **(T-0)**

2.1.3. Service PMs will ensure MWDs are used as long as they are physically and temperamentally fit to perform their duties. Service PMs will not identify MWDs as excess to requirements on the basis of age alone. **(T-1)**

**2.2. Shipping/Transportation of MWDs.** MWDs are shipped according to Defense Transportation Regulation (DTR) 4500.9-R, [Part I](#); Passenger Movement; DTR, [Part II](#), Cargo Routing and Movement, and Air Mobility Command Instruction (AMCI) 24-101, Vol. 11, Cargo and Mail. PMs returning MWDs to the 341 TRS, must coordinate all MWD transportation to JBSA-Lackland, TX with the 341 TRS Logistics Flight Freight Rate Specialist at [MWD.Transportation@us.af.mil](mailto:MWD.Transportation@us.af.mil). **(T-2)**

2.2.1. MWDs shipped Outside the Continental United States (OCONUS), from or to JBSA-Lackland, must be escorted by a person who has successfully completed a recognized DoD MWD handler course. **(T-2)** If an escort from JBSA-Lackland is not available, the appropriate Service MWD PM is notified and will be responsible for providing a qualified escort (at requesting service's expense) within 15 days of notification that a MWD is available.

2.2.2. MWDs shipped within the Continental United States (CONUS), may be shipped by commercial air without an escort; however, situations may dictate an escort is required at the discretion of the 341 TRS (e.g., live animal embargo due to weather, etc.). Escorts should have sufficient funds to defray the cost of reimbursable variations for additional airlines MWD expense as excess baggage and possible pet fees per the Joint Travel Regulations (JTR),

Appendix G. Escorts for initially trained MWDs which are shipped against requisitions, will be provided on the DD Form 1834, Military Working Dog Service Record and an AF Form 2110A, Health Record. **(T-3)**

2.2.3. MWD shipments are closely monitored by all personnel involved to ensure compliance with rules and regulations of carriers governing classifications and tariffs. Personnel must ensure proper safety and comfort standards are maintained at all times. **(T-3)**

2.2.4. Shipper will pay costs for MWD when shipped as freight. **(T-3)** When an MWD travels accompanied by a handler, the MWD is ticketed as (excess baggage) per the JTR, Appendix G, and charged to the traveler's fund cite using Controlled Spending Accounts or Individually Billed Accounts.

**2.3. Procuring MWDs.** The 341 TRS is the only agency authorized to procure and distribute MWDs for use by DoD components or other agencies participating in the DoD MWD Program, unless written authorization is provided by the DoD MWD program management office and the Veterinary Corps, to the requester's Service MWD PM. Pre-screened dogs who meet qualification standards are obtained through procurement [MWD.Procurement@us.af.mil](mailto:MWD.Procurement@us.af.mil) or donation to the 341 TRS from United States and foreign country sources. The DoD MWD PM will authorize any deviation to policy, in writing.

2.3.1. DoD components may be requested to support the 341 TRS by providing temporary kenneling facilities, veterinary and logistics support for MWD acquisition campaigns.

2.3.2. Military veterinarians are responsible for performing physical examinations on all prospective MWDs to determine if they are medically suitable for the DoD MWD Program.

2.3.3. When a dog is accepted as Government property, it is assigned a tattoo number, which is placed on the underside of the left ear. Tattoo numbers should not be issued, changed or reassigned by any service/agency other than the 341 TRS.

**2.4. DoD Owned/Contract Supported Working Dogs.** The use of Contract supported Working Dogs procured and trained for a specific service mission are MWDs for operational standards, care, and housing. MWD procurement outside the MWD pipeline is restricted to those situations the DoD MWD pipeline is unable to meet operational demands, and it is essential for mission accomplishment in terms of numbers of dogs, training required and duration of use. The Service MWD PM requesting such contractor support shall coordinate in advance through the DoD MWD program management office and the Veterinarian Corps. These programs will be limited to a last resort, utilized as a solution for emerging requirements identified by service branches. Dogs procured under these contracts will be entered in the Working Dog Management System (WDMS) data base at the time of procurement and disposition assessment of dogs for temporary non-traditional military missions will be performed by the owning Service in accordance with **Paragraph 2.12**, of this instruction.

2.4.1. Contract coordination will be conducted by a panel consisting of the DoD MWD program management office, and the Director, LTC Daniel E. Holland Military Working Dog Hospital. The panel will confer with the JSMWDC members for lessons learned in past contract efforts. This panel reviews all aspects of the proposed contract, and the DoD MWD PM will provide comments to the servicing PM within seven workdays of the request. **(T-0)**

2.4.2. Services' requirements for contracted working dogs will be forwarded to the EA for review and concurrence prior to contract award. The DoD retains accountability for any service contracted dog that is procured by the services and entered into the DoD inventory.

2.4.3. If the 341 TRS cannot meet the Service MWD requirement and contractor support procurement is utilized, the requester shall coordinate with the Director, Department of Defense Veterinary Service Activity to determine if DoD veterinary support is authorized and available. If such support is available, ensure the contract includes provisions stipulating the contractor will fully reimburse the government for all costs associated with provision of veterinary care. **(T-0)** If DoD veterinary support is not available, the contractor will be solely responsible for veterinary availability and care of its dogs, and the contract should stipulate this fact. **(T-0)**

2.4.4. Contract Working Dog (CWD) teams that are contracted as a service and not owned by the DoD are not normally eligible for military veterinary services. If applicable, and included in the provisions of the contract, non-emergency veterinary services may be provided to CWDs, within the capabilities of the deployed veterinary unit in the theater of operations, on a reimbursable and space available basis. Upon termination of these contracts, the DoD is not responsible for the disposition and adoption of contractor owned CWDs; however, the CWDs cannot be abandoned in deployed areas and must be returned to the contractor's facilities in CONUS. **(T-1)**

2.4.5. Emergency veterinary procedures required to prevent undue suffering or to save the life or limb of CWDs may be provided by military veterinarians, on a reimbursable basis, as time and resources permit, before referral of such cases to a civilian practitioner for follow-up care.

2.4.6. Payment for civilian veterinary medical care (emergency and non-emergency) of CWDs in the theater of operations remains the responsibility of the contractor.

2.4.7. Contract statement of work should require dogs or dog teams to be certified or validated at the frequency and task performance standards as established by the using Service's component directive for DoD MWDs.

2.4.8. Although CWDs are to meet or exceed established Service component performance standards for MWDs, they should only be classified as or referred to as MWDs when procured/owned by the DoD.

