

REGULATIONS FOR THE VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE

PART II

Revised 24 November 2014

INTERNAL ORGANIZATION, ADMINISTRATION AND MILITARY INSTRUCTION OF THE CORPS OF CADETS

CHAPTER 9: GENERAL

9-1. PURPOSE.

This part of the VMI Regulations describes the authority and responsibility of the Office of the Commandant in the day-to-day administration of the life of members of the Corps of Cadets.

9-2. APPLICABILITY.

The policies herein described serve as a guide for the Commandant and his staff and apply to all activities of that office.

9-3. CHANGES.

Changes to this part of the regulations shall be published as necessary and posted upon receipt. The regulations shall be reviewed annually by the Commandant's staff to ensure currency. Recommended changes shall be forwarded to the Superintendent's Office for approval.

9-4. UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES.

The term "United States Armed Forces," as used in the Regulations for the Virginia Military Institute, includes the United States Army, the United States Navy, the United States Air Force, the United States Marine Corps, and the United States Coast Guard, including all components thereof.

9-5. RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS.

The Reserve Officers Training Corps of the Institute shall consist of such units of the national Reserve Officers Training Corps as may be authorized by the Board of Visitors and established by the United States Department of Defense.

Officers of the armed forces assigned to VMI in the Reserve Officers Training Corps program shall be considered members of the faculty. At the discretion of the Superintendent and with the consent of their military superiors, they may also be assigned to the tactical or officer-in-charge staffs and to other duties normally expected of faculty members. They may volunteer to teach, without compensation, in other departments of instruction.

9-6. THE CORPS OF CADETS.

The VMI Corps of Cadets shall consist of all cadets enrolled in the Institute, and it shall be organized as an infantry unit, generally in accord with regulations of the United States Army. Detailed regulations governing cadet life are found in Part III of these regulations, commonly referred to as *The Blue Book*. A copy of *The Blue Book* shall be maintained in every room of barracks whenever the Institute is in regular session. See also Chapter 11 of these regulations.

9-7. CADET ENROLLMENT IN ROTC.

Each cadet shall receive eight semesters of instruction in a unit of the Reserve Officers Training Corps and shall be encouraged to pursue a commission in a branch of the United States Armed Forces.

CHAPTER 10: COMMANDANT'S OFFICE

10-1. THE COMMANDANT OF CADETS. (See also Part I, Paragraph 2-5)

- a. The Commandant of Cadets, appointed by the Board of Visitors upon recommendation of the Superintendent, shall be in immediate command of the Corps of Cadets
- b. In the absence of the Commandant, the Superintendent shall detail an officer to act in his place.
- c. The Commandant shall be responsible for the organization, discipline, administration, and basic military instruction of the Corps of Cadets, for which he shall issue the necessary detailed orders in conformance with these regulations.
- d. He shall prepare annually a program of basic military instruction for the Corps of Cadets.
- e. He is authorized to take final action upon all cadet permits except:
 - (1) Those involving absence from academic duty.
 - (2) Those involving extraordinary or unbudgeted expenses.
- f. He, or his designee, shall regularly inspect the cadet mess and shall report to the Director of Auxiliary Services any deficiencies therein.
- g. He shall make regular inspections of the quarters of cadets and, if necessary, shall report thereon to the Superintendent.
- h. He shall maintain and distribute Part III of these regulations (*The Blue Book*)
- i. He shall forward to the Superintendent all explanations of cadets for delinquencies for which the prescribed penalty is dismissal or suspension from the Institute. Recommendations for suspension or dismissal upheld by the Superintendent will then be acted on by the Executive Assistant to the Superintendent.
- j. He is responsible for administering the co-curriculum (barracks life) which provides a scope of education beyond the typical academic component provided in the classroom. In that vein, the Commandant's program ensures cadets are held accountable for their actions or inactions, for being timely, for having the proper cleanliness and appearance, for being fit and having physical wellness. Further emphasis is provided to assure cadets are conditioned to be polite and civil to those they encounter and to be deferential to authority. During the course of a cadetship, the Commandant's programs ensures cadets dress properly, are timely, accept personal responsibility, manage time, pay attention to detail and act with honor and truthfulness.

k. The co-curriculum is divided into 5 major areas of focus. They are:

