



# Department of Defense

## DIRECTIVE

**NUMBER 5200.31E**

August 10, 2011

Incorporating Change 1, Effective September 21, 2020

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USD(I&S)

**SUBJECT:** DoD Military Working Dog (MWD) Program

**References:** See Enclosure 1

1. PURPOSE. This Directive:

- a. Reissues DoD Directive (DoDD) 5200.31E (Reference (a)) to update policy and assign responsibilities for the DoD MWD Program (hereinafter referred to as MWD where appropriate).
- b. Continues to designate the Secretary of the Air Force as the DoD Executive Agent (DoD EA) for MWD resourcing, training, utilization, and final disposition in accordance with DoDD 5101.1 (Reference (b)).
- c. Incorporates counternarcotics program responsibilities and cancels DoD Instruction (DoDI) 5525.10 (Reference (c)).

2. APPLICABILITY. This Directive applies to:

- a. OSD, the Military Departments, the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities in the DoD (hereinafter referred to collectively as the "DoD Components").
- b. Other Federal agencies that participate in the program.

3. DEFINITIONS. See Glossary.

4. POLICY. It is DoD policy to:

a. Operate a program that provides the DoD Components with MWD capabilities to deter, detect, or respond to actions that may affect the security of DoD installations, facilities, personnel, resources, or operations. Within the context of the lawful use of a MWD, appropriate rules regarding the use of force shall be promulgated for each specific use of a MWD.

b. Not use any MWD as part of an interrogation approach or to harass, intimidate, threaten, or coerce a detainee for interrogation purposes, in accordance with DoDD 3115.09 (Reference (d)).

c. Limit use of contract working dogs (CWD) or contract working dog teams (CWDT). When used, CWD or CWDT will be utilized in a defensive role and is strictly prohibited from offense operations. CWD and CWDT shall meet the supporting DoD Component's MWD requirements, to include training, certification, and veterinary medical standards.

d. Increase domestically whelped sourcing of MWDs, in accordance with section 361 of Public Law 110-417 (Reference (e)), to the extent possible, while maintaining quality and best value for the U.S. Government.

e. Support Federal Government initiatives relating to MWD training and performance standards in accordance with Homeland Security Presidential Directive 19 (Reference (f)).

f. Provide MWD Team (MWDT) support to Federal, State, or local law enforcement agencies (LEAs) pursuant to sections 371-378 of title 10, United States Code (U.S.C.) (Reference (g)). MWDT shall be utilized for detection purposes and shall be accompanied by a representative from the requesting agency. MWDs shall not be used to pursue, track, attack, or hold for apprehension purposes and MWD handlers shall not engage in the execution of a warrant, search, seizure, arrest, or any other activity when such actions would violate the section 1385 of title 18, U.S.C., also known as the Posse Comitatus Act of 1978, as amended (Reference (h)). Consistent with applicable DoD Component regulations, MWD handlers may testify in civil court to explain the training received, the past success rates of the MWD, the event leading to the employment in the particular detection support, and the results of the detection support.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES. See Enclosure 2.


6. INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS. The reporting requirements in this Directive have been assigned Report Control Symbol DD-INTEL(AR)2197 in accordance with DoD Manual 8910.01 (Reference (i)).

7. RELEASABILITY. **Cleared for public release.** This Directive is available on the Directives Division Website at <https://www.esd.whs.mil/DD/>.

8. SUMMARY OF CHANGE 1. This administrative change updates:

- a. The title of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence to the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security in accordance with Public Law 116-92 (Reference (j)).
- b. Additional organizational changes reflecting direction in statute or Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense direction.
- c. Administrative changes in accordance with current standards of the Office of the Chief Management Officer of the Department of Defense.

9. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Directive is effective August 10, 2011.



