



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS 28TH BOMB WING (AFGSC)  
ELLSWORTH AIR FORCE BASE SOUTH DAKOTA**

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL ELLSWORTH AIR FORCE BASE MILITARY PERSONNEL,  
CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES, CONTRACTORS, DEPENDENTS, AND  
VISITORS

FROM: 28 BW/CC

SUBJECT: Installation Animal and Pet Control Policy

1. All individuals on Ellsworth Air Force Base (EAFB) are subject to the guidance under this 28th Bomb Wing Memorandum. The purpose of this memorandum is to clarify policy and procedures for privately owned pets on EAFB, to include military and civilian personnel with service dogs, emotional support animals, comfort animals, or therapy animals. For purposes of this memorandum, emotional support animals, comfort animals, and therapy animals are all synonymous and will be referred to solely as comfort animals throughout.

2. No person, military or civilian, may bring dogs or other animals to their duty location except for official purposes. However, a disabled person may bring a Registered/Certified Service Animal (i.e. seeing-eye dog, a guide dog, or other animal assisting or being trained to assist that individual) in accordance with 41 CFR 102-74.425.

a. Exceptions may be made by 28 MSG/CC or 28 BW/CC, on a case-by-case basis.

b. In all cases, the owner is responsible for the care and supervision of his or her animal. If an animal behaves in an unacceptable way, disrupts the workplace, or the owner fails to control the animal, 28 MSG Commander will review the incident(s) and may direct that the animal be removed from base.

c. A service dog is individually trained to do work or perform specific tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability. Comfort animals are not considered service animals, even when used as part of a medical treatment plan. Documents designating any animal as a comfort animal do not automatically qualify an animal as a service animal.

d. Per AFI 36-205, Affirmative Employment Program (AEP), Special Emphasis Programs, and Reasonable Accommodation Policy: "The employee will coordinate with supervisors and managers on reasonable accommodation and return to work issues. Work in consultation with the local CPS/NAF-HRS when appropriate, the servicing legal office, in the receipt, review, and determination process in response to an employee's reasonable accommodation for any medical needs for a service or emotional support animal."

e. Pet owners seeking an approved accommodation will be required to show veterinarian certification of all required vaccinations. Dogs and cats must have a metal vaccination tag always attached to a collar around the neck and an implanted microchip with the owner contact information.

3. Individuals may not bring dogs of any breed on EAFB (including a mixed breed) that are deemed "aggressive" or "potentially aggressive," except for certified military working dogs being boarded or

handled by their trainer. For purposes of this policy, aggressive or potentially aggressive breeds of dogs are defined as a Pit Bull (American Staffordshire Bull Terrier or English Staffordshire Bull Terrier), Rottweiler, Doberman Pinscher, Chow, and wolf hybrids.

a. Personnel residing off-base and owning a prohibited dog breed will be allowed access to the Veterinary Treatment Facility (VTF). Prohibited dog breeds must remain muzzled while in public areas.

b. Personnel with a service dog that is also one of the breeds listed above must have documentation stating the dog is a qualified service dog or have an approved accommodation from the 28 MSG Commander for a comfort dog as outlined in 2(a) above. These breeds shall be muzzled when in public areas unless the muzzling restricts the service dog from performing the specific tasks it's trained to execute in service to the owner.

c. If the pet owner is a resident of privatized housing, they must follow BBC's guidance (see Privatized Housing Pet Addendum, Resident Guide and Lease requirements) before bringing any pets into privatized housing.

d. Reports of unauthorized dog breeds/aggressive dogs on EAFB may be investigated by 28 SFS, the Military Housing Office (MHO), or other personnel as deemed by the 28 MSG Commander. If it is determined the dog is not authorized on the installation, the owner of the animal will be issued a Pet Control Incident Letter, which may result in the permanent removal of the animal from EAFB Exclusive Jurisdiction areas. If the owner is a resident of privatized housing, the MHO will advise Balfour Beatty Communities of the unauthorized animal so they can take action in accordance with the provisions of the resident's lease/pet addendum.

4. While on EAFB, all animals and pets must be secured with leashes under positive control, except in fenced areas. Pets must not be left tied or unattended in exterior appurtenances or unfenced yards or allowed to run loose outside fenced yards.

a. Complaints concerning loose/nuisance/stray animals should be reported to the BBC leasing office at 605-923-9000 during business hours, and the 28 SFS Base Defense Operation Center (BDOC) at 605-385-4001 during evenings/weekends/holidays.

b. Immediately notify 28 SFS BDOC at 605-385-4001. All animal bites/attacks must be reported, regardless of if bite or attack was provoked or not.

5. If any provision(s) of this memorandum are inconsistent with applicable Air Force Instruction or law, then those inconsistent provisions are unenforceable. However, all remaining provisions consistent with Air Force Instruction and law will remain intact and enforceable.

DEREK C. OAKLEY, Colonel, USAF  
Commander