- (1) Honor System. This is the base aspect of the co- curriculum and is a common thread throughout all aspects of VMI life. The honor system at VMI is a way of living. Lying, cheating, stealing, or tolerating those who do are considered violations of the Honor Code. A cadet’s statement in any controversy is accepted without question as truthful. To administer the system, the Corps elects an Honor Court. The Honor Court is the only component of the co-curriculum that is not directly supervised by the Commandant’s office. To ensure necessary separation and autonomy the honor court is overseen by a Superintendent’s representative selected from the faculty or administration.
- (2) The Regimental System. This is necessary for any military school and provides basic military instruction; drill, standards and orders for military activities and events, all run through cadet regimental chain of command.
- (3) The Class System. This system is unique to VMI and it extends to cadets wide authority in self-government within the Corps of Cadets albeit with officer advisors. The class system provides another layer of oversight within the corps of cadets regarding standards of cadet behavior and adherence to the class system. The class system compliments the Regimental system and ensures that the class hierarchy and privilege system is adhered to by all cadets. The class system and class hierarchy generally runs Barracks life and guides the conduct of the Cadet Corps.
- (4) The Leadership Development process. This process is guided by the VMI’s leadership Program (The VLP) which is anchored with 5 principles:
 - (a) Honor
 - (b) Respect
 - (c) Trust
 - (d) Fairness
 - (e) Lead by example

These principles underpin subsequent leader development with intense training and education focus the initial year of a cadetship, followed by increasing opportunities for leadership each successive year of a cadetship.

- (5) New Cadet Military Training. This is the intense training and education focus undertaken during the initial year of a cadetship. New Cadet Military Training program links the framework VLP to all endeavors and attempts to promulgate those values and attributes. New Cadet Military Training is a cooperative venture between the class system and the regimental system designed to produce honorable and capable new cadets.

l. To regulate and administer these major areas of focus the Commandant maintains 5 documents collectively called the “Rainbow” Books (Blue, Red, White, Yellow

and Green). The nature of these books is further addressed later in paragraph 11-5.

m. Commandant's Staff:

- (1) Primary staff. The Commandant has a primary staff which replicates that of an Infantry regiment and is tasked with overseeing and administering the operation of the Cadet Corps, primarily by working in concert with and supervising the correspondingly organized staff functionaries of the Cadet Regiment and the student government. In that vein, the primary Commandant's staff consists of the following:
 - (a) Commandant
 - (b) Sergeant Major to the Corps of Cadets
 - (c) Deputy Commandant
 - (d) Deputy Commandant for Support S1/S2/S4/S5/S6/S7
 - (e) Deputy Commandant for Operations and Training S3
 - (f) Assistant Commandant for Cadet Government
 - (g) Assistant Commandant for Clubs and Activities
 - (h) Director of Corps Marksmanship
 - (i) Battalion Operations and Training Sergeants x 2
 - (j) Night OCs, Tactical Officers, Assistant Tactical Officers
- (2) Chaplain. The Chaplain provides opportunities for every cadet to foster and nurture a genuine, personal and meaningful faith. The Chaplain serves as the point of contact for cadets regarding concerns of a religious nature. The religious convictions of our students are respected regardless of one's faith preference. The religious freedom of all cadets is assured through the Chaplain. Other functions of the Chaplain are grief counseling and death/emergency notification.
- (3) Band Director. The Band Director supervises the Cadet Regimental Band which is organized into its own company within the Corps. Under his direction the Regimental band provides music for ceremonies on Post as well as for athletic events. Its nature is that of a military band, and it derives its standard operating procedures from the Army Field Manual 22-5 on Drill and Ceremonies. Within the band are smaller units such as the Pep Band, Glee Club, Brass Ensemble, Commanders (a dance band, which performs for dances and concerts both on and off post), Herald Trumpets, Quintet, VMI Drummers, and others which the Band director supervises.
- (4) Assistant Band Director & Pipe Band Instructor. The Assistant Band Director supports the Band Director with the supervision of the Regimental Band and focuses specifically on the operation of the Regimental Pipes and Drums providing music for ceremonies on Post and special events throughout the United States. This unit is composed of approximately 30 cadets.
- (5) The Tactical Officers Staff and Officer-In-Charge Staff. (See also Part I, paragraph 2-5.8)