William J. Lynn III  
Deputy Secretary of Defense

Enclosures

1. References
2. Responsibilities

Glossary

ENCLOSURE 1

REFERENCES

- (a) DoD Directive 5200.31E, "DoD Military Working Dog (MWD) Program," March 29, 2006 (hereby cancelled)
- (b) DoD Directive 5101.1, "DoD Executive Agent," September 3, 2002, as amended
- (c) DoD Instruction 5525.10, "Using Military Working Dog Teams (MWDTs) to Support Law Enforcement Agencies in Counterdrug Missions," September 17, 1990 (hereby cancelled)
- (d) DoD Directive 3115.09, "DoD Intelligence Interrogations, Detainee Debriefings, and Tactical Questioning," October 11, 2012, as amended
- (e) Section 361 of Public Law 110-417, "Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009," October 14, 2008
- (f) Homeland Security Presidential Directive 19, "Combating Terrorist Use of Explosives in the United States," February 12, 2007
- (g) Sections 371-378 of title 10, United States Code
- (h) Section 1385 of title 18, United States Code, also known as "The Posse Comitatus Act of 1978, as amended"
- (i) DoD Manual 8910.01, DoD Information Collections Manual," June 30, 2014, as amended
- (j) Public Law 116-92, "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020," December 20, 2019
- (k) DoD Instruction 5200.08, "Security of DoD Installations and Resources and the DoD Physical Security Review Board (PSRB)," December 10, 2005, as amended
- (l) DoD 5200.08-R, "Physical Security Program," April 9, 2007, as amended
- (m) DoD Instruction 1100.22, "Policy and Procedures for Determining Workforce Mix," April 12, 2010, as amended
- (n) DoD Directive 6400.04E, "DoD Veterinary Public and Animal Health Services," June 27, 2013, as amended
- (o) DoD 7000.14-R, "Department of Defense Financial Management Regulation," current edition
- (p) DoD Instruction 8910.01, "Information Collection and Reporting," May 19, 2014, as amended
- (q) DoD Instruction 4000.19, "Support Agreements," April 25, 2013, as amended

ENCLOSURE 2

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY (USD(I&S)). The USD(I&S) shall:

- a. Provide the DoD Components with policy guidance for implementation.
- b. Oversee the DoD EA for the DoD MWD Program in providing for end-user requirements.
- c. Develop and provide DoD Component standards and procedures for DoD Component MWD Programs.
- d. Oversee the use of MWD and CWD in accordance with DoDI 5200.08, DoD 5200.08-R, and DoDI 1100.22 (References (k), (l), and (m)).

2. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR SPECIAL OPERATIONS AND LOW-INTENSITY CONFLICT (ASD(SO/LIC)). The ASD(SO/LIC), under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, shall coordinate counternarcotics program objective memorandum submissions with the USD(I&S) for the training and certification of narcotic detector dogs to conduct inspections at DoD military installations and facilities.

3. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR HEALTH AFFAIRS (ASD(HA)). The ASD(HA), under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, shall oversee the DoD EA for the DoD Veterinary Services Program in accordance with DoDD 6400.04E (Reference (n)).

4. HEADS OF THE DoD COMPONENTS WITH MWD PROGRAMS. The Heads of the DoD Components with MWD programs shall:

- a. Implement this Directive and subsequent MWD policy guidance.
- b. Review and approve regulations and operational rules for MWD employment.
- c. Plan, program, and budget for participation in the DoD program and respective Component program and provide the Office of the USD(I&S) (OUSD(I&S)) Director of Security with a copy of all related program objective memorandum submissions or funding agreements.

d. Oversee the sustainment, restoration, or modernization of MWD kenneling and training facilities to support the global security mission of the MWD program in accordance with DoD 7000.14-R, Volume 2B, Chapter 8 (Reference (o)).

e. Coordinate MWD or CWD requirements through the MWD management office, Security Forces Center, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

f. Designate a Component program manager (PM) and direct the PM to:

(1) Provide the MWD management office with primary and alternate 24-hour contact telephone numbers; be reachable by telephone or other device at all times, without exception.

(2) Be the Component primary representative to the Joint Service Military Working Dog Committee (JSMWDC).