2.4.9. Service branches responsible for CWD programs or contracts being executed to augment their MWD program will address disposition and retirement events within the CWD contracts or individual service policies, to ensure the contractor provides proper care for the dogs.

2.4.9.1. Upon contract termination, all MWDs and Contract Supported Working Dogs procured or owned by the DoD will be absorbed into the DoD MWD program within the owning service. If these dogs are excess to owning service demands, they will be distributed/transferred as MWDs to other service branches according to current fair share standards or as operational demands dictate. When a DoD procured/owned, contractor trained MWD is deemed excess, they will be processed for adoption from 341 TRS or the closest DoD Installation MWD kennel per Title 10 U.S.C. § 2583 and established DoD standards as outlined within this instruction and its attachments, regardless of the method of procurement. **(T-0)**

2.4.10. The 341 TRS, DoD Dog Training Center, through the EA may exercise adoption or disposition responsibility of special program canines, if not required by individual Services. The service responsible for the contract will be responsible for disposition of the dogs. Regardless of the method of procurement or specialized capability, the disposition and adoption of MWDs shall occur in accordance with Title 10 U.S.C. § 2583 and established DoD standards as outlined within this instruction and its attachments. **(T-0)**

**2.5. Accountability.** The 341 TRS assumes accountability for all dogs accepted as DoD MWD Program dogs. The 341 TRS Inventory Manager maintains accountable records on all classifications of MWDs by a capability code number. Accountability transfers from the 341 TRS to the gaining installation/fleet command upon receipt of the MWD. Service MWD PMs may redistribute their MWDs within their installations/fleet commands with notification to the 341 TRS. Redistribution to another service requires Service MWD PM's approval and notification of redistribution in writing, to the 341 TRS. Written notification is mailed to the 341 TRS Inventory Manager, 1239 Knight Street, JBSA-Lackland, TX 78236-5151 within 15 days after transfer.

2.5.1. MWDs should be distributed from the 341 TRS to the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Transportation Security Administration at no cost to the gaining service/agency with the exception of second destination transportation costs.

2.5.2. Operational costs such as food, medical, transportation and other expenses related to welfare and kenneling of MWDs are considered common Service costs. When a shipment requires an escort, the receiving Service should provide funding for the MWD shipment and the escort. Dogs supplied to other federal or governmental agencies should be shipped on a reimbursable basis according to agreements between supplying and receiving activities.

2.5.3. Adopted, transferred or deceased MWDs should be removed from accountable records of the owning installation/fleet command according to appropriate materiel management directives, within 15 days of adoption, transfer or death (includes euthanasia). The 341 TRS is provided a copy of the MWDs original DD Form 1834, Service Record, with the final disposition and date boxes annotated and when adopted by a former handler indicated in the remarks section; Covenant Not to Sue; or DD Form 1743, Death Certificate, will be provided to the 341 TRS. A copy of DD Form 1834 and/or DD Form 1743 should be maintained and forwarded to the 341 TRS/DOL Central Repository, 1239 Knight Street, JBSA-Lackland, TX, 78236-5151 for retention. In the event of death, a copy of the DD Form 1743 may be faxed or emailed to the 341 TRS/DOL Central Repository, 1239 Knight Street, JBSA-Lackland, TX, 78236-5151 for retention. In the case of an adoption or transfer, a copy of the "Covenant not to Sue with Indemnity Agreement" (located in WDMS library) should be faxed or emailed to the 341 TRS for retention by the adoption/disposition coordinator, ([MWD.Disposition@us.af.mil](mailto:MWD.Disposition@us.af.mil)). (Refer to AFI 48-131, AR 40-905, SECNAVINST 6401.1B, Veterinary Health Services, for regulatory guidance for disposition of medical records).

**2.6. Nomenclatures and National Stock Numbers (NSN).** MWDs are sensitive high valued assets with assigned NSNs to identify capabilities; however, they are not referred to as equipment since they require continuous training to maintain that capability. The exception to this terminology is use of MWDs in support of civilian law enforcement as defined in DoDI 3025.21, Defense Support of Civilian Law Enforcement Agencies, and 10 United States Code (USC) sections 272, 274. All MWDs have a tattoo and chip identification number much like military



personnel have a social security number; the MWD identification number is used to track and account for MWDs. MWD Nomenclatures and NSNs are:

- 2.6.1. Patrol Dog (PD), 8820-00-435-9005
- 2.6.2. Patrol/Drug Detector Dog (P/DDD), 8820-00-243-7542
- 2.6.3. Patrol/Explosive Detector Dog (P/EDD), 8820-00-188-3880
- 2.6.4. Drug Detector Dog (DDD)/Large, 8820-00-238-8577
- 2.6.5. Drug Detector Dog (DDD)/Small, 8820-01-271-3929
- 2.6.6. Explosive Detector Dog (EDD), 8820-00-043-3526
- 2.6.7. Untrained, 8820-00-935-6677
- 2.6.8. Mine Detector Dog (MDD), 8820-01-535-4047
- 2.6.9. Specialized Search Dog (SSD), 8820-01-526-4588
- 2.6.10. Combat Tracker Dog (CTD), 8820-01-535-4048
- 2.6.11. Improvised Explosive Device Detector Dog (IDD), 8820-01-590-5770
- 2.6.12. Patrol/Explosive Detector Dog – Enhanced (P/EDD-E), 8820-01-677-3032

**2.7. Validation of 341 TRS Detector Dogs.** The 341 TRS conducts training and validation for new DoD MWD assets.

2.7.1. The following is a list of drug odors trained and validated by 341 TRS:

- 2.7.1.1. Cocaine (CO)
- 2.7.1.2. Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA)
- 2.7.1.3. Heroin (HE)
- 2.7.1.4. Marijuana (MJ)
- 2.7.1.5. Methamphetamine (METH)

2.7.2. The following is a list of explosive odors and DoD Identification Codes (DODIC) trained and validated by 341 TRS:

- 2.7.2.1. Ammonium Dynamite (AD)/M585
- 2.7.2.2. Ammonium Nitrate (AN)/(Locally Procured)
- 2.7.2.3. Composition C4 (C-4)/M023
- 2.7.2.4. Detonation Cord (DC)/M456
- 2.7.2.5. Potassium Chlorate (PC)/(Locally Procured)
- 2.7.2.6. Single Base Smokeless Powder (SP)/MY57
- 2.7.2.7. Sodium Chlorate (SC)/(Locally Procured)
- 2.7.2.8. Trinitrotoluene (TNT)/M032
- 2.7.2.9. Semtex 1A (SX)/MN82

**2.8. Reporting of Worldwide Assets.** Working Dog Management System (WDMS) is the accepted DoD program management computer system for MWDs at all units. The PM for WDMS is the DoD MWD PM assigned at AF/A4SX. DoD components will maintain accurate data, to include any non-traditional program dogs, in WDMS to enable accountability of MWDs. (T-1)

2.8.1. The WDMS manages the full lifecycle of an MWD. This information is fully integrated within WDMS, capturing all data on when MWDs are procured, trained, and then assigned into active service in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps. The system provides a critical function by enabling Service PMs to have a comprehensive view of the operational readiness of all MWDs and their handlers across the Service's MWD programs. The system is employed at all units with MWDs, supporting over 1,800 users.