- (a) Assignment of officers to the tactical and officer-in-charge staff shall be made by the Superintendent, upon recommendation of the Commandant of Cadets.
 - (b) The Commandant will detail tactical officers to serve as advisers to the cadet regimental and battalion staffs and the ten cadet companies. Tactical officers will be selected from the Commandant's Staff and other select Faculty and Staff. Assistant Tactical Officers will be offered to active duty military officers and NCOs assigned to the various ROTC detachments.
 - (c) The officer-in-charge staff will assist the Commandant of Cadets by performing such duties related to the interior administration and discipline of barracks and the Corps of Cadets overnight as directed by the Commandant. Officer-in-charge will be selected from the Institute faculty and administrators.
 - (d) The assistant officer-in-charge staff will support the Commandant of Cadets by augmenting and assisting the on-duty officer in charge. Assistant Officers in charge support the officer in charge in barracks until taps. Assistant officer-in-charge personnel will be selected from either the active duty military officers assigned to the various ROTC detachments or Institute faculty and administrators.
- (6) RDC oversight. The jurisdiction on RDC oversight is provided by members of the Commandant's Staff as an additional duty.
- (a) In that regard the RDC Advisors supervise the following activities:
 - RDC Counseling
 - Pertinent information quizzes (Rat Bible)
 - RDC assigned writing assignments
 - RDC assigned inspections (Uniform & Room)
 - RDC meetings
 - Gross Conduct Workouts
 - Foot marches and collective physical training
- (7) Club and Organization Advisors. There are more than 70 clubs, club sports and extracurricular activities available to cadets at VMI. Under the supervision of the Assistant Commandant for Cadet Clubs and Activities, the cadet staffs of the Regimental S6, Athletics, and S7, Cadet Life, manage the clubs and activities that provide numerous leadership, special interest, social and recreational opportunities for cadets. Many of the clubs and organizations have coaches and advisors, hired by the Institute, to assist the cadets in the overall operation of the club/organization.

10-2. INVESTIGATIONS.

When appropriate, the Superintendent may direct the Commandant to have breaches of good order and discipline investigated to determine the facts and recommend penalties. Such investigations may be done by a single officer or a board of officers as necessary. Investigating officers will normally be selected from the officers serving on the tactical officer staff or officer-in-charge staff; other staff or faculty officers may be selected if so directed by the Superintendent. Investigations will be conducted using Army Regulation 15-6 as a general guide, and will normally be informal.

10-3. BOARDS OF INQUIRY.

- a. A board of inquiry, consisting of not less than three members and a trial counsel, may be convened by the Superintendent for the trial of such violations of the regulations as may be considered advisable. Boards of inquiry are normally reserved for flagrant breaches of good order and discipline.
- b. No officer preferring charges, or personally interested in them, shall be a member of such a board.
- c. Boards convened at the Institute shall consist of members of the faculty or staff and cadets. The Board shall conform as nearly as practicable in organization and procedure to those prescribed by the Uniform Code of Military Justice.
- d. The accused shall be represented by counsel, who may be an officer of the faculty or staff or the Institute. If the accused desires private counsel, he is free to retain an attorney at his own expense.
- e. Under normal circumstances, suspected violations of the VMI Honor System will be referred to the Cadet Honor Court for investigation and will not be a matter for Board of Inquiry action, except during the VMI Summer Session.

CHAPTER 11: THE CORPS OF CADETS

11-1. ORGANIZATION.

The Corps of Cadets shall be organized for administrative purposes and for basic military instruction as an infantry unit traditional regiment of the United States Army. In all details of military duty, the rules and regulations of the United States Army shall be observed insofar as they are applicable.

11-2. CADET OFFICERS AND NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

- a. Cadet officers and non-commissioned officers shall be appointed by the Superintendent upon the recommendation of the Commandant of Cadets. The selection shall be based upon demonstrated military, academic, and all around proficiency and the process shall be vetted through a series of promotion boards and interviews. Thereafter, a final interview and selection process conducted by the Commandant and Superintendent will determine which cadets will hold rank.
- b. Cadet commissioned officers shall be selected from the first class; non-commissioned officers of the grade of sergeant, from the second class; non-commissioned officers of the grade of corporal, from the third class.
- c. Cadet officers and non-commissioned officers shall assist directly in the administration and basic military instruction of the Corps of Cadets through the Regimental System.
- d. The duties of cadet officers and non-commissioned officers shall be prescribed in detail by the Commandant of Cadets and published in current orders for the information and guidance of all concerned.

