

Response to Query
Frequently Asked Questions and Answers
(WRT Coast 2 Coast Auto Sales being put on off-limits list)
As of 20130523

**Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board (AFDCB)
of Southeastern Virginia and Northeastern North Carolina**

Communication Points:

1. The AFDCB role is to protect our service personnel from illegal and unethical business practices, as well as keep them safe.
2. The Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board (AFDCB) works closely with businesses being considered being placed Off Limits to avoid these actions. Mitigation efforts demonstrated by area businesses and communication to the board by the business more often have favorable results.

Q1: Why was Coast 2 Coast Auto Sales put off – limits?

A1: **Coast 2 Coast Auto Sales** located at on 1305 Oceana Blvd, Virginia Beach, VA 23454, was placed off-limits May 23, 2013 by Rear Adm. Tim Alexander, Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic, following recent reports and history of illegal activity at the establishment.

Q2: What reports and what types of illegal activity were being conducted at the establishment?

A2: Coast to Coast was placed on the off-limits list as a result of unfair and illegal business practices, specifically "bird-dogging."

NOTE: Bird Dogging

Bird dogging occurs when an automobile dealership engages unlicensed persons to solicit business and provides that person any form of compensation. Bird dogging is a business model that employs unlicensed individuals to solicit or troll for customers in an effort to get the customer to purchase a vehicle. In the case of service members employed to conduct this illegal activity they frequently solicit other members of their command, division and department targeting new recruits.

When the automobile dealership employs service members to conduct their bird dogging activities; they are soliciting and advertising on base without authorization, they are soliciting service members to conduct criminal activity that could subject the service member to up to 12 months in jail and or a \$2,500 fine, and they are encouraging conduct that negatively impacts morale, good order, and discipline.

The dealerships that use bird dogging as a business model are responsible for the conduct of the individual sales personnel who perform the solicitation and commit the crime.

Each of these activities is criminal conduct and a class 1 misdemeanor.

Q3: Has the establishment been placed off-limits before?

A3: No.

Q4: What is meant by military off-limits?

A4: Once a business is placed off-limits, all members of the armed forces are precluded from conducting business with or frequenting the establishment. Armed forces include all active duty, reserve personnel on temporary active duty for training, and National Guard personnel called or ordered to active in a federal status.

Q5: What is the composition of the Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board?

A5: The AFDCB is an investigative committee composed of members from each branch of the military service and civilian advisers from the Hampton Roads community. After thorough investigation of complaints, the AFDCB makes recommendations to the regional commander.

Q6: How are businesses placed under review of the AFDCB?

A6: Businesses are placed under review for unethical or unsatisfactory practices detrimental to the health, safety, or morale of military members. They are thoroughly investigated, and if investigations reveal unsatisfactory practices, the owners or business managers receive a written warning from the AFDCB outlining the substandard practices and efforts needed to correct practices.

Q7: Do the businesses get a chance to communicate with the AFDCB?

A7: Businesses are given the opportunity to notify the AFDCB in writing on corrective actions that have taken place. Failure to respond will result in the board making a request for business representatives to appear in person at a formal hearing of the AFDCB.

Q8: What practices, conditions, or operations can get a business reported to the AFDCB?

A8: Examples are drug activity, liquor violations; illegal gambling, racial and gender discrimination, high crime activity or other unethical or unsatisfactory practices detrimental to the health, safety, or morale of military members.

Q9: How long does a business remain off-limits?

A9: A business can remain off-limits indefinitely. A business is removed once they can demonstrate to the AFDCB that corrective measures are in place to ensure safety and welfare for all U.S. military personnel.

Q10: How are service members notified of a business that is placed off-limits?

A10: The regional commander generates an administrative message to all commands in their region. Commanding officers and officers-in-charge at each command will then inform their personnel that they are prohibited from conducting business with or entering the premises of that business.

Q11: What actions are taken if military members disobey this order?

A11: Service members who violate the order are subject to disciplinary action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Q12: Are the AFDCB meetings open to the news media?

A12: Normally, the board meetings are held in closed session, but they may be opened to the public at the discretion of Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic when he feels circumstances warrant such action.

Q13: When is the next AFDCB meeting?

A13: The next AFDCB meeting has not yet been scheduled. Once scheduled, the business will be notified and afforded an opportunity to appear before the board.