2.8.2. The WDMS Configuration Manager is responsible for maintaining configuration control of WDMS. The Configuration Control Board (CCB) is the official body for final review and documentation of changes to the established WDMS baseline. Only the CCB Chairperson, or designated representative, has the authority to approve or disapprove the actions of the CCB. Functional users are persons authorized to log-on to resources on WDMS. When logging-on to resources on WDMS, every functional user must comply with WDMS security policies and procedures outlined in CJCSI 6510.0 IE Information Assurance (IA) and Computer Network Defense (CND) as well as report security incidents to the Information Assurance Officer. (T-0)

2.8.3. Users are given access to the WDMS based on a need to perform specific work. Access to WDMS is granted by local system administrators. Assigned users shall access only the data, control information, software, hardware, and firmware for which they are authorized access and have a need-to-know, and assume only those roles and privileges for which they are authorized. (T-0) Users shall not divulge account access procedures to any unauthorized user. (T-0) All WDMS users must have an approved DD Form 2875, System Authorization Access Request (SAAR) and signed WDMS System Rules of Behavior on file with their MWD PM prior to being approved access for to WDMS. (T-0) A copy of the WDMS System Rules of Behavior is located at the web site <https://cs2.eis.af.mil/sites/10139/SitePages/WDMS.aspx>.

2.8.4. A WDMS standard user is any individual who has an account which does not have elevated permissions (e.g., a dog handler). A Functional System Administrator (FSA) is any individual with elevated WDMS permissions (e.g., a Kennel Master (KM), a MAJCOM/Regional Representative (Rep), a Service PM Rep or a DoD Rep. In the event a standard user or a FSA temporarily (e.g., a security violation that is being reviewed, a supervisor decision, or a Commander decision) or permanently (e.g., a permanent change of station, retirement, a commanders decision) should no longer have access to the system, it is the responsibility of a FSA to ensure the user's access is removed within 48 hours of the event. Any unit with personnel who access WDMS, is required to have an action within their unit's out-processing procedures (service variations: Change of Station or Separation Checklist) to remove a departing user's access to WDMS.

**2.9. Redistribution and Reporting of an Overage of Trained MWDs.** Only the 341 TRS should authorize return of an MWD to the 341 TRS. Trained MWDs over and above the requirements of a unit are reported to the appropriate MAJCOM/Army Command (ACOM)/Fleet Command (Cmd), who should determine if there is a need for the MWD within that command. If the MWD is an overage to the command, it should be reported to the appropriate Service MWD

PM for possible redistribution within that service. If the Service MWD PM determines the MWD is an overage, a letter should be sent to the 341 TRS requesting assistance in redistributing the MWD to another service/agency.

2.9.1. The overage letter should contain the following information:

2.9.1.1. Reason MWD has been declared overage such as unit deactivation, or reduced authorization, etc.). Include a statement that no requirement exists (include endorsements declaring the MWD excess to the MAJCOM/ACOM/Fleet Command and Service MWD PM).

2.9.1.2. Name, tattoo number and NSN.

2.9.1.3. Age and length of service.

2.9.1.4. Statement regarding MWD temperament and qualification status.

2.9.2. If the MWD is approved for return to the 341 TRS, the MWD is dropped from the owning unit/activity's account upon acceptance at the 341 TRS. If instructions authorize redistribution directly to another DoD Component, accountability should be dropped by the shipping unit/activity and assumed by the gaining unit/activity on transfer of the MWD. Additionally, the transfer should be indicated in the accountability documents referred to in [Paragraph 2.5](#)

2.9.3. When a MWD is approved for return to the 341 TRS, shipments are made using the losing service's fund cite. When an MWD is approved for transfer (either within the service or to another service), shipments are made using the gaining unit/agency's funds cite.

**2.10. MWDs that fail initial field evaluation.** Upon arrival at the MWD's initial assignment, the gaining unit is to conduct all of the MWD transition activity and initial evaluations IAW the "Qualified MWD Field Transition and Evaluation Guide" distributed by the 341 TRS. The purpose of this process is to determine if the MWD can successfully operate in the field environment and perform at the level as certified on upon leaving the 341 TRS. If the MWD is unfit or unable to successfully pass the gaining unit's initial field evaluation, the following action applies:

2.10.1. If the MWD has a medical disqualifier, obtain a statement from the attending veterinarian supporting that the MWD's physical condition has a bearing on the failure.

2.10.2. If the MWD has a skill performance issue, document the apparent deficiency. All MWD team familiarization, training and qualification activity will be recorded in WDMS. All initial qualification evaluations at the owning unit are to be based on the MWD performance levels during evaluation at the time of transfer from the 341 TRS as described in the "Qualified MWD Field Transition and Evaluation Guide".

2.10.3. By the 75th calendar day after arrival at the owning unit, the KM is to complete the MWD field evaluation questionnaire located in the WDMS. The MWD performance is documented as to whether the MWD meets the standard or there are deficiencies identified based off the "Qualified MWD Field Transition and Evaluation Guide". In cases where deficiencies are noted, the KM should explain the deficiency in the comments section. If additional assistance is required from the Service PM and/or the 341 TRS; contact should be made IAW service program directives.

2.10.4. If an MWD successfully completes initial evaluation but displays performance issues during the gaining unit's subsequent advanced MWD training (e.g., new odor imprinting, buried aid detection, etc.) and detection validation, the Service PM shall contact the 341 TRS for assistance. After 120 calendar days in the field, an MWD with performance issues will not be considered for return/exchange unless the 341 TRS was previously notified of the situation by the Service PM. MWDs returned prior to the 120 day deadline will not be counted as a qualified delivery on the Service's TDR and the Service will receive another MWD IAW **Paragraph 1.2**

2.10.5. As directed by the 341 TRS, the Service PM should forward a complete documentation package to the 341 TRS point of contact at [341TRS.Evaluations@us.af.mil](mailto:341TRS.Evaluations@us.af.mil), or the 341 TRS/DOQE, 1220 Truemper Street, Suite 2, JBSA-Lackland, TX, 78236-5151. This package should include complete copies of all training and utilization records as generated from WDMS in addition to any clarification deemed necessary utilizing the <https://safe.arl.army.mil/> web page.