(3) Review CWD or CWDT contracts to ensure the contracts meet MWD training, certification, and veterinary medical standards prior to being approved by a contracting agency.

g. Provide the MWD management office and the OUSD(I&S) Director of Security copy of DoD Component program implementing and functional guidance.

h. Provide the MWD management office with requirements to facilitate timely, effective, and efficient procurement and training actions, to include required training aids, consistent with DoDI 8910.01 (Reference (p)).

i. Provide the DoD Veterinary Services Activity (VSA), through the Office of the Army Surgeon General, a Service or agency point of contact and projected MWD (and CWD when U.S. Army Veterinary Services have been made responsible for their veterinary care) requirements and any updates, changes, or cancellations to ensure adequate availability of veterinary support. For requirements and other information, contact the DoD VSA at [www.veterinaryservice.army.mil/dodvsa.html](http://www.veterinaryservice.army.mil/dodvsa.html).

5. SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE. The Secretary of the Air Force, as the DoD EA for the DoD MWD Program and in addition to the responsibilities in section 4 of this enclosure, shall:

a. Identify requirements and resources necessary to execute DoD EA responsibilities and functions.

b. Designate appropriate directors, program managers, and staff to:

(1) Provide for the management and oversight of:

(a) DoD Component or program participant MWD requirements.

(b) MWD breeding, procurement, and research, development, test and evaluation.

(c) Development of required training programs and curriculums for MWDs instructors, kennel masters, and handlers.

(d) MWD inventory, distribution, and final disposition.

(e) MWD and MWDT training or support requirements.

(2) Develop servicing agreements with DoD Component or program participants consistent with DoDI 4000.19 (Reference (q)).

(3) Coordinate with all program participants to provide continuous, timely, and sustainable MWD requirements.

(4) Chair the JSMWDC and ensure the JSMWDC:

(a) Consists of a representative from each DoD Component with MWD equity, the DoD Veterinary Services Activity, or other program participants as appropriate.

(b) Meets at least annually or at the call of the Chair.

(c) Reviews user requirements, program processes, and curriculums.

(d) Identifies and coordinates appropriate sources of manning, funding, and reimbursement to operate the DoD MWD Program.

(5) Coordinate MWD tasking requests, to include support to U.S. Secret Service, Department of State, U.S. Customs Service, Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration, and other LEAs, as appropriate.

6. SECRETARY OF THE ARMY. The Secretary of the Army, in addition to the responsibilities in section 4 of this enclosure, shall:

a. Provide the DoD Components veterinary guidance and veterinary support in accordance with References (n) and (q).

b. Serve as the DoD veterinary consultant for MWD procurement and acceptance, physical standards, conditioning programs, training methods, and performance standards; kenneling standards and requirements; health and well being; and MWD research, development, test, and evaluation.

c. Provide training to MWD handlers on first-echelon veterinary medical care of MWDs, including nuclear, chemical, and biological protection.

7. CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in addition to the responsibilities in section 4 of this enclosure, shall designate an office of primary responsibility to coordinate Combatant Command MWD requirements.



GLOSSARY

PART I. ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ASD(HA)	Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs
ASD(SO/LIC)	Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict
CWD	contract working dog
CWDT	contract working dog team
DoDD	DoD directive
DoD EA	DoD Executive Agent
DoDI	DoD instruction
JSMWDC	Joint Service Military Working Dog Committee
LEAs	law enforcement agencies
MWD	military working dog
MWDT	military working dog team
OUSD(I&S)	Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security
PM	Program Manager
U.S.C.	United States Code
USD(I&S)	Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security
VSA	Veterinary Services Activity

PART II. DEFINITIONS

Unless otherwise noted, these terms and their definitions are for the purposes of this Directive.

MWD. Any canine bred, procured, or acquired to meet DoD Component requirements to support operations in the protection of installations, resources, and personnel, to include explosive and illegal narcotic detection capabilities, patrol, tracking, or other requirements prescribed by the DoD Component.

MWDT. One trained MWD and one trained handler. (Under normal circumstances, an MWD will not be dispatched without a handler.)