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POC: Public Affairs Officer Mr. Colie Young
Phone: (229) 639-7023
E-mail: colie.young@usmc.mil
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Vehicle decals no longer required on DoD-authorized vehicles

MARINE CORPS LOGISTICS BASE Albany, Ga. – Department of Defense personnel who live and work onboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany will no longer be issued vehicle decals that identify them as DoD personnel.

The new policy was issued May 9 in Marine Administrative Message 245/16, which directed all Marine Corps installations to cease the issue of vehicle decals, effective immediately.

Officials here stress, however, that the elimination of decals will not change any other base access policies, