MEMORANDUM FOR All Colorado National Guard (CONG) and Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) Personnel

SUBJECT: Consumption of Alcohol Policy

1. The purpose of this policy is to define the circumstances when the consumption of alcohol may be consumed on property under the control of the Colorado National Guard (CONG) or Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA). It also describes the process for commanders to request alcohol to be served at special events and it identifies who is authorized to approve the use of alcohol on CONG and DMVA property. Lastly, this policy describes the conditions when the consumption of alcohol is authorized in uniform and when it is prohibited.

2. Consumption of alcohol on CONG or DMVA property is prohibited except when specifically authorized by TAG or TAG’s designee. Supervisors will request in writing, either by memorandum or email, their wish to serve alcohol at a special event. Individuals or organizations who rent an armory or other DMVA facility and who intend to provide alcohol during the term of their rental must make their request at the time they apply for the rental of the facility. The request will describe the event, the date of the event, the type of spirits that are to be served and certify that safety precautions are in place for this event. The following personnel are designated authority for approval of alcohol consumption for units under their command:

   a. Joint Staff: Director of the Joint Staff and the Chief of the Joint Staff

   b. Colorado Army National Guard: Assistant Adjutant General-Army, Deputy Commanding General and the Chief of Staff

   c. Colorado Air National Guard: Assistant Adjutant General-Air and the 140th Wing Commander

   d. DMVA Employees: Deputy Executive Director

3. All Service Members and employees of the CONG and DMVA are prohibited from consuming alcohol during duty hours, except when specifically authorized for a particular event by TAG or TAG’s designee. Personnel are also prohibited from consuming alcohol prior to assuming a duty status which would render the service member or employee under the influence or impaired by alcohol.

4. Consumption of alcohol by service members who are off-duty, but are in uniform, is prohibited, except as permitted for a specifically authorized event by TAG or TAG’s designee. Off-duty events at which alcohol may be consumed while in uniform without specific authorization may include military balls and other traditional military events. In these cases, the
NGCO-TAG
SUBJECT: Consumption of Alcohol Policy

senior officer or NCO of the sponsoring unit in attendance will assume responsibility for ensuring good order and discipline is enforced in consumption of alcohol products. Every officer and NCO has a personal responsibility to ensure members of our organization are exercising individual discipline in their alcohol consumption at these events. Leaders will confront and correct any intoxicated service members or employees immediately upon occurrence of the infraction. Leaders will safely remove the intoxicated individual from the event and ensure they are escorted to a secure environment. Inappropriate behavior at military events may be subject to administrative or disciplinary consequences.

5. The prohibition against consumption of alcohol in uniform extends to visits while off-duty at private clubs and establishments open to the public, such as gatherings at a bar or restaurant after drill or annual training events. If military members stop at establishments where they will be served alcohol, they must do so in civilian clothing. Consumption of alcohol while in uniform in public places erodes confidence in our military institution and presents an unprofessional image.

6. The prohibition against consuming alcohol in uniform does not apply to military clubs, Non-appropriated Fund (NAF) establishments, NAF special events or other establishments or events under military control. At such events and establishments, military members must conform to the standards established by command authority in effect at the location.

7. All service members and employees of the CONG and DMVA share in the responsibility to ensure laws and regulations are followed to protect everyone’s safety and to maintain high standards of conduct. All CONG and DMVA service members and employees who consume alcohol are urged to drink responsibly. Service Members and employees are encouraged to use the "battle buddy" and "wingman" system to keep each other safe, to utilize designated drivers and other travel services such as a taxi or Uber to avoid risks behind the wheel of a car.

8. The Point of contact for this memorandum is COL Christopher S. McKee, Director, Human Resources, at christopher.s.mckee4.mil@army.mil or at (720) 250-1160 and Ms. Tamy Calahan at tamy.calahan@dmva.state.co.us or at (720) 250-1520.

[Signature]
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The Adjutant General