

INFORMATION PAPER

TOPIC: Off-Post Housing (Civilian Military Council, 9 MAY)

CHESTERFIELD – COLONIAL HEIGHTS – DINWIDDIE – HOPEWELL – PRINCE GEORGE – PETERSBURG – RICHMOND

FACTS:

- Congress directed DOD to rely on housing assets in local civilian communities to meet the needs of military personnel and their families. This policy requires our Housing Services Office to pursue active relationships with local housing/real estate organizations, maintaining awareness of suitable available housing for personnel. NOTE: All incoming service members with permanent assignments to Fort Lee are required to report to the Fort Lee Housing Services Office prior to signing a lease agreement.
- Statistics: 70% of our assigned permanent party military members are in need of off-post housing. The actual number can fluctuate due to mission, personnel surges/reductions and other factors. Homes and apartments are becoming increasingly difficult to locate for referral to our service members and families.
- Due to improvements and growth in the immediate areas surrounding Fort Lee, the availability of off-post housing has declined for incoming service members. (*Large corporations are leasing/buying in areas that have been service member friendly for years, drastically reducing this inventory.*)
- Homes must meet Army Regulation 420-1 Housing Chapter 3 standards as published, including:
 - Direct access to a bathroom
 - No mobile homes
 - Must have AC/Heat
 - Inspection by the Housing Services Office (recommended)
 - Exit survey completed by departing service members regarding off-post residence
- Qualifying housing availability from surrounding localities is provided to incoming military members and civilians, along with answers to their most commonly asked questions as included on the Army Housing Online User Services (AHOUS) site: <https://www.housing.army.mil/Default.aspx#!pg=post&sp=faqs>
- There is a cyclical need for 6-month housing of military students at Fort Lee. This is especially true for Captains Career Course attendees and occasionally for the Basic Officer Leadership Course (Ordnance, Quartermaster and Transportation Schools).

REPORTING AVAILABLE HOUSING:

- All property managers with available rental/housing should contact the Fort Lee Housing Services Office at (804) 765-1597 or (804) 765-3862. This information will be used for referrals to properties when assisting incoming service member/family, retiree and DOD civilian personnel.