



TATTOO & BRANDING

- ❑ Policy is equal for accessions and current Soldiers; Current Soldiers may keep previously authorized tattoos (grandfathered)
- ❑ Redefined indecent tattoos
- ❑ Added restrictions for locations for unauthorized tattoos
- ❑ Soldiers' current tattoos will be documented in online records to protect Soldiers with grandfathered tattoos and aid with implementing this policy





TATTOO POLICY

- ❑ Unauthorized tattoo locations:
 - ❑ On the head, face, & neck, (anything above the T-shirt line to include on/inside the eyelids, mouth, & ears)
 - ❑ On the hands, fingers, wrists (below the wrist bone)
 - ❑ Each visible tattoo below the elbow or below the knee must be smaller than the size of the wearer's hand (with fingers extended & joined with the thumb touching the base of the index finger)
 - ❑ Soldiers may have no more than 4 total visible tattoos (smaller than the size of the wearer's hand) below the elbow or below the knee





TATTOO POLICY

- ❑ Defines small tattoos within a 5 inch diameter as one tattoo
- ❑ Visible band tattoos may be no more than 2” in width; Each band tattoo counts as one tattoo & Soldiers may have no more than one visible band tattoo
- ❑ Sleeve tattoos on arms or legs are unauthorized
- ❑ Officers and Warrant Officers are also restricted to this same policy; Enlisted Soldiers exceeding this limit cannot request commissioning (not grandfathered)





CATEGORIES OF UNAUTHORIZED TATTOOS

- ❑ Extremist tattoos or brands are those affiliated with, depicting, or symbolizing extremist philosophies, organizations, or activities.
- ❑ Indecent tattoos or brands are those that are grossly offensive to modesty, decency, propriety or professionalism.
- ❑ Sexist tattoos or brands are those that advocate a philosophy that degrades or demeans a person based on gender but may not meet the same definition of “indecent.”
- ❑ Racist tattoos or brands are those that advocate a philosophy that degrades or demeans a person based on race, ethnicity, or national origin.





TATTOO POLICY: VALIDATION

- ❑ Commanders must validate all Soldiers' current tattoos located above the neckline, below the elbows, or below the knees with a description of the shape and color on an official memorandum. Each tattoo will be a photo attachment.
- ❑ Commander ensures it is submitted for filing into the Soldier's Army Military Human Resource Record (AMHRR)
- ❑ Commanders will perform an annual check for new tattoos or brands in prohibited locations
- ❑ Soldier is given a copy for his/her records



Photograph and Upload Requirements

- ❑ Commanders use same local process to upload documents (such as award certificates) to a Soldier's Army Military Human Resource Record (AMHRR)
- ❑ File must be in multi-page black and white Tagged Image File Format (TIFF) in 300 dpi for upload
- ❑ No requirements for specific camera settings; photo must be clear and visible
- ❑ Use nylon black and white ruler (available in supply system) to help identify tattoo size
- ❑ Photograph entire area (below arm or below leg) to help identify location



SELF-IDENTIFICATION MEMO



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
COMMAND'S FULL NAME
MAILING ADDRESS
CITY, STATE ZIP

OFFICE SYMBOL

DATE

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, UNIT, CITY, STATE, ZIP

SUBJECT: Self Identification of Existing Tattoos for RANK Last Name, First Name, MI.,
###-##-#### (SSN)

1. I, RANK LAST NAME, self identify the following existing tattoos located on my head, neck (above the t-shirt line), face, below the elbow on the arms, hands, and below the knees IAW AR 670-1, paragraph 1-9g(3). I further understand I am prohibited from obtaining new tattoos which are prohibited IAW AR 670-1, paragraph 1-9.

- (a) Head. None.
- (b) Neck (above the T-shirt line). None.
- (c) Face. None.
- (d) Below the elbow (on the arms).

(1) 1" x 1" Black Chinese symbol on Soldier's right forearm (Encl 1).

(2) 2" x 1" Black Chinese symbol on Soldier's left forearm (Encl 2).

- (e) Below the knee. None

2. I understand this memo will be posted in my Army Military Human Resource Record.

3. Point of contact for this action is RANK Last Name (unit Commander) at (###) ###-#### or e-mail address.

Encl:

- 1. Photo of Right Arm Tattoo
- 2. Photo of Left Arm Tattoo

FIRST NAME MI. LAST NAME (Soldier)
SPC, USA

Validated by: FIRST NAME MI. LAST NAME (Commander)
CPT, FA
Commanding



Encl 1



Encl 2



SELF-IDENTIFICATION MEMO



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MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, UNIT, CITY, STATE, ZIP

SUBJECT: Self Identification of Existing Tattoos for RANK Last Name, First Name, MI.,
###-##-#### (SSN)

1. I, RANK LAST NAME, self identify the following existing tattoos located on my head, neck (above the t-shirt line), face, below the elbow on the arms, hands, and below the knees IAW AR 670-1, paragraph 1-9g(3). I further understand I am prohibited from obtaining new tattoos which are prohibited IAW AR 670-1, paragraph 1-9.

(a) Head. None.

(b) Neck (above the T-shirt line). None.

(c) Face. None.

(d) Below the elbow (on the arms). Black and gray scroll tattoo on left forearm, 6" x 2.5" (see Enclosure 1).

(e) Below the knee.

(1) Black tribal scroll tattoo on right calf, 9" x 4" (see Enclosure 2).

(2) Purple and black dragon tattoo on right ankle, 6" x 2" (see Enclosure 3).

2. I understand this memo will be posted in my Army Military Human Resource Record.

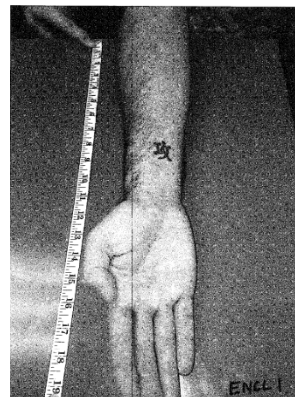
3. Point of contact for this action is RANK Last Name (unit Commander) at (###) ###-### or e-mail address.

Encl:

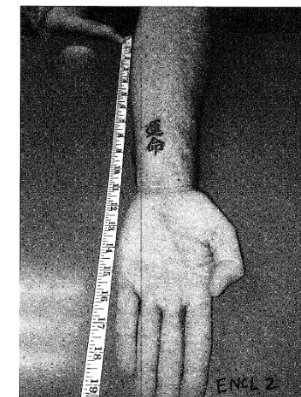
1. Photo of Arm Tattoo
2. Photo of Leg Tattoo
3. Photo of Leg Tattoo

FIRST NAME MI. LAST NAME (Soldier)
SPC, USA

Validated by: FIRST NAME MI. LAST NAME (Commander)
CPT, FA
Commanding



Encl 1



Encl 2

Photos must be in Tagged Image File Format (TIFF), Black and White, 300 DPI



ANNUAL CHECK

- ❑ Commanders will also conduct an annual check for extremist, indecent, sexist, and racist tattoos
- ❑ Tattoos not above the T-shirt neckline, on the arms, or legs will not be documented on the memo
- ❑ Check is done by the Commander in physical fitness uniform
- ❑ If found, Soldier must be processed in accordance with AR 670-1