2.10.6. After review of the documentation package, the 341 TRS advises the service to either continue retraining efforts per the specific guidance given, or process the MWD for disposition IAW the instructions provided.

**2.11. Euthanasia.** On the authority of the Accountable Unit Commander (AUC) or designated representative, MWDs may be euthanized after consultation with the attending military veterinarian. With the exception of medical conditions that warrant emergent euthanasia, attending military veterinarians must consult with military specialists at the DoD MWD Veterinary Service (DoD MWD VS), JBSA-Lackland, TX. (T-0) When an MWD is experiencing undue suffering with a poor prognosis for return to duty, the attending veterinarian is authorized to euthanize the MWD without prior consultation with DoD MWD VS personnel. Euthanasia is in accordance with acceptable standards as outlined in the American Veterinary Medical Association's Council on Euthanasia. Anytime an MWD is euthanized, the attending veterinarian must complete and submit a DD Form 1743, listing the reason for euthanasia, to the DoD MWD VS and provide a copy of this form to the unit commander to allow requisition of a replacement MWD. (T-0)

2.11.1. An MWD may be euthanized under the following circumstances:

2.11.1.1. To terminate suffering caused by disease, injury or permanent physical disability.

2.11.1.2. To prevent the spread of contagious disease.

2.11.1.3. When unable to perform as the result of an incurable disease or physical disability.

2.11.1.4. When behavioral disorders are diagnosed that are not responsive to humane training therapy designed to return the MWD to normal use.

2.11.2. When other conditions exist which may warrant euthanasia, such as viciousness or behavioral instability, the unit and the attending veterinarian must consult with the DoD MWD VS before euthanasia is authorized. (T-0)

2.11.3. If the MWD is in a deployed location, remains may be hand-carried or shipped by United States Postal Service. Ensure they are in a non-metal, sift-proof container such as

double bagged and in a cardboard box. If shipped, handlers need to identify on the customs label as cremated remains.

**2.12. Disposition of Trained, Failure to Qualify and Medically Eliminated MWDs.** MWDs are deemed excess to the needs of the DoD, by the 341 TRS, before they are disposed of by any DoD component or participating federal agency through adoption, transfer to Law Enforcement or euthanasia. The disposition process established by the 341 TRS is governed by the requirements of Title 10 U.S.C. § 2583. Once an owning unit has determined their MWD can no longer meet mission requirements, the unit may begin the disposition process. The owning unit will contact their MWD PM to identify their MWD as a possible candidate for elimination from the MWD program and to initiate the disposition process. (T-0) The owning unit will ensure no MWD procured for utilization in the DoD MWD program is disposed of by transfer to any agency (e.g., medical, research and development or clinical investigation) for the purpose of invasive research or training that would potentially compromise the health of the MWD. (T-0)

2.12.1. To initiate disposition of a MWD, the AUC should coordinate the package through the Service MWD PM who submits it to the 341 TRS Adoption/Disposition coordinator utilizing the <https://safe.arl.army.mil/> web page. All pertinent documents involving the MWDs disposition are scanned and uploaded to this website for submission (DD form 810-1, DD form 810-2, DD Form 810-3, DD form 810-4, DD form 810-5, DD form 810-6, DD form 810-7). A Bite Muzzle Video (reference, Evaluation Prognosis Key, **Attachment 10** located in WDMS), is recorded and submitted for all patrol trained, previously patrol trained, or any MWD that displays aggressive behaviors; and uploaded using Windows Media Player, unless a safety exemption by a local Veterinary staff is needed. When this occurs, the attending veterinarian must submit a letter explaining the safety reasons the MWD cannot safely perform the evaluation. (T-0). Air Force packages should be submitted via their respective chain of command determined by their Service MWD PM. Army packages are submitted through Army Command (ACOM)/Army Service Component Commands (ASCC)/Direct Reporting Unit (DRU), with an information copy provided to the Service MWD PM. Navy and Marine Corps packages should be submitted through the chain of command to the Service MWD PM. Note: An Adoption Suitability Assessment, DD form 810-3, and bite muzzle video is NOT required for MWDs that will only be considered for Transfer to law enforcement agencies (LEA).

2.12.2. Service PMs will scan all disposition packages in the following order (checklist provided in WDMS library). (T-1)

2.12.2.1. Recommendation letter signed by the AUC, which identifies a medical problem or the cause of failure and a summary of retraining efforts (located in WDMS library).

2.12.2.2. AFSFC/MWD PM recommendation for USAF units, Service MWD PM letter for Army, Navy and Marine Corps units.

2.12.2.3. Bite muzzle video, for MWDs that are or, have received bite work training, or display aggressive behaviors. The regional veterinarian will evaluate the video prior to submission.

2.12.2.4. Bite muzzle test assessment form, DD form 810-3, for MWDs that are or, have received, bite work training, or display aggressive behaviors (located in WDMS library).