11-3. STUDENT GOVERNMENT.

- a. One of the four major agencies of student government is the General Committee, composed of officers of the three upper classes, elected by their classmates. This body enforces rules that govern the conduct of the Corps and grants increasing privileges to classes as they advance in seniority. The administration recognizes the General Committee and class officers as official representatives of the Corps and their separate classes, and it extends to them wide authority in self-government.
- b. The Officer of the Guard Association (OGA) has the mission to protect and inform cadets while upholding and enforcing the conduct of the Corps. The OGA serves as the investigative arm of the General Committee (GC) and may investigate misconduct for possible GC or Executive Committee (EC) (the EC is a subcommittee of the GC responsible for handling serious cases of cadet misconduct). The OGA investigates cases involving hazing, gross misconduct of a cadet, abuses of the Dyke System, violations of the professional relations

policy, and any other acts the OGA, First Class President, or Commandant deem necessary. In this regard, the OGA has three subordinate committees.

- (1) Education Committee: This subcommittee of the OGA is responsible for developing and providing such training and education to the Corps as may be deemed necessary by the President of the First Class and/or the Administration. The Education Committee is composed of the OGA President, Vice President, and Secretary and company representatives as may be assigned by the President.
 - (2) Investigative Committee: This subcommittee of the OGA is responsible for fulfilling the mission of the OGA by enforcing the conduct of the Corps. The Investigative Committee is composed of the Vice President of the OGA, the Defense Counsel and company representatives. The Investigative Committee investigates matters for the General/Executive Committees and the Administration as requested. Matters investigated by the OGA are usually instances that are brought to the attention of the GC and/or EC. However, a situation does not need to go to the GC or EC in order to be investigated by the OGA.
 - (3) Dyke Committee: This subcommittee of the OGA oversees the administration of the VMI Dyke System and investigates cases involving abuses of the Dyke system. The Dyke Committee is made up of the OGA President, Vice President, Secretary, and the First Class GC.
- c. The Cadet Equity Association (CEA) has the mission to provide oversight and education on equity to the Corps of Cadets, according to the guidelines established by the Superintendent's Statement on Equity at VMI, and to maintain a postwide climate of respect and equitable treatment for all cadets. The mission of these cadets is to conduct training and receive reports of incidents concerning sexual harassment and discrimination, to investigate these matters when appropriate, and to protect the privacy of the individuals involved insofar as it is possible. Cadets serving on the CEA receive training in procedures related to investigations and legal issues that involve gender, racial, religious, and ethnic discrimination. Sexual harassment infractions (to include sexual misconduct), depending on their magnitude, will be handled through the appropriate agency.
- d. The RDC is a subcommittee of the General Committee serving to adjudicate violations of the Rat restrictions and guidelines established by the First Class, to supervise all Ratline events and activities, to assist in the development of New Cadets (i.e. Rats) consistent with the VMI Mission, and to assist in the transformation of the Rat Mass into a VMI Class.

11-4. HONOR SYSTEM / COURT.

The heart of VMI's student government is the honor system. Although honor, like many idealistic concepts, defies exact definition, it clearly refers to relationships which govern society and which yield to the members of that society immediate and tangible benefit. The honor system at VMI is not so much a set of rules—although rules are published and distributed to every cadet—as it is a way of living. Lying, cheating, stealing, or tolerating those who do are considered violations of the Honor Code. A cadet's statement in any controversy is accepted without question as truthful; examinations are not proctored. The Corps as a whole has always been the guardian of its own honor, and its honor is its most cherished possession. To administer the system, the Corps elects an Honor Court. Any suspected violation is reported to this Honor Court, which conducts an investigation of the circumstances. An accused cadet may admit guilt and leave the Institute or may request trial. If found guilty, the cadet is dismissed. If the accused is acquitted, the case is closed, and all records pertaining to the case are destroyed.

11-5. ADMINISTRATION, MANAGEMENT AND DISCIPLINE.

