

INFORMATION PAPER

IMND-MEA-ESP

Phone: 7-6606

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SUBJECT: Traffic Concerns for the Ft Meade Installation

PURPOSE: To provide insight into the recent traffic concerns and the DES Police Services Division strategy to rectify these issues.

1. In February of 2010, the Directorate of Emergency Services was inundated with ICE, Facebook and Commander's Hotline complaints relating to speeding on Ft. Meade. These complaints focused on a large volume of speeders traveling through the housing areas disregarding the safety of the Community as a whole. Traffic being redirected from Cooper to MacArthur Rd because of the DISA construction was a major contributor to the increase traffic. The detour gave travelers an option of driving through Potomac Place housing area instead of traveling the longer route down MacArthur to Clark and then to Rockenbach Rd. An increase of police presence during school hours proved to be a deterrent to speeders; however, the remaining hours of the day presented difficulties.

Plan of action: Increase Patrol presence and strictly enforce traffic regulations. Crack down on speeders on the Installation with major focus in the housing areas.

2. There was a 300% rise in the number of speeding tickets issued during the first week the plan of action was implemented. This immediately sent a message to Violators in the Community that speeding on Ft Meade will ultimately cost you "when" you get caught. The average monetary citation (DD FM 1805) written during this period was for speeds averaging 10-16 MPH over the posted speed limit, with fines ranging from \$105.00 to \$530.00. Violators may also receive one to five points on their driving records, which could affect insurance rates.

The directorate also issued the DD1408 (Armed Forces Traffic Ticket) for less serious traffic violations. This ticket has (2) two purposes. 1: It may be used as a warning to the violator, which gives a violator the opportunity to correct deficiencies, without monetary penalty. 2: Used to notify the supervisor (if civilian) or commander (if military) that the individual has committed an offense on the installation. During the month of February, (20) twenty DD 1408s were written for various violations. The directorate issues an average of 25-30 of these tickets monthly on an annual basis.

Week 2 saw a drastic reduction with citations written returning to the normal range of 50-60 per week. As a Directorate we believe the plan, along with the unpredictability of our locations at peak time's lead to this reduction. Basically, the public will not speed if they don't know where you are....they will always been mindful and looking for you.

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Action Officer: Deputy Chief Frank

3. The big picture for the Directorate is the safety and security of those who work and live on FT. Meade. While writing traffic citations and taking money from individuals, isn't pleasant for anyone concerned; it's a tool which helps us gain the violators attention and ultimately create a safer environment for the FT. Meade community.