- 2.12.2.5. MWD Adoption Suitability Checklist, DD form 810-1, which includes the AUC determination of MWD suitability for adoption (located in WDMS library). (T-2)
- 2.12.2.6. Training records (only if a training issue exists). Included when the unit recommends the MWD returns to the 341 TRS as a training aid, the included records will cover from the start of the training issue to the present time.
- 2.12.2.7. Veterinarian letter to AUC describing the MWD's physical condition as it relates to performance failure or medical eligibility for adoption. (T-1)
- 2.12.2.8. Consultation/Referral Form from Veterinarian.
- 2.12.2.9. DD Form 2619, Master Problem List.
- 2.12.2.10. DD Form 1829, Record of Military Working Dog Physical Examination, rendered within 30 days of the report and containing a complete synopsis of the medical history.
- 2.12.2.11. Relevant SF 600, Chronological Record of Medical Care.
- 2.12.2.12. Relevant SF 519-B, Radiologic Consultation Request/Report.
- 2.12.3. Any change to required supporting items or documents is enumerated on the 341 TRS web site, <https://www.37trw.af.mil/Units/37th-Training-Group/341st-Training-Squadron/> or published Disposition and Adoption Procedures Guidelines.
- 2.12.4. Following the review of the package, the 341 TRS Disposition Review Board will provide a recommendation. (T-1) If the MWD is deemed excess to the needs of the DoD, this written recommendation is forwarded to the MAJCOM/ACOM/Navy/Marine Corps PM.
- 2.12.5. The Disposition Review Board may take the following actions:
  - 2.12.5.1. Declare the MWD excess to the DoD.
  - 2.12.5.2. Direct the MWD to stay on duty at present location.
  - 2.12.5.3. Direct return of the MWD to JBSA-Lackland, TX, for use in training. The unit will coordinate transportation arrangements with the 341 TRS inventory manager and freight rate specialist. (T-3) When the MWD fails to initially certify or the MWD is returned to the 341 TRS as a training aid, the 341 TRS will be responsible for the cost of returning the MWD. (T-2) The accountable unit that has a MWD will fund any transportation fees associated with a military escort of the MWD back to the United States. (T-0)
- 2.12.6. When a MWD is declared excess or unsuitable for DoD use by 341 TRS and deemed by the AUC as suitable for adoption, the MWD should be disposed of to the greatest extent possible by the following priorities: (T-0)
  - 2.12.6.1. Former handlers will have first preference when determined to be in the best interest of the MWD or DoD owned CWDs. Other persons capable of humanely caring for the dog will have secondary preference. It is the MWD handler's responsibility to make adoption requests known to the KM. The KM is to annotate the "loss remarks" box in the "MWD Management" Tab of WDMS when a handler has identified their request to adopt their MWD upon retirement. In the event of multiple handlers desiring to adopt a retiring MWD, the AUC will determine the adopter in the best interest of the MWD and the KM

will inform all handlers of the decision. See [Attachment 9](#) in WDMS for the MWD Adoption Form application, DD form 810-7, which should be completed by candidate adopter and maintained by the AUC or designee.

2.12.6.2. Transfer to a Law Enforcement Agency (LEA). MWDs that have not successfully completed training or operational MWDs that are considered too aggressive for adoption by private citizen or a handler should be considered for transfer, if otherwise healthy.

2.12.6.3. Humane euthanasia by Veterinary Corps Officer (VCO) supporting the AUC when not disposed of under above methods. Euthanasia should only be used as a last resort when all other methods have been exhausted.

2.12.7. The Covenant not to Sue with Indemnity Agreement located in WDMS library, is completed for both an (adoption to a private citizen, DD form 810-5) and a transfer (to a Law Enforcement/Government agency, DD form 810-6).

2.12.8. Veterinary Corps Officer (VCO) will neuter or spay all MWDs prior to adoption, but this can be waived for transfer to Law Enforcement/Government agency. (T-1)

2.12.9. In the case of a MWD located OCONUS at the time of retirement that is suitable for adoption at that time, the Secretary of the military department concerned shall undertake transportation of the dog to the CONUS (including transportation by contract at United States expense) for adoption under this section, unless the MWD is adopted OCONUS or transportation of the dog to the continental United States would not be in the best interests of the dog for medical reasons. (T-0)

2.12.10. The service department of a MWD that is OCONUS at the time of retirement and is also suitable for adoption, is responsible for the MWD's transportation back to CONUS (including transportation by contract), unless the MWD is adopted OCONUS or transportation to CONUS would not be in the MWD's best interests for medical reasons. The Secretary of each military service will carry out a program to provide for the award of one or more medals or other commendations to handlers of military working dogs under the jurisdiction of such Secretary to recognize valor or meritorious achievement by such handlers and dogs." (T-0) Any medal or commendation awarded pursuant to a program shall be of such design, and include such elements, as the Secretary of the military department concerned shall specify. The Secretary concerned may use an existing award to carry out such program. Any medal or commendation awarded pursuant to a program may be presented to and accepted by the handler concerned on behalf of the handler and the military working dog concerned.

2.12.11. The bite muzzle evaluation, DD form 810-3, and video are routed to their respective regional veterinarian for behavioral evaluation. In unique cases where a determination cannot be made, the animal behavior specialist assigned to the LTC Daniel E. Holland Military Working Dog Hospital at JBSA-Lackland, TX will provide necessary input for evaluation. (T-2) All regional veterinarians conducting adoption suitability evaluations must be trained by the animal behavior specialist. (T-2) The only exceptions to the bite muzzle evaluation are:

2.12.11.1. The MWD is a danger to itself and/or others (these records have a Behavior Consult in them with a "DO NOT ADOPT" statement, concurring with the VCO's decision to humanely euthanize the MWD).

2.12.11.2. Completing the video would severely compromise the MWDs welfare (severe injury/disease/pain; these records also contain a Behavior Consult supporting this decision and providing a working prognosis if the MWD is otherwise adoptable).

2.12.11.3. When a MWD poses an immediate threat to kennel staff or is suffering due to an incurable medical illness, the local Veterinarian may euthanize the MWD.

**2.13. Local Training of Qualified Patrol and Detection MWDs.** With MAJCOM/ACOM/Fleet Cmd approval, units may locally train single purpose detector dogs that have received training by the 341 TRS in explosives or drugs as patrol/detector dogs. Units will contact the 341 TRS/DOQE for current training protocol prior to initiating training. (T-2) Non-341 TRS patrol MWD evaluators will conduct patrol certification evaluations using the 341 TRS Operating Instruction (OI) patrol certification protocols. (T-2) Contact 314 TRS/DOQ for current protocols. 341 TRS evaluators will assist with consultation about those standards and their application, and provide the OI and evaluation forms. (T-2)

2.13.1. Following a successful patrol, drug, or explosive MWD certification, non-341 TRS patrol MWD evaluators should transmit copies of completed and signed JBSA-Lackland Form 375 for each certified MWD to their MWD PM, who should execute a cover letter and forward this letter along with any other required documentation to 341 TRS Evaluations. 341 TRS Evaluations forwards these copies, along with letters requesting appropriate NSN changes, for approval by the commander and for action by the logistics flight.

2.13.2. DoD Law Enforcement Evaluations. DoD civilian law enforcement agencies will execute their respective canine programs under National Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) standards. DoD LE agencies will execute certifications of MWDs by a recognized, approved non DoD agency. DoD LE contracted canine statements of work and performance work statements will be reviewed and approved by the DoD MWD PM.

**2.14. Inquiries Concerning Procurement.** Persons offering dogs for sale or donation to the Government should contact 341 TRS/DOLMP, 1239 Knight Street, JBSA-Lackland, TX 78236-5151, DSN 473-5895, or toll free 1-800-531-1066 or via [MWDprocurement@us.af.mil](mailto:MWDprocurement@us.af.mil).