Details concerning administration, management and discipline of the Corps of Cadets are primarily found in Part III of these regulations (*The Blue Book*). In addition to that text there are a series of documents have been developed to codify procedures, regulations and standards of excellence In order to properly administer the Co-curricular Program consistent with the mission, vision and directed Institute goals. These documents are collectively called the “Rainbow Books” and consist of five documents governing various aspects of the Co-curriculum. They are:

- Blue Book – VMI's Cadet Regulations
- Red Book – The Cadet Regiment's Operating Procedures
- White Book – The Cadet Government's Operating Procedures
- Yellow Book – The Operating Procedures for the Ratline and 4th Class Training
- Green Book – The Operating Procedures for the Recreational Activities of Cadet Life Office

CHAPTER 12: CADET DISCIPLINE, PRIVILEGES AND RESPONSIBILITY

12-1. DISCIPLINE.

- a. The Corps of Cadets as a military organization shall be subject to regulations for the governance of the Institute as adopted by the Board of Visitors.
- b. Inculcation of the principles of law and order and their observance constitutes a cardinal feature of the training of the Corps of Cadets. To that end, violation of the established regulations for the governance of the Institute shall be officially recorded as delinquencies in the record of the cadet concerned.
- c. The Superintendent and the Commandant of Cadets are authorized to investigate violations of the regulations committed by cadets. In any official investigations made by them, any person under their command may be required to answer questions as to the facts within his knowledge, without regard as to who, except himself, may be incriminated by his answers. Refusal to answer such questions shall constitute disobedience of orders.

12-2. FORMATIONS.

Attendance of cadets at any official assembly shall be in military formation as prescribed by the orders of the Commandant.

12-3. FURLOUGH PERIODS.

- a. Furloughs as a reward for academic achievement may be granted cadets under conditions prescribed by the Superintendent.
- b. Furloughs may be granted to cadet athletic teams for the purpose of competition away from the Institute and other organizations (e.g. Glee Club) for periods not to exceed the time authorized by the Superintendent for such purposes for each academic year. The regulations for the wearing of the uniform shall remain in effect during such furlough periods. Cadets on such furloughs shall be restricted to the destination for which the furlough is granted, and shall move thereto and there from as a unit. An officer of the Institute or a member of its staff detailed for the purpose shall accompany such unit and shall be responsible for the enforcement of these regulations.
- c. Emergency furloughs may be granted cadets at the discretion of the Superintendent or by the Institute official so delegated.
- d. A furlough does not exempt a cadet from these regulations.
- e. A cadet returning from furlough during the academic year shall report for duty immediately upon his arrival in Lexington. Any cadet who fails to report for duty at the expiration of his furlough shall be classified as absent without leave.

- f. All applications for furloughs shall be made in writing to the Superintendent and submitted through military channels. Destination, time, purpose and forwarding address shall be specified. The details of departure, return, and property responsibility shall be prescribed by the Commandant.
- g. The duration of the Thanksgiving, Christmas, Spring and Summer Furloughs shall be announced in the official catalogue of the Institute, on Official Orders, and on the Institute's master calendar maintained by the Chief of Staff's Office.

12-4. GUARD DUTY.

- a. A guard composed of cadets shall be mounted at the cadet barracks on the opening day of each academic year's cadre period and maintained until the closing day of the academic year in accordance with the regulations for interior guard duty of the United States Army, or such modifications thereof as may be prescribed in the orders of the Commandant. The Commandant shall prescribe the details for guard duty. The proper performance of guard duty is a material part of the training of the Corps of Cadets.
- b. There will be detailed for guard duty an officer in charge, a cadet officer of the day and such other cadet officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates as the Commandant may order.
- c. During the absence from barracks of the Commandant and the Deputy or Assistant Commandants, the officer-in-charge shall be the immediate representative of the Commandant.

12-5. FOUNDER'S DAY

All duty, except the necessary guard and special formations shall be suspended.

12-6. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- a. An Information Technology administrative account will be placed on all cadet laptops.
- b. Cadets must adhere to the Information Technology Appropriate Use Policy.
- c. Cadets must take the Information Technology Security Awareness training at least annually

12-7. LIBRARY AND ACADEMIC BUILDINGS

- a. Use of the library by cadets shall be subject to the regulations prescribed by the Deputy Superintendent for Academics and Dean of the Faculty.
- b. No book shall be taken from the library unless issued and properly recorded by the library staff.

- c. No reference book or periodical shall be removed from the reading room.

