



1600
20 Nov 2025

MEMORANDUM

From: Kevin E. Lunday, ADM
CCG(a)

To: All Coast Guard

Subj: COAST GUARD POLICY AND LAWFUL ORDER PROHIBITING DIVISIVE OR
HATE SYMBOLS AND FLAGS

Ref: (a) Discipline and Conduct, COMDTINST 1600.2 (series)
(b) Civilian Personnel Actions: Disciplinary, Adverse, and Performance Based Actions,
COMDTINST 12750.4 (series)

1. General.

- a. The Coast Guard does not tolerate the display of divisive or hate symbols and flags, including those identified with oppression or hatred. These symbols reflect hateful and prohibited conduct that undermines unit cohesion.
- b. A symbol or flag is prohibited as a reflection of hate if its display adversely affects good order and discipline, unit cohesion, command climate, morale, or mission effectiveness.
- c. This policy applies to all Coast Guard personnel.

2. Prohibition.

- a. Divisive or hate symbols and flags are prohibited. These symbols and flags include, but are not limited to, the following: a noose, a swastika, and any symbols or flags co-opted or adopted by hate-based groups as representations of supremacy, racial or religious intolerance, anti-semitism, or any other improper bias.
- b. The display of any divisive or hate symbol is prohibited and shall be removed from all Coast Guard workplaces, facilities, and assets.
- c. Display or depiction of the Confederate battle flag remains prohibited in all Coast Guard workplaces, facilities, and assets. This includes barracks and other quarters where the flag is readily visible, and the exterior of Coast Guard housing. This prohibition includes automotive bumper stickers and other vehicle adornments, clothing and other apparel, and when the flag is displayed inside a vehicle in plain view and readily visible to the public. This prohibition does not apply to state flags or state-issued license plates. It does not apply to displays or depictions where the Confederate battle flag is only an incidental

or minor component, such as in works of art, or in educational or historical displays.

3. Order. In addition to a policy applicable to all Coast Guard personnel, the above prohibition is also a punitive general order, applicable to all personnel subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice, 10 U.S.C. §§ 801– 946 (as amended), without further implementation. A violation of this prohibition is punishable in accordance with the Uniform Code of Military Justice, 10 U.S.C. §§ 801 – 946 (as amended), specifically under Article 92(1) (violation of or failure to obey a lawful general order or regulation).
4. Responsibility. Commanders, commanding officers, officers-in-charge, and supervisors shall:
 - a. Order or direct the removal of divisive or hate symbols and flags.
 - b. Inquire into displays of other divisive or hate symbols and flags and, in consultation with their servicing legal office, shall order or direct the removal of those determined to adversely affect good order and discipline, unit cohesion, command climate, morale, or mission effectiveness.
 - c. Take appropriate action in accordance with references (a) and (b) if there are indications of possible extremist activity.
5. Notification. Chain of commands and the Anti-Harassment Program Office must be notified within 48 hours, if not sooner, if there is the potential for Congressional or media interest related to a public display of a potentially divisive symbol.
6. Conflict. To the degree this policy and order conflicts with any other policy, this policy and lawful order controls.