

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Procedures for Requesting an Exception to Policy for a Firearms Suppressor Use While Hunting

1. The purpose of this memorandum is establish the procedures for requesting an exception to policy (ETP) to MCoE Regulation 200-1 to use a firearms suppressor for hunting in pursuit of game animals their respective open seasons.
2. An ETP to use a firearms suppressor while hunting will only be considered for individuals who are not otherwise prohibited from possessing or using a weapon suppressor on Fort Benning and are not currently serving a hunting license suspension on the date of the ETP request.
3. Requesting individuals must have a diagnosed auditory condition, disease or injury that would be exacerbated by gunshots in close proximity. Requesting individuals will use the standard memorandum in Annex A to officially request the ETP.
4. The requesting individual's condition, disease, or injury must be diagnosed by a medical doctor. A sample memorandum is included in Annex B for requesting individuals to provide to their respective health care provider to validate the need. If the condition, disease or injury is diagnosed by an audiologist, and the audiologist is not a licensed medical doctor, the validation memo will require a medical doctor's signature. A general practitioner is acceptable as long as he or she is a licensed medical doctor.
5. Requesting individuals will provide the original diagnosis verification memorandum or letter and the original ETP request memorandum to the president or the vice president of the Garrison Commander's Hunting and Fishing Advisory Council (GCHFAC). Requesting individuals may deliver in person or send through their respective council representative. The GCHFAC will make copies of the memoranda and return the originals.
6. The GCHFAC will forward the request memorandum to Fort Benning DES for a records check. If DES identifies any reason why the requesting individual is prohibited from possessing or using a firearms suppressor on Fort Benning, DES will notify the GCHFAC of the reason and the request will be denied. The GCHFAC will notify the requesting individual of the reason for denial. DES will notify the GCHFAC president and vice president of a clean records check.
7. An ETP may only be granted by the Fort Benning garrison commander. The ETP will only be granted upon fully meeting the requirements as stated in this memorandum.

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8. Approved ETPs for firearm suppressor are valid so long as the requesting individual remains in good standing within the community and does not commit a safety violation that results in a suspension or revocation of hunting privileges on Fort Benning. DES will conduct an annual scrub of personnel granted the firearms ETP to ensure those personnel are still authorized to possess and use a firearms suppressor on Fort Benning. The GCHFAC will assist DES by maintaining an up to date list of all personnel granted a firearms ETP and provide that list to DES NLT 31 July annually.

9. The ETP may be revoked at any time for the following reasons: federal or state law changes to prohibit firearm suppressor use for hunting; the individual commits a safety violation that results in a license suspension or revocation; the individual commits an act that prohibits possession or use of a suppressor on Fort Benning.

10. DES will notify the GCHFAC of any cause to revoke the ETP and the GCHFAC president or vice president will notify the individual.

11. The points of contact for this memorandum are the president and vice president of the GCHFAC. Current contact information can be found on the Fort Benning MWR website or through the unit GCHFAC representative.

SEAN E. GAVAN
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President, Garrison Commander's Hunting
And Fishing Advisory Council