12-8. MESS.

- a. The senior cadet captain shall be in charge of all cadets in the mess hall, and the remaining cadet officers, in order of rank, shall be his or her assistants. It shall be their duty, assisted by the non-commissioned officers, to preserve good order and discipline in the mess hall and to enforce the mess regulations.
- b. Representing the Corps of Cadets is a Food Service Committee, chaired by the Director of Auxiliary Services and composed of representatives from each cadet company, the head cadet waiter and the cadet Regimental S-4. The committee meets with the Food Service Director and his staff to ensure that the quality, quantity, and choice of food being offered to the Corps meets the highest standards. If any cadet shall consider any article of fare provided at his or her table unsuitable for use, he or she shall report the deficiencies to any member of the Food Service Committee.

12-9. NEW CADETS.

- a. In addition to academic excellence, inculcation of the principles of discipline, cooperation, dutiful effort, personal honor, moral obligation and physical efficiency are the ends sought in the training of new cadets, and those entrusted with their training shall be so guided.
- b. Detailed orders for the training and instruction of new cadets shall be as prescribed by the Commandant with the approval of the Superintendent. Instructors shall carefully avoid the employment of any methods which tend to lower or destroy new cadet morale or self-respect.
- c. The document governing the Operating Procedures for the Ratline and 4th Class Training is the Yellow Book (see paragraph 11-5)

12-10. PERMITS.

All cadet permits for absences from duty and special privileges shall be submitted to the Commandant, who will take action upon them in accordance with Part III of these Regulations. Permits involving absence from academic duty will be referred to the Deputy Superintendent for Academics and Dean of the Faculty for action on release from the academic duty involved. Detailed instructions covering the manner of submitting applications shall be as prescribed by the orders of the Commandant.

12-11. BARRACKS AND QUARTERS.

- a. The police of barracks and quarters, to include individual cadet quarters, shall be as prescribed by the orders of the Commandant.

- b. Assignment of cadets to quarters shall be made by the Commandant and shall not be changed without his authority.
- c. No cadet shall post any placards or notices upon any public building; nor shall he or she mark, cut, or in any manner deface or injure any public property; nor shall he or she affix to the walls of his or her room any map, picture, ornament or piece of writing without permission of the Commandant.
- d. The introduction of additional furniture or unauthorized lights into the quarters of cadets is prohibited, unless specifically authorized by the Commandant.
- e. Trunks and other baggage shall be stored in an area designated by the Commandant, and access thereto shall be as prescribed in his orders.
- f. No cadet shall introduce a civilian into the barracks except by permission of the Commandant.

12-12. PUBLICATIONS.

- a. All publications by cadets for public or private distribution shall be subject to the written approval of the Superintendent, and detailed plans shall be submitted in advance of publication by the cadet managers concerned.
- b. The collection of funds for such purposes shall be undertaken only with the written approval of the Superintendent; such funds shall be administered as may be prescribed by him.
- c. The management of approved publications shall be conducted by the representatives duly elected by the cadets immediately concerned, and approved by the Superintendent. Such publications shall be under the general supervision of the Superintendent and the immediate supervision of a faculty adviser.
- d. The cadet managers of publications shall submit in each case a report on their administration at the termination thereof, including a complete financial statement verified by the auditing official.

12-13. WITHDRAWAL OF A CADET.

A cadet may withdraw or be separated from the Virginia Military Institute under any one of the following conditions:

- a. By resignation for ill health or physical disability as evidenced by a certificate of the Institute Physician, for deficiency of funds, to enter another college, for personal reasons, or for any other reason that may be acceptable to the Superintendent or the Board of Visitors. A resignation setting forth the reasons therefore shall be submitted through channels in writing at least *twenty-four* (24) hours in advance of intended withdrawal. The Superintendent may waive this procedure at his discretion.

