



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 2D BOMB WING (AFGSC)
BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE LOUISIANA

27 August 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

FROM: 2 BW/CC

SUBJECT: Barksdale AFB Flag Display Policy Guidance

References: (a) SECDEF Memo, Public Display of Flags in the Department of Defense, 15 Jun 20

1. Flags are powerful symbols and are of particular importance to the military. We wear the American flag on our uniforms, place it in positions of honor throughout our base, and drape it over the coffins of our fallen Airmen and Guardians. As outlined by the Secretary of Defense's memo concerning the Public Display of Flags, *"The flags we fly must accord with the military imperatives of good order and discipline, treating all of our people with dignity and respect, and rejecting divisive symbols."*

2. I expect all Striker Airmen, Guardians, Veterans, Dependents, and Base Residents to abide by the direction in reference (a) and as expanded upon herein. This direction applies to work centers, common access areas, on-base residences, and all public areas. To ensure Barksdale AFB meets this direction, the following flag policy is effective until further notice:

a. In addition to the American flag, the following are authorized for display or depiction as representational flags to promote unity and esprit de corps:

- (1) Flags of U.S. States and Territories and the District of Columbia
- (2) Military Service flags including all Service Academies
- (3) Flag or General Officer flags
- (4) Presidentially-appointed, Senate-confirmed civilian flags
- (5) Senior Executive Service (SES) and Military Department-specific SES flags
- (6) The POW/MIA flag
- (7) Flags of other countries for which the U.S. is an ally or partner, or for official purposes
- (8) Flags of organizations in which the U.S. is a member (e.g., NATO)
- (9) Ceremonial, command, unit, and branch flags or guidons

b. No flags other than those listed above are authorized.

c. This guidance applies to public displays or depictions of flags by ***Service Members and Civilian Employees*** in all Department of Defense work places, common access areas, and public areas, including, but not limited to:

(1) Office buildings, facilities, aircraft, government vehicles, hangars, garages, ready rooms, conference rooms, individual offices, cubicles, storage rooms, tool and equipment rooms, workshops, break rooms, kitchens/galleys, recreational areas, commissaries, Air Force exchanges, and heads/latrines/restrooms—including property and buildings off installation leased by the Department

(2) Sensitive compartmented information facilities and other secure facilities

(3) Open-bay barracks, berthing areas, and common areas of barracks and bachelor quarters

(4) School houses and training facilities

d. This guidance applies to public displays or depictions of flags by ***all base housing residents*** in all spaces or items in public or plain view, including ***public-private venture housing (e.g., parking lots, yards, gazebos, or porches)***. All Hunt Military Community-managed units (*i.e.*, all government-provided housing on Barksdale AFB) are provided under a public-private venture housing agreement.

e. The public display or depiction of unauthorized flags in museum exhibits, state-issued license plates, grave sites, memorial markers, monuments, educational displays, historical displays, or works of art, where the nature of the display or depiction cannot reasonably be viewed as endorsement of the flag by the Department of Defense, is not prohibited.

3. Questions regarding this policy can be directed to the 2 BW Commander's Action Line at (318) 456-1015 or 2bw.pa@us.af.mil.

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Commander