

Media Policy at Joint Task Force Guantanamo (JTF-GTMO)

Media representatives must agree to and sign the attached Media Ground Rules prior to being allowed access to JTF-GTMO.

Failure to follow these ground rules and instructions may result in restricted access to JTF-GTMO, removal from the Guantanamo Naval Station and revocation of press credentials. By signing this document, the News Media Representative (NMR) is agreeing to abide by these restrictions.

For further information regarding this policy, please contact JTF Public Affairs at 011-5399-9928.

Please sign the following, acknowledging that you have read and understand these ground rules and procedures, and agree to abide by them.

Acceptance of ground rules for media visits to JTF-GTMO

Name Affiliation Jordan Scott

Position Work Phone 604 338 3025

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Emergency contact information (Name and Phone number)

Name & Phone Robert Scott 604 944 1066

I understand and will comply with the ground rules listed herein. I also understand that the U.S. Government assumes no liability or responsibility for my personal safety while on U.S. Naval Station, Guantanamo.



Signature Date June 18th 2014

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A. Scope and Purpose of the Ground Rules

1. This policy establishes procedures with respect to media visits to Naval Station Guantanamo and the media coverage of visits inside the detention facilities at Joint Task Force Guantanamo (JTF-GTMO). JTF Public Affairs will facilitate media access to the maximum extent possible, in an effort to encourage open reporting and promote transparency, consistent with Department of Defense (DoD) Joint Publication 3-61 and 2010 DoD media ground rules regarding coverage of Military Commissions at Guantanamo Naval Station. Public Affairs will also protect operational and national security and comply with international treaty obligations.
2. The ground rules are established to protect operational security and to ensure the security of personnel at JTF-GTMO. They are also designed to provide guidance to NMR concerning what information will be deemed to be “protected information” for purposes of these ground rules.
3. NMRs must agree to abide by the following rules as a condition of access to GTMO and the detention facilities. Failure to comply with these ground rules could result in permanent expulsion of the NMR and/or removal of the parent news organization from further access to GTMO. Permanent removal of a news organization may occur where there have been repeated violations by various NMRs affiliated with the organization, or there are other strong indications that the organization does not intend to abide by the ground rules.
4. The receipt of this document does not guarantee media travel or access to GTMO operations and activities. Permitted presence on GTMO does not imply unlimited access to personnel or facilities.
5. The Public Affairs Office at U.S. Southern Command and JTF-GTMO is responsible for the development and implementation of media ground rules at JTF-GTMO. Any questions regarding their implementation should be directed to the Public Affairs Officer at JTF-GTMO. These ground rules will be reviewed periodically and updated as appropriate. Any recommendations for changes should be submitted to U.S. Southern Command Public Affairs.
6. Nothing in these ground rules affects criminal liability under any other provision of law.

B. Release Authority

Consistent with the media ground rules that are outlined here, the JTF PAO is the sole release authority for all military information contained in all media (e.g., audio visual, photography, graphics, sketches, etc.) gathered or produced within the JTF-GTMO area of operation.

C. Protected Information

1. Protected information necessarily includes classified information. Protected information also includes (i) information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to cause damage to the national security, including intelligence or law enforcement sources, methods, or activities, or

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jeopardize the physical safety of individuals, and (ii) information subject to a properly-issued protective order by an official authorized to issue such orders by law or regulation.

2. NMRs shall not publish, release, publicly discuss, or share information gathered at GTMO, or in transit to or from GTMO on transportation provided by JTF-GTMO (or other U.S. government entities), that is protected information for purposes of these ground rules.
3. A NMR will not be considered in violation of these ground rules for re-publishing what otherwise would be considered protected information, where that information was legitimately obtained in the course of newsgathering independent of any receipt of information while at GTMO, or while transiting to or from GTMO on transportation provided by JTF-GTMO (or other U.S. government entities).
4. While at GTMO, and in transit to and from GTMO, NMRs may be exposed to aspects of detention and base operations the disclosure of which must be avoided for reasons of national security, force protection and compliance with international treaty obligations. These operations are part of the base operations that the general public is not invited or permitted to view. As a result, JTF-GTMO has designated aspects of these operations whose disclosure is not permitted, and NMRs at GTMO will be required, as a condition of their visits, to safeguard this information, which will be deemed Operational Protected Information. Operational protected information, as determined by JTF-GTMO, is identified in these ground rules.
5. Media tours of the JTF are prohibited during Military Commissions due to security and logistical concerns.

D. General Photography and Video Limitations

1. At no time during a media visit is communication (verbal, written or other) with a detainee allowed. Attempting to communicate with a detainee and photographing or taking video or audio of a detainee's attempts to communicate with members of the media are prohibited. If detainees become agitated at the presence of media, the media may be asked to leave for the safety and security of the detainees, NMR and the guard force.
2. Photographs or video shall not be taken of the following:
 - a. Frontal facial views, profiles, $\frac{3}{4}$ views, or any view revealing a detainee's identity. No shadowy or blurred pictures may be taken as they could be adjusted at a later date.
 - b. Identifiable photos of the guard and medical force are prohibited due to operational security.
 - c. Deliberate views of security protocols including security cameras, metal detectors, locks, keys, gates, reinforced doors or other security measures.