- b. By dismissal for academic failure under approved rules of the Academic Board.
- c. By dismissal for disciplinary offenses as provided elsewhere in these regulations. Dismissal shall be considered dishonorable only when so specified.
- d. By suspension for a specified period of time for academic failure or disciplinary offenses. Cadets suspended for academic failure may apply for re-admission upon meeting the stated academic standards for re-admission, as published by the Registrar. Cadets suspended for disciplinary reasons normally will be permitted to re-enter the Corps of Cadets upon expiration of the period of suspension as long as the specific terms and conditions under which they may return to the Institute are met.
- e. Pursuant to the policy as amended by the Board of Visitors 25 January 2014, any cadet who marries or incurs the responsibilities of parenthood is expected to resign from the Corps. Absent voluntary resignation, should the Institute, in its reasonable judgment, conclude that a cadet is married or has incurred the responsibilities of parenthood; such cadet shall be separated from the Corps, for failure of eligibility. For the purpose of this policy, the responsibilities of parenthood are deemed to begin upon the birth of a cadet's biological child for whom the cadet has custody, child care responsibilities, or legal support obligations.

No cadet shall be disciplined or separated from the Corps solely for becoming pregnant. However, being pregnant may effectively preclude a cadet (at a medically determined point in the pregnancy) from performing cadet duties and meeting the standards expected of a cadet. Thus, pregnancy shall be addressed in a manner similar to any other temporary medical conditions under General Order Number 61, Medical Leave and Medical Furlough Policy.

A cadet, male or female, shall be deemed not to have incurred the responsibilities of parenthood upon submission to the Superintendent of an order or other legal document entered by a court of any state establishing that an individual other than the cadet has temporary custody and legal guardianship of his or her biological child and the cadet has no child care responsibilities or legal support obligations for such child.

Upon receiving information that any cadet has fathered a child or caused a female to become pregnant, the Superintendent will conduct an immediate investigation to determine whether or not that cadet, by a preponderance of the evidence, has incurred the responsibilities of parenthood under these regulations.

All cadets shall, upon matriculation, sign a statement confirming their knowledge and understanding of this policy and that they are neither married nor have incurred the responsibilities of parenthood, as defined by this policy. All returning cadets shall, at the beginning of each academic year, acknowledge their understanding of this policy and expressly confirm their explicit understanding that violation of this policy may result in dismissal from the Corps and the Institute.

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS:

WHEREAS the distinctive, values driven, education experience provided by the Virginia Military Institute is directed not only to academic achievement but, equally, to character development and leadership training - both of which are central to the Institute's educational mission: and

WHEREAS the values and behaviors inculcated by a VMI education include responsibility, accountability and keen senses of duty and honor; and

WHEREAS the duties of a Cadet at the Virginia Military Institute are developed and imposed, as part of the Institute's unique educational mission, with the intention that they induce a high level of stress and demand near exclusive attention in their performance: and

WHEREAS performance of the duties of a Cadet is intended to require mutual reliance and foster a commitment to the good of the whole, that supersedes individual needs and interests, such that men and women who choose to attend VMI choose to commit themselves to the Institute, its method and, most importantly, to each other; and

WHEREAS the military structure and operation of the Institute's program rely on the egalitarian premise that all individual members of the Corps are equally subject to the rules and regulations that govern cadet life and therefore circumstances which might form the basis for the need to make exceptions to the Institute's expectations should, as much as possible, be eschewed; and

WHEREAS the duties that accrue to an individual who chooses to marry or who becomes a parent are duties of time, attention and loyalty that the Institute respects, values and supports as having a primary claim to the loyalty of the individual who accepts them; and

WHEREAS, by its educational program, the Institute hopes to communicate to Cadets an understanding, appreciation and respect for the duties of marriage and parenthood in a manner that will encourage the deliberate and responsible undertaking of marriage and parenthood and their attendant responsibilities; and

WHEREAS to permit an individual to undertake, at once, the demanding and near exclusive duties of time, attention and loyalty required of a Cadet and duties of such primary value and importance as those owed by a spouse or a parent, would be entirely inconsistent with the demands of Cadet life, would severely undermine the good order and discipline of the Corps and would be contrary to the lessons of character that the Institute seeks to teach; and

WHEREAS, no cadet shall be disciplined or separated from the Corps solely for becoming pregnant. However, being pregnant may effectively preclude a cadet (at a medically determined point in the pregnancy) from performing cadet duties and meeting the standards expected of a cadet. Thus, pregnancy shall be addressed in a manner similar to any other temporary medical condition.

