§631.17 Marine Corps policy.

(a) Within CONUS. (1) Commanders may request authority from Headquarters, Marine Corps (Code POS), to establish off-installation operations—
   (i) To assist Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies within the limits imposed by higher authority and the Posse Comitatus Act (18 U.S.C. 1385).
   (ii) In conjunction with military operations.
   (iii) To safeguard the health, and welfare of Marine personnel.
   (iv) When the type of offenses or the number of service members frequenting an area is large enough to warrant such operation.

(2) Constraints on the authority of military personnel to act off-installation (Posse Comitatus Act (18 U.S.C. 1385)) and the specific scope of the authority will be clearly delineated in all authorizations for off-installation operations.

(b) Within OCONUS, off-installation operations will be kept at the minimum needed for mission accomplishment. Installation commanders may authorize off-installation operations as required by local conditions and customs, as long as they are conducted in accordance with applicable treaties and SOFAs.

(c) Off-installation operations will be coordinated with the local installation commander through the SJA, or higher authority, and local law enforcement authorities.

(d) Marines selected for off-installation operations must—
   (1) Have mature judgment and law enforcement experience.
   (2) Be thoroughly familiar with all applicable agreements and implementing standard operating procedures, to include the constraints of the Posse Comitatus Act (18 U.S.C. 1385), in CONUS and United States Host Nation agreements in OCONUS area, as applicable.

(e) Security personnel accompanying civilian police during off-installation operations do so only to enforce parts and orders pertaining to persons subject to their jurisdiction. Security personnel assigned off-installation operations remain directly responsible to, and under the command of their Navy superiors when accompanying civilian police. Security personnel performing such duties may come to the aid of civilian police in order to prevent the commission of a felony or injury to a civilian police officer.

(i) Civilian police and court liaison may be established with concurrence of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service and is encouraged particularly when the intent is to reduce mishaps.
agreements in OCONUS areas, as applicable.

e. Marines accompanying civilian police during off-installation operations do so only to enforce parts and orders pertaining to persons subject to their jurisdiction. Marines assigned off-installation operations remain directly responsible to, and under the command of their Marine superiors when accompanying civilian police. Marines performing such duties may come to the aid of civilian police in order to prevent the commission of a felony or injury to a civilian police officer.

f. Procedures for absentee and deserter collection units to accept an active-duty absentee or deserter from civilian authorities may be established.

g. Civilian police and civil court liaison may be established.

§ 631.18 Operations.

When an incident of substantial interest to the Service, involving Service property or affiliated personnel, occurs off-installation, the Service law enforcement organization exercising area responsibility will—

a. Obtain copies of civilian law enforcement reports for processing or forwarding according to applicable Service parts.

b. Return apprehended persons to representatives of their Service as soon as practicable.

APPENDIX A TO PART 631—ARMED FORCES DISCIPLINARY CONTROL BOARD PROCEDURES GUIDE

A–1. Purpose. This guide prescribes procedures for the establishment, operation, and coordination of AFDCBs. AFDCB proceedings are not adversarial in nature.


a. The board will meet quarterly. The commander establishing the AFDCB may specify whether the meetings will be open or closed. If not specified, the decision is at the discretion of the president of the board. Normally proceedings are closed, but may be opened to the public when circumstances warrant.

b. Special meetings may be called by the president of the board. Except by unanimous consent of members present, final action will be taken only on the business for which the meeting was called.

c. A majority of voting members constitutes a quorum for board proceedings.

A–3. AFDCB composition. Voting members will be selected per section 631.7.

A–4. Attendance of observers or witnesses.

a. The board may invite individual persons or organization representatives as witnesses or observers if they are necessary or appropriate for the conduct of board proceedings. The below listed authorities may assist in addressing installation or command concerns or issues.

(1) Federal, State, and local judicial, legislative, and law enforcement officials.

(2) Housing part and enforcement authorities.

(3) Health, and social service authorities.

(4) Environmental protection authorities.

(5) Alcoholic beverage control authorities.

(6) Equal employment opportunity authorities.

(7) Consumer affairs advocates.

(8) Chamber of Commerce representatives.

(9) Public works or utility authorities.

(10) Local fire marshal, and public safety authorities.

(11) State and local school board or education officials.

(12) Any other representation deemed appropriate by the sponsoring command such as, news media, union representatives, and so forth.

b. Invited witnesses and observers will be listed in the minutes of the meeting.

A–5. Appropriate areas for board consideration.

a. Boards will study and take appropriate action on all reports of conditions considered detrimental to the good order and discipline, health, morale, welfare, safety, and morals of Armed Forces personnel. These adverse conditions include, but are not limited to, those identified in § 631.9.

b. The board will immediately forward to the local commander reported circumstances involving discrimination based on race, color, sex, religion, age, or national origin.


a. Off-limits restrictions should be invoked only when there is substantive information indicating that an establishment or area frequented by Armed Forces personnel presents conditions, which adversely affect their health, safety, welfare, morale, or morals. It is essential that boards do not act arbitrarily. Actions must not be of a punitive nature. Boards should work in close cooperation with local officials and proprietors of business establishments, and seek to accomplish their mission through mutually cooperative efforts. Boards should encourage personal visits by local military, and civilian enforcement or health officials to establishments considered below standard. AFDCBs should point out unhealthy conditions or undesirable practices to establishment owners or operators to produce the desired corrective action.