



Letter to Accompany Policy Letter 16



I wanted to take this opportunity to accompany the new Policy Letter #16 with a short note from me to help explain to the recipients of this policy the intent of this policy. In short, I have received anonymous ICE comments for several months expressing concerns over the number of unauthorized home businesses on this installation. In each case, the person or persons making these complaints has elected to not provide contact information nor specifics about these unauthorized home businesses making it difficult for me to rectify the problem. After the third time, I put together a team to research the media available to us (mostly FaceBook sites and websites) to try and determine who may be operating without proper authorization and we developed a list of folks with whom to make contact.

Let me state up front that it is not my intent to prevent enterprising tenants residing on this post, whether service member or dependent, from being able to operate a home business. Especially in light of the remote location in which we live, I think home businesses provide an invaluable way for the community to help the community with services not otherwise readily available on post and a means of a supplemental source of income for our Soldiers and their Families. I applaud this entrepreneurial mindset and want to encourage it. On the other hand, I have a statutory and regulatory requirement to ensure that all businesses are operating safely and in accordance with the applicable regulations. It is not easy for all to know what the rules are, therefore, I have had the attached policy letter written and have signed that policy. All home businesses operating on post must have a permit in accordance with the provisions of Army Regulation 210-7, Army Regulation 215-1 and applicable California state codes. We are a concurrent jurisdiction installation and therefore are required to apply California law to businesses operating on post. The Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation (FMWR) directorate on post has subject matter experts who can help you to get the permit needed to operate on post. We in fact have over 42 home businesses operating on post right now with appropriate required permits. To simplify the process to securing this approval, though the regulations state that I approve all home businesses on post, I have delegated authority to approve them to my Director, FMWR, Mrs. Sonia Bonet. She and the Commercial Solicitation Officer, Mrs. Tammy Wilson [Phone #: (760) 380-3348], can assist you at Building 1317 at the intersection of Inner Loop and Normandy with permitting your home business. I am obligated to apply these applicable regulations and laws to all home businesses operating on post and it would not be fair for me to allow some to knowingly operate without the necessary safety and health checks, if applicable while others have followed the rules. Please come in within the next thirty days to secure the appropriate permit.

Thanks for your interest in making the Fort Irwin Community achieve "Every Day Better!"

COL Scott Taylor
Garrison Commander