- d. The JTF-GTMO coastline between the Windmill Beach entry gate, east to Kittery Beach; this restriction includes views of Camp Iguana and the security gate from Windmill Beach and views of the tactical observation post from Kittery Beach.
- e. Panoramic views (an unobstructed or complete view of an area) of JTF-GTMO camp facilities and Office of Military Commissions (OMC) facilities that reveal access roads, facilities layout, security borders or locations of security checkpoints.
- f. Views of Checkpoint Roosevelt and Checkpoint Houston or observation post "New York."
- g. Deliberate views of fuel, water, electrical power or ammunition processing or storage facilities from within their enclosed boundaries including close-up views of valves, electrical power panels, fuel or water distribution pipes or fittings.
- h. Deliberate views of antennas, RADAR or communications facilities or equipment from within their marked boundaries.
- i. Bunker facilities on either side of AV-34/Courtroom One.
- j. Military Convoys arriving or departing OMC facilities or JTF-GTMO operational area.
- k. The media operational security review briefing.

E. Operational Security Review

1. NMRs will submit all still and video imagery taken at JTF-GTMO to a security review. Media members are responsible to ensure video imagery can be played to television or played back on camera. To this end, media members are responsible for providing compatible video format playback device for material review.
2. An operational security review (OPSEC) of visual and audio recordings will be conducted daily, as required, or at a minimum prior to departure from JTF-GTMO. All images and video are required to be screened prior to upload into any laptop and prior to release.
3. During the OPSEC review, imagery and audio that are determined to be in violation of these ground rules will be deleted or cropped to achieve compliance. For photographs, the NMR may request ten (10) images per person per day be cropped to meet security requirements. Cropping is defined as cutting off the parts of a digital photograph deemed to be in violation. Blurring, smudging, fading, superimposing a black line or spot over certain parts of a photograph, or any other digital manipulation is not a substitution for cropping.
4. Photos selected for cropping will be moved from NMR's photo storage media (e.g., SD card) and saved onto a government computer. The original photo will be deleted from the NMR storage media and stored on the government computer until the final disposition of the photograph has been decided. The photos will then be cropped by a JTF-GTMO PA

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representative on the government computer, renamed and saved back to the government computer. The newly created file will then be transferred back to the NMR storage device. There is no appeal of JTF-GTMO's proposed cropping; if the NMR disagrees with the proposed cropping, the cropped image will be deleted and the original photo may be appealed to the JTF-GTMO CDR (or his or her designated military representative other than the JTF-GTMO PAO).

5. For videos and audio, the NMR must bring his or her editing equipment to GTMO. The NMR will edit his or her video and audio to meet security requirements in the presence of a JTF-GTMO PA representative. Disputed sections of video must be edited and stored while the JTF-GTMO PA decision is being appealed. For NMR who do not have such video editing capability, approval or deletion are the only options.

6. If the NMR disagrees with the judgment of the JTF-GTMO PAO that the photograph or video image is in violation of these ground rules, the NMR may request that a copy of the image (in compatible format) be forwarded for appeal to the JTF-GTMO CDR (or his or her designated military representative other than the JTF-GTMO PAO) who will have no more than 24 hours to review the photograph and render a final decision as to whether the photograph will be approved for publication. If the JTF-GTMO CDR (or his or her designated military representative other than the JTF-GTMO PAO) concurs with the judgment of the JTF-GTMO PAO then the image will be deleted.

7. The GTMO Media Operation Center (GTMO MOC) is a place to conduct business. Alcohol will not be stored or consumed in the GTMO MOC or in and around the Hangar Conference Room. Media can use B18 which has a large refrigerator, chairs and TV as a social area. Media are free to store alcohol in their quarters. The media is not allowed to sleep overnight in the MOC.

8. Media may conduct interviews in the Hangar Conference Room with prior coordination with the JTF public affairs representative.

9. Appropriate clothing for camp tours consists of loose-fitting slacks (or jeans) and short/long sleeved shirts. Excluded are sleeveless shirts, tight-fitting clothing, brightly colored clothing and open-toed shoes. Media members must be clothed entering and exiting the shower areas in Camp Justice.

10. Electronic devices are prohibited in the JTF detention facilities. This includes laptops, cell phones, Google Glass, and any other device with an "on/off switch." Paper notebooks, pens, pencils, and paper (including case-related documents) are permitted. Video recording devices, digital cameras and audio recorders are allowed for electronic media in the camps but must be with a PAO escort at all times.