WHEREAS any policy governing marriage and parenthood must be even handed in its treatment of male and female cadets;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Virginia Military Institute Board of Visitors directs the Superintendent to develop and implement a regulation whereby a VMI cadet who

chooses to marry, or to undertake the responsibilities of parenthood , defined as custody, child care responsibilities, or legal support obligations upon the live birth of the cadet's biological child, by that choice, chooses to forego his or her commitment to the Corps of Cadets and his or her VMI education. Such a cadet will be expected to resign from VMI. Absent voluntary resignation, such cadet will be separated. . Provided, however, that this resolution and any regulation developed pursuant hereto shall not be construed to impose new obligations on any cadet retroactively.

12-14. ILLNESS.

- a. A cadet requiring medical attention shall be permitted to report to the Institute Physician as prescribed by orders of the Commandant.
- b. Cadets who are sick in the Infirmary or in quarters shall not leave the Infirmary or their rooms, except for the purpose of performing some duty as defined in Part III of these regulations.
- c. Cadets on the sick list shall obey all orders of the Institute Physician and any regulations as the Institute Physician, with the approval of the Superintendent, may prescribe for the Infirmary.
- d. If a cadet is believed to present a physical threat to themselves or others due to mental illness, the Threat Assessment Team will determine if he or she will be required to either voluntarily or involuntarily have a professional psychological evaluation. If a cadet is professionally determined to present a physical threat to themselves or others, they will be required to withdraw from the Institute until such time as he/she is professionally deemed no longer to be of danger to themselves or others. Should the cadet refuse to withdraw to seek professional help, he or she will be put on a medical leave or furlough until the appropriate determination can be made by the Threat Assessment Team to resolve the situation.

12-15. SOCIAL FUNCTIONS.

- a. All hops (or dances) and other social activities held at the Institute shall be under the general supervision of the Superintendent via the Commandant and the Deputy Commandant for Clubs and Activities. Subordinate to Deputy Commandant is the cadet component, the Regimental S-7.
- b. Cadet social functions other than hops shall be undertaken only after the approval of the Superintendent.

12-16. OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.

- a. The Assistant Commandant for Clubs and Activities within the Commandant's office supports cadet clubs, club sports and organizations at VMI. These include recreational activities, military organizations, and service groups. Additionally,

they oversee two cadet publications: The VMI Bomb (VMI's yearbook) and The Cadet (the weekly newspaper).

- b. Secret societies among cadets are prohibited, and no cadet shall be authorized to attend any meeting, either on or off the post, or to wear any badge of such society.
- c. No cadet organization shall be established for any purpose whatsoever without *prior* written approval of the Superintendent.
- d. Candidates for election or appointment for all cadet governmental organizations are routed through and vetted by the Commandant's Office and the Superintendent's Representative to the Honor Court for suitability based on academic, discipline and honor background. Likewise, all cadet leadership of cadet clubs, club sports and other cadet organizations (government and equity related) may not be on any conduct or academic probationary status.
- e. The Director of Intercollegiate Athletics shall report the names of captains of athletic teams to the Superintendent.

12-17. UNIFORM.

- a. The articles of the cadet uniform shall be such required and such optional articles as may be prescribed by the Superintendent.
- b. Badges of distinction to be worn by cadets are as follows:
 - (1) Class insignia -- first class - three stripes; second class - two stripes; third class - one stripe.
 - (2) Chevrons of military rank.
 - (3) Academic distinction -- a gold star to be worn by cadets who shall have been classified as distinguished in academic merit under provisions established by the Deputy Superintendent for Academics and Dean of the Faculty and the Academic Board.
 - (4) Certain other military qualification badges and decorations (e.g. Parachute badge, Ranger tab) may be worn on specified items of the cadet uniform as approved by the Superintendent. Approval for the wear of such badges will be severely limited, both as to badges and decorations authorized for wear and as to uniforms on which they may be worn.
 - (5) Commissioning 1st Class Cadets are authorized to wear the specific service insignia or the specific branch or occupational skill insignia once the announcement of branches is made.

- (6) VMI Monogram (spider) and Club Sports Crest for participation in NCAA athletics and Club Sports are authorized to be sown on and worn on the cadet duty jacket above the name tag
- c. The design of the articles of the cadet uniform shall be as prescribed in detailed specifications deposited with the Institute's quartermaster, who alone shall be authorized to provide for manufacture, purchase, and issue.
- d. The wearing of the cadet uniform and other articles of clothing and the table of occasions shall be as prescribed in the orders of the Commandant.