



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS, 1st ARMORED DIVISION AND FORT BLISS  
11685 SERGEANT MAJOR BOULEVARD  
FORT BLISS, TEXAS 79918-6818

AFBL-CG

AUG 21 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Command Policy Letter #4, Misuse of Government Travel Charge Cards Policy

1. References.

a. Army Regulation 600-20, Rapid Action Revision (RAR) 6 November 2014, Army Command Policy.

b. DoD Financial Management Regulation (DoD 7000-14-R), Volume 9, Travel Policy and Procedures.

c. Joint Travel Regulation (JTR) 1 October 2014

2. Policy. The government travel credit card (GOVCC) is provided for official travel and travel-related expenses away from the official duty station. The GOVCC is required to be used by travelers unless its use is specifically exempted. The card and the account shall not be used for any personal purposes unrelated to the conduct of official business while in an official travel status.

3. Specific Instructions.

a. The credit card company has entered into an agreement beneficial to the U.S. Army. Use of the GOVCC simplifies official travel procedures and reduces the cost of providing advance travel funds. Though the GOVCC is government-sponsored, it is issued in the name of the individual cardholder. This means that the cardholder is personally responsible for the charges made using the GOVCC.

b. Misuse of the GOVCC will not be tolerated. Examples of misuse include, but are not limited to non-TDY GOVCC charges for personal, family or household purposes or for cash withdrawals from ATMs or banks when not related to official travel requirements.

c. While the GOVCC shall generally be used only for reimbursable expenses associated with official travel, the following (while not reimbursable) are considered to be related to official travel. Therefore, the GOVCC may be used for the following purposes.

(1) Incidental Expenses. The cardholder, while in a travel status, may use the card for non-reimbursable incidental travel expenses such as rental movies, personal telephone calls, exercise fees, and beverages, when these charges are part of a room billing or meal and are reasonable. Additional expenses incurred for spousal occupancy (hotel room) and meals may be included if inherent to the traveler's billing statement even if the additional expense is not reimbursable. Separate charges for airfare, hotel rooms, rental cars or meals for spouses or family members are not authorized to be charged against the GOVCC.

(2) Expenses Incurred During Leave in Conjunction with TDY. The GOVCC may not be used for personal lodging or car rental charges, IAW paragraph 2515 Chapter 2 JTR. The GOVCC may be used to charge the official portion of the airfare but not the personal airfare, IAW paragraph 030504, Chapter 3, Volume 9 DoDFMR.

d. In addition to misuse, an individual may also be disciplined for failure to make timely payment of the debt incurred with the GOVCC. Late charges levied against the account are the cardholder's responsibility. In order to avoid such situations, cardholders shall label all reimbursable GOVCC expenses when filing the travel claim in the Defense Travel System (DTS). Any non-reimbursable expenses charged to the GOVCC are also to be split-disbursed in the payment totals screen of the DTS transaction. In addition to administrative actions that may be taken for allowing a GOVCC account to become delinquent, the credit card company may take other actions such as canceling cards, reporting delinquency problems to national credit bureaus, and garnishing wages.

e. Cardholders are notified of the travel card program restrictions when they receive their card. They are required to sign a statement of understanding to acknowledge the requirement to abide by the GOVCC program provisions and that misuse of the card or allowing the GOVCC account to become delinquent may result in disciplinary action. Cardholders are also required to receive biennial refresher training which will be documented using the aforementioned statement and furnished to the resource management office.

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Policy

4. POC for this policy letter is the DCoS G8 at (915) 744-2342

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. P. White', written in a cursive style.

ROBERT P. WHITE  
Major General, USA  
Commanding