**2.15. Deployment Categories and Deployment Medical Procedures for MWDs.** MWDs are frequently deployed to austere environments with high operational tempos and limited veterinary care. Consequently, it is important that all VCOs and KMs continually evaluate and prepare MWDs in a consistent manner to meet medical readiness requirements. This ensures the MWD arrives fit for duty.

2.15.1. IAW AR 40-905/SECNAVINST 6401.1B/AFI 48-131 and AR 40-3 Medical, Dental and Veterinary Care, it is the joint responsibility of the VCO and the KM to meet no less than quarterly to discuss the medical condition, training proficiency and physical fitness status of each MWD. VCOs advise and support KMs and MWD unit commanders on MWD medical issues affecting readiness and fitness for duty.

2.15.2. MWDs are assigned a deployment category as defined herein by the attending VCO in consultation with the KM. This deployment categorization serves as a valuable management tool to define current medical readiness for each MWD, and is intended for use by KMs, unit commanders and service MWD PMs to apportion MWD assets based upon medical readiness and fitness for duty. Only the attending VCO assigns the deployment category. VCOs should ensure that the medical deployment categories of all MWDs are updated at least monthly, at



every routine exam or sick call, or any time a medical condition develops that warrants a change in the deployment category. VCOs should also ensure this information is concurrently documented in the Health Record (HR), updated in the WDMS database and provided to the KM and MWD unit commander.

2.15.3. Deployment categories for MWDs are as follows:

**2.15.3.1. CATEGORY 1, Unrestricted Deployment.**

2.15.3.1.1. Medically fit for any contingency or exercise.

2.15.3.1.2. No limiting or compromising factors such as lack of stamina, etc.

2.15.3.1.3. No existing or recurring medical problems that limit performance. Chronic or minor medical problems may exist or be under treatment but do not limit performance. Medications or special diets are not considered limiting factors unless unavailable.

**2.15.3.2. CATEGORY 2, Restricted Deployment.**

2.15.3.2.1. Medically fit for regions or missions after consideration of known medical problems and consultation with KM.

2.15.3.2.2. No significant limiting or compromising factors.

2.15.3.2.3. Medical problems may exist which slightly limit performance but are controlled.

2.15.3.2.4. Reason for restriction is reported in the HR and to the KM, MWD unit commander and service MWD PMs.

**2.15.3.3. CATEGORY 3, Temporarily Non-deployable.**

2.15.3.3.1. Medical condition exists that impedes daily duty performance and is under diagnosis, observation or treatment.

2.15.3.3.2. Reason for non-deployability is reported in the HR and to the KM, MWD unit commander and Service MWD PMs.

2.15.3.3.3. An Estimated Release Date (ERD) is reported in the HR and to the KM, MWD unit commander and service MWD PMs. A MWD in CATEGORY 3 requires periodic follow-up exams, further consultation with Veterinary Corps Clinical Specialists and consistent reevaluation of the diagnostic and therapeutic plan for return to duty.

**2.15.3.4. CATEGORY 4, Non-deployable.**

2.15.3.4.1. Unresolved medical or physical problems exist that frequently or regularly impede daily duty performance and ERD cannot be given.

2.15.3.4.2. Medical or physical conditions warrant submission to the MWD Disposition Process with subsequent replacement within one year. CATEGORY 4 MWDs are specifically authorized for limited missions on their installation, within their medical condition and training proficiency capabilities at the discretion of the KM and MWD unit commander.

- 2.15.3.4.3. Reason for non-deployability is reported in the HR and to the KM, MWD unit commander and PMs.
- 2.15.4. VCOs in conjunction with the MWD unit, will use the following procedures for pre-deployment assessments:
- 2.15.4.1. Determine eligibility of the MWD. Generally, MWDs are in CATEGORY 1 or 2 status to be eligible for deployment OCONUS or outside their home theater of operation. For all MWD deployments, however, the final deployment authority resides with the MWD unit commander.
  - 2.15.4.2. Check deployment medical requirements. VCOs will refer to deployment medical intelligence assets before deployment to determine any specific medical requirements. (T-2) This information is conveyed to the KM, MWD handler and unit commander to ensure widest dissemination of this critical information.
  - 2.15.4.3. Conduct a physical examination of the MWD and ensure all required immunizations confirm fitness for duty and to issue a health certificate.
  - 2.15.4.4. A Deployment Health Record accompanies the MWD handler whenever it deploys. MWD health records are reviewed evaluating specific COCOM/deployment area veterinary considerations. At the time of MWD return to home station, all new forms and data are transferred into the permanent HR.
  - 2.15.4.5. VCOs send an adequate supply of all chronic and prophylactic medications, such as heartworm and ectoparasite preventives, sufficient to last through the duration of anticipated deployment. (T-2)
  - 2.15.4.6. Vector-borne infections are a major concern for MWDs in most deployed areas of operation. Aggressive vector control efforts are required. Provide all MWDs a monthly oral heartworm preventive combined with an intestinal parasite preventive and monthly broad-spectrum topical non-permethrin non-organophosphate acaricide or acaricide with insect growth regulator. The attending VCO will provide these items. (T-2)
  - 2.15.4.7. Supplement routine prophylaxis with amitraz collars and/or daily non-permethrin, non-organophosphate acaricide (such as fipronil spray), if necessary, when a MWD deploys to an area with high risk of tick-borne illness (e.g., Southeast Asia, Southwest Asia, the Balkans).
  - 2.15.4.8. Supplement routine prophylaxis with a four percent deltamethrin collar when a MWD deploys to an area with endemic or epidemic leishmaniasis and sand fly infestation (e.g., the Mediterranean basin, Southwest Asia).
  - 2.15.4.9. The VCO will issue a health certificate not more than 10 days prior to travel. (T-2)
- 2.15.5. The attending VCO will instruct the MWD handler on general dog care and any special instructions necessary for the geographic region to include the following: (T-2)
- 2.15.5.1. Feed only the standard diet to MWDs, and only the prescribed diet to other MWDs as directed by the attending VCO. Ensure proper storage of MWD diet, with particular attention to rodent control and protection from contamination.
  - 2.15.5.2. Use only potable water for MWD's.

