



**1st Armored Division and Fort Bliss
Public Affairs Office**

Press Release

Release No:
08-05-2015-01

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IMMEDIATE

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August 5, 2015

FORT BLISS ROD AND GUN CLUB STATUS UPDATE

The Fort Bliss Rod and Gun Club recently received permission to operate as it has in the past while the installation seeks a regulatory exception from higher headquarters.

The exception is being sought regarding a requirement for users to register weapons prior to using the facility.

"Many have asked why we are considering a change," said Col. Mike Hester, Fort Bliss Garrison Commander. "Army Regulation 190-11, Physical Security of Arms, Ammunition, and Explosives, dated 5 September 2013, mandates the registration of firearms brought onto the installation for any authorized purpose. It specifically includes hunting, dog training, and marksmanship events as authorized activities. As the regulation states, 'Personnel who bring a firearm onto the installation to engage in authorized activities will register it.' It is not a discretionary matter."

Hester said, however, that "our Club's location outside of the controlled access areas of the installation is unusual. Because of this, we are seeking an exception of policy to Army Regulation 190-11. Until we receive a determination on our requested exception, the Club's current operating procedures will remain unchanged and we will not require patrons to register their weapons. We will keep the community informed as more information becomes available."

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