



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WARRIOR TRANSITION COMMAND
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MCWT-CG

WTC Policy Memo 09-004

Expires 6 January 2012

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MEMORANDUM FOR Commanders, Regional Medical Commands

SUBJECT: Policy Memorandum - Therapeutic/Rehabilitative and Leisure/Recreational Trips or Events for Warriors in Transition and Medical Staff

1. Purpose. The purpose of this policy is to clarify duty status and establish the minimum requirements for Warriors in Transition (WTs) to participate in therapeutic/rehabilitative and leisure/recreational trips or events, in order to establish a consistent approach across the US Army Medical Command (MEDCOM).
2. Proponent. Warrior Transition Command (WTC) is the proponent for this policy.
3. Applicability. This policy applies to all WTUs/CBWTUs.
4. Background.

a. **The WT's primary care manager (PCM), or equivalent medical provider, will determine what trips and events are therapeutic or rehabilitative and supported with medical staff presence. Only those trips with therapeutic or rehabilitative value as determined by the medical providers will be considered official Army programs.** Examples of therapeutic/rehabilitative trips or events include, but are not limited to running, hand cycling, or biking events, kayaking, surfing, outrigger canoeing, participation in winter sports, camping, hiking, **and certain community reintegration type events.**

b. Leisure or recreational trips or events are those that are not deemed therapeutic or rehabilitative and do not require medical staff presence. Examples of leisure or recreational trips or events include, but are not limited to, concerts and spectator sporting events.

5. Policy. All WTU and Community Based Warrior Transition Unit (CBWTU) Commanders must have a local policy for therapeutic/rehabilitative and recreational/leisure trips/events. At a minimum, the local policy must include the specific information outlined below.

***This policy supersedes WTC Policy Memo, 14 October 2009, Subject: Policy Memorandum-Therapeutic/Rehabilitative and Leisure/Recreational Trips or Events for Warriors in Transition and Medical Staff.**

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a. **A requirement for a determination memorandum by the appropriate medical provider stating the event or trip has therapeutic or rehabilitative value with supporting analysis. Any donated trips or events will be strictly scrutinized and must be properly accepted before any WTs or medical staff can begin travel and participate. Commanders will consult their servicing legal office and follow the donation approval process outlined by MEDCOM Regulation 1-4.**

b. The responsibility and process for coordinating the trip/event calendar.

c. The WT selection process.

d. The medical clearance process. Minimal requirements include written medical clearance from the PCM, physiatrist (if applicable), physical and/or occupational therapist(s) and nurse case manager (NCM).

e. The Risk Assessment responsibilities and process. All WTs who are BLACK, RED, or AMBER, for risk status must receive clearance from the Commander and Social Worker.

f. The TDY/leave/pass process.

(1) TDY. If a trip or event is determined to be an official Army program as stated in paragraph 4a above, all participants and any required medical staff will submit a request for TDY. Any required medical staff must accompany and assist the WT in a medical support role to perform that medical staff's regular medical duties and not as a chaperone, escort, or any other role.

(2) The trip or event will not interfere with the performance of official duties and will not detract from readiness.

(3) The trip or event will not interfere with the WT's treatment progression and healing process.

(4) Leave or passes will be submitted for all other trips per local policy.

(5) The WTU or CBWTU Commander will have overall responsibility and authority to determine whether WTs will be granted TDY, leave, or pass.

g. **If a trip or event is determined to be an official Army program, the WT's PCM, or appropriate equivalent medical provider, will select the accompanying medical staff.**

h. The local policy will identify responsibilities and expectations of the sponsoring organization, the participants, the servicing legal office, the WTU/CBWTU Command

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and Staff, and any other applicable agencies (Soldier and Family Assistance Center, Chaplains, Families, etc).

i. Commanders will conduct a final review of the official Army event to ensure WT travel time is minimized and to ensure the benefits of the event merit the WT's time away from treatment and rehabilitation.

6. The point of contact for this memorandum is the Office of the Command Judge Advocate, Warrior Transition Command.



GARY H. CHEEK
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