- 2.15.5.3. Administer heartworm preventive and external parasite preventive monthly. Administer oral doxycycline or tetracycline with food and water as directed by the attending VCO. Remove medicated collars when the MWD is not under direct physical control in order to reduce risk of accidental ingestion and intoxication.
- 2.15.5.4. Examine MWDs for external parasites daily and report any infestation to the KM.
- 2.15.5.5. Employ heat and cold prevention measures, as appropriate, and emergency first aid treatment for heat exhaustion or hypothermia.
- 2.15.6. MWD medical procedures during deployment are as follows:
- 2.15.6.1. MWD handlers and KMs will watch individual MWDs for behavior and health problems, and report problems to their supporting veterinary personnel. (T-2)
- 2.15.6.2. MWD handlers, KMs and theater PMs must establish reliable communications with veterinary assets in theater as soon as possible to coordinate veterinary support, medical evacuation and emergency care policies and procedures. (T-2)
- 2.15.6.3. Because of the potential adverse effect on a MWD, use of non-approved items such as: cooling vests, pad covers, booties, ballistics vests, goggles and so forth, should be discussed with the KM and theater veterinary personnel before use.
- 2.15.7. VCOs, in conjunction with the MWD's unit, will conduct the following procedures during redeployment and within 72 hours of arrival of an MWD returning from OCONUS missions due to the potential introduction of foreign animal diseases as well as the health of the MWD:
- 2.15.8. Conduct a physical examination and evaluation including submission of clinically appropriate lab tests, update of permanent HR and nutrition (diet and weight) information.
- 2.15.8.1. Treat the MWD for any external parasites and internal parasites.
- 2.15.8.2. Separate the MWD from other MWDs as much as possible for 14 days. The MWD may continue to work during this time provided it does not show any signs of illness.
- 2.15.8.3. Collect and submit post-deployment blood samples.
- 2.15.8.4. Screen for screwworm. MWDs returning to CONUS from any region of the world where screwworm exists (e.g., Central and South America, Cuba, Southwest Asia) should be accompanied by a certificate signed by the VCO or a full-time salaried veterinary official of the exporting region stating that the dog was inspected within five days preceding shipment to CONUS and was found to be either free of screwworm or was found to be infested with screwworm and was held in quarantine and treated until free prior to leaving the region of export. These MWDs are re-examined at five days and 14 days after arrival at home station.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARIES OF THE  
AIR FORCE, THE ARMY, AND THE NAVY  
OFFICIAL

WARREN D. BERRY  
Lieutenant General, USAF  
DCS/Logistics, Engineering & Force Protection

MARK A. MILLEY  
General, USA  
Chief of Staff OFFICIAL

DIXON R. SMITH  
Vice Admiral, USN  
Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for  
Fleet Readiness and Logistics OFFICIAL

BRIAN D. BEAUDREAULT  
Lieutenant General, USMC  
Deputy Commandant for Plans, Policies, and  
Operations

**Attachment 1****GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

10 USC 2583, Military animals: transfer and adoption 2016

10 USC 272 & 274, Use of military equipment and facilities/Maintenance and operation of equipment, 7 Jan 2011

AFI 48-131, Veterinary Health Services 15 Nov 2013

AMCI 24-101 Vol. 11, Cargo and Mail 27 Feb 2013

AR 40-3, Medical, Dental and Veterinary Care 22 Apr 2013

AR 40-905/SECNAVINST 6401.1B Veterinary Health Services 29 Aug 2006

CJCSI 6510.0 IE, Information Assurance (IA) and Computer Network Defense (CND) 15 Aug 2007

DTR 4500.9-R Part I, Passenger Movement 1 Nov 2011

DTR 4500.9-R Part 2, Cargo Routing and Movement, 10 Oct 2018

DoD 5100.03, Support of the Headquarters of Combatant and Subordinate Unified Commands 9 Feb 2011

DODD 3025.13, Employment of DoD Capabilities in Support of the US Secret Service (USSS), Department of Homeland Security (DHS) 8 Oct 2010

DODD 5200.31E, Military Working Dog (MWD) Program 10 Aug 2011

DODI 3025.21, Defense Support of Civilian Law Enforcement Agencies 27 Feb 2013

DODI 5015.02, DoD Records Management Program 24 Feb 2015

THE JOINT TRAVEL REGULATIONS, Uniformed Service Members and DoD Civilians

SECNAVINST 6401.1B, Veterinary Health Services 22 Sep 2006

***Adopted Forms***

AF Form 847, Recommendation for Change of Publication 22 Sep 2009

AF Form 2110A, Health Record 1 Jul 2004

DD Form 810-1, MWD Adoption Suitability Checklist

DD Form 810-2, Protocol for Video Behavioral Testing of Military Working Dogs

DD Form 810-3, Bite Muzzle Test Assessment Form

DD Form 810-4, Disposition Checklist

DD Form 810-5, Covenant Not to Sue (Adoption)

DD Form 810-6, Covenant Not to Sue (LEA Transfer)

DD Form 810-7, MWD Application

DD Form 1743, Death Certificate of a Military Animal 1 Jun 2013  
DD Form 1829, Record of Military Working Dog Physical Examination 1 Oct 1971  
DD Form 1834, Military Working Dog Service Record 1 Oct 1971  
DD Form 2619, Master Problem List 1 Jun 2013  
DD Form 2875, System Authorization Access Request Aug 2009  
JBSA-Lackland Form 375  
SF 513, Medical Record Consult Sheet 1 Apr 1998  
SF 519-B, Radiological Consultation Request/Report 1 Aug 1983  
SF 600, Chronological Record of Medical Care 5 Jun 1997

***Abbreviations and Acronyms***

**ACOM**—Army Command  
**AD**—Ammonium Dynamite  
**AETC**—Air Education and Training Command  
**AFI**—Air Force Instruction  
**AFIMSC**—Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center  
**AFSFC**—Air Force Security Forces Center  
**AMCI**—Air Mobility Command Instruction  
**AN**—Ammonium Nitrate  
**AR**—Army Regulation  
**ASCC**—Army Service Component Command  
**AUC**—Accountable Unit Commander  
**C4**—Composition C4  
**CO**—Cocaine  
**CCB**—Configuration Control Board  
**COCOM**—Combatant Command  
**CONUS**—Continental United States  
**CTD**—Combat Tracker Dog  
**CWD**—Contract Working Dog  
**DC**—Detonation Cord  
**DDD**—Drug Detector Dog  
**DHR**—Deployment Health Record  
**DHS**—Department of Homeland Security

**DoD**—Department of Defense

**DoD MWD VS**—Department of Defense Military Working Dog Veterinary Service

**DoDVSA**—Department of Defense Veterinary Service Activity

**DRU**—Direct Reporting Units

**DSCA**—Defense Support to Civil Authorities

**DTR**—Defense Transportation Regulation

**EA**—Executive Agent

**EDD**—Explosive Detector Dog

**ERD**—Estimated Release Date

**FSA**—Functional System Administrator

**HE**—Heroin

**HR**—Health Record

**IAW**—In Accordance With

**IDD**—Improvised Explosive Device Detector Dog

**JBSA**—Joint Base San Antonio

**JSMWDC**—Joint Service Military Working Dog Committee

**KM**—Kennel Master

**LE**—Law Enforcement

**MAJCOM**—Major Command

**MDD**—Mine Detector Dog

**MEDEVAC**—Medical Evacuation

**METH**—Methamphetamine

**MDMA**—Methylenedioxymethamphetamine

**MJ**—Marijuana

**MWD**—Military Working Dog

**NSN**—National Stock Number

**OCONUS**—Outside the Continental United States

**OI**—Operating Instruction

**PC**—Potassium Chlorate

**PD**—Patrol Dog

**P/DDD**—Patrol/Drug Detector Dog

**P/EDD**—Patrol/Explosive Detector Dog

**PM**—Program Manager  
**POST**—Peace Officers Standards of Training  
**R&D**—Research and Development  
**SC**—Sodium Chlorate  
**SECNAVINST**—Secretary of Navy Instruction  
**SOW**—Statement of Work  
**SP**—Smokeless Powder  
**SSD**—Specialized Search Dog  
**TDR**—Trained Dog Requirements  
**TNT**—Trinitrotoluene  
**TRS**—Training Squadron  
**TRW**—Training Wing  
**TSA**—Transportation Security Administration  
**USAF**—United States Air Force  
**USC**—United States Code  
**USSS**—United States Secret Service  
**VCO**—Veterinary Corps Officer  
**WDMS**—Working Dog Management System

### *Terms*

**Certification**—Process by which the 341 TRS documents, as a result of field evaluations, that an MWD meets the DoD established skill requirements for Basic Skills, Patrol, Detection or Tracking; depending on the NSN nomenclature of the MWD.

**Disposition Review Board**—Members of the 341 TRS who review requests for disposition instructions for MWDs belonging to the DoD MWD program.

**Medically Eliminated**—An MWD that fails to meet medical standards established by the DoD MWD program.

**Military Working Dog (MWD)**—Any Government-owned dog procured, acquired or bred to meet working dog requirements of the military departments and DoD agencies, collectively referred to as DoD components.

**Qualification**—Process by which the individual DoD Services document, as a result of field evaluations, that a MWD team (dog and handler) can successfully complete validations in each applicable skill; Basic Skills, Patrol, Detection or Tracking.

**Tattoo**—Identifying mark with inked series of alphabet letter and three numbers placed inside left ear of MWD.



**Attachment 2****BITE MUZZLE VIDEO EVALUATION PROGNOSIS KEY FOR VETERINARIANS,  
PROVOST MARSHALS/SECURITY FORCES COMMANDERS AND KENNEL  
MASTERS**

**A2.1.** Background: Bite Muzzle Video (BMV) is accomplished for each Military Working Dog (MWD) with prior training and/or employment in controlled-aggression that is being considered for adoption. This video is produced by the owning unit and evaluated by a veterinarian trained by the Veterinary Animal Behavior Specialist at the LTC Daniel E. Holland MWD Hospital at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, TX, for use by the attending veterinarian and owning unit Commander. The evaluation is accomplished as part of a Request for Disposition to determine whether a MWD is “Excess to Government Needs” (and, therefore, adoptable and/or transferrable outside of the DoD). It should be noted that the “Excess” determination is based on medical, behavioral and/or training deficiencies of a MWD, but the decision to adopt or not adopt a MWD determined to be “Excess” is the responsibility of the owning unit Commander in accordance with the guidelines provided in the below assessment chart. (Public Law 106-446, November 2000).

**A2.2.** Procedure: The Bite Muzzle video is accomplished according to a published protocol and forwarded as a digital video for evaluation. This video is evaluated for signs of overt aggression as well as canine behavior and body postures that are suggestive of increased or decreased potential for future aggressive behavioral problems. The video is assessed along with the Request for Disposition, Adoption Suitability Checklist (ASC) and Veterinary Record to provide an over-all assessment of liability for the adoption of a MWD. The assessment is reported on a Medical Record Consult Sheet (SF 513) to the MWDs attending veterinarian and owning unit chain of command. The attending veterinarian provides consultation to the owning unit commander regarding the advisability of adopting a MWD, based on its medical condition(s) and behavior. The fundamental behavioral recommendation is provided as a “Prognosis for Successful Adoption.”

Figure A2.1. Prognosis for Successful Adoption

Prognosis	Determining Factors	Interpretation	Comments
<b>Good<sup>1</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No aggression training or employment</li> <li>- No history of aggressive behavioral problems</li> <li>- No increased likelihood of aggressive behavior noted on ASC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>No increased risk</b> identified for successful adoption</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Only used for MWDs with NO aggression training or employment</li> <li>- Bite Muzzle Video is NOT required and cannot be evaluated</li> </ul>
<b>Fair<sup>1</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No history of aggressive behavioral problems</li> <li>- No increased likelihood of aggressive behavior noted on ASC</li> <li>- BMV does not indicate increased risk of offensive or defensive aggression</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>No additional increased risk</b> identified for successful adoption</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Best possible assessment for aggression-trained MWDs</li> <li>-- Acknowledges that MWDs with aggression training and/or employment have some inherent safety risk because of their training</li> <li>- Could also be used for MWDs without aggression training</li> </ul>
<b>Guarded<sup>1</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Some combination of:</li> <li>- Minor History of aggression</li> <li>- ASC notes possibility of aggressive behavior</li> <li>- BMV suggests some possibility of future aggression</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Some increased risk</b> of future aggression</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Commander should exercise caution in adoption</li> <li>-- MWD may be best suited for adoption by an MWD handler rather than by general public</li> <li>-- May have safety concerns in specific and limited situations</li> </ul>
<b>Poor<sup>1</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Some combination of:</li> <li>- Clear History of aggression</li> <li>- Multiple concerns of potential aggression noted on ASC</li> <li>- BMV shows clear increase in aggressive behavior</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>SIGNIFICANT risk</b> of future aggression</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In MOST cases, this MWD should NOT be considered for adoption</li> </ul>
<b>DO NOT ADOPT<sup>2</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ASC is marked "is not a candidate for adoption"</li> <li>- And:</li> <li>- Clear History of moderate to severe aggression, often with injury to one or more humans</li> <li>- Multiple concerns of potential aggression noted on ASC</li> <li>- BMV shows clear increase in aggressive behavior</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>HIGH PROBABILITY</b> of future aggression</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clear History of moderate to severe aggression</li> <li>- Strongest recommendation that MWD should NOT be adopted</li> </ul>