11. NMRs have an opportunity to challenge the designation of information as "protected" where JTF-GTMO security personnel have so designated the information. A challenge to JTF-GTMO's

designation of information as protected shall be submitted in writing to the JTF-GTMO commander.

12. Written challenges must identify with specificity (i) the protected information at issue, (ii) the reason(s) for believing the protected designation is not (or is no longer) valid, and (iii) any supporting documentation relevant to substantiating that claim. A decision on the NMR's challenge will be rendered promptly.

13. If JTF PA believes that a NMR has violated these ground rules, it will, absent exigent circumstances, notify the NMR in writing of the concerns and provide the NMR an opportunity to be heard on whether a violation occurred and/or to present mitigating circumstances that bear upon any sanction, before taking any adverse action. An appeal of any adverse determination may be made to the U.S. Southern Command public affairs officer. The NMR's access to JTF GTMO may be temporarily suspended while this process is underway. No final action will be taken to expel a reporter, deny future access or impose any other adverse action unless the JTF-GTMO commander makes a finding that a material violation of the ground rule provisions relating to Operational Protected Information has occurred.

14. Media do not need an escort after hours in certain areas: living quarters, downtown movie theatre, downtown restaurants and galley, bowling alley, Navy Exchange stores, marina and athletic gym. However, no photography or audio/video recording is allowed without a PA escort.

F. Administrative Requirements/Guidance for NMR Covering JTF-GTMO

1. The following support is provided during news media visits:

- a. Transportation on military vehicles as required.
- b. Use of military dining facilities. Costs for meals will be collected as required.
- c. Billeting at Camp Justice tents.
- d. Notification of the sponsoring news organization if a NMR becomes seriously ill or injured. The responsibility for notifying next of kin of all correspondents who become seriously ill or injured is the responsibility of the sponsoring news agency.
- e. Access to unclassified communications facilities as appropriate when available.

2. Transportation to and from GTMO is the responsibility of the NMR and travel plans must remain flexible due to unexpected operational missions or inclement weather, either of which could result in flight cancellation or delay.

3. Media representatives must obtain the proper paperwork prior to departure for GTMO, including Invitational Travel Orders (ITOs) issued by JTF PAO, and personal identification documents. NMR are required to sign these ground rules prior to departure.

4. Recommend NMRs pack appropriate supplies and clothing for this tropical climate. Please bring only the minimum amount of personal effects and equipment. Media representatives must provide their own personal and professional gear, including protective equipment cases, batteries, cables, satellite telephones and converters.

5. NMRs are reminded that casual clothing is appropriate for this visit. Appropriate clothing consists of loose-fitting slacks and short/long sleeved shirts. Excluded are sleeveless shirts, tight-fitting clothing and open-toed shoes. NMRs are encouraged to travel with sufficient cash, credit cards, copies of Invitational Travel Orders (supplied) and immunization records. Weapons of any type are not authorized.

6. NMRs must travel with their passports. Those who do not have a passport will not be permitted to travel. Additionally, NMRs who do not hold a U.S. passport must have a valid journalist visa.

7. Media representatives should notify their personal physicians as soon as possible to receive any necessary immunizations. Recommended immunizations include, but are not limited to: immune serum globulin, tetanus, diphtheria, oral polio, typhoid, yellow fever, and flu shot (between 1 Nov-1 Apr).

8. U.S. Naval Hospital Guantanamo Bay (USNH GTMO) is a small, remote, community-based hospital that provides basic, routine, primary and urgent care to all residents and visitors to Naval Base Guantanamo Bay. Visitors must be aware that the hospital has limited resources: minimal specialty services; no intensive care for newborns, children or adults; limited dental care; limited blood products; and limited imaging (x-ray/radiological) services. Visitors with medical risks such as a chronic condition/disease or pregnancy must consider these limitations before requesting to visit Guantanamo Bay. The Pharmacy is also limited and visitors must bring enough prescription medication to cover their entire visit. The base has no access to medical facilities or services in Cuba. If a medical evacuation to the United States is required, it will take several hours and be expensive (approx. \$30,000). Visitors to Guantanamo Bay should purchase travel insurance that would cover the cost of a visit to the hospital and a possible aerial medical evacuation. No one will be denied care at the hospital. However, unless covered by TRICARE (DoD beneficiaries), all individuals receiving care will be billed for services. In addition, USNH GTMO is considered a non-participating provider with regard to stateside medical insurance companies, and military hospitals are restricted by law from joining insurance networks, offering discounted rates, or entering into agreements with individual insurance carriers. Individual patients are responsible for all costs not covered by insurance, and the hospital is obligated to recoup 100 percent of what is billed to a patient.

9. Media representatives will lodge at the Camp Justice tents. They may be billeted at East Caravella housing or the Navy Lodge only if available. Media is not allowed in the Bachelor Officer Quarters, otherwise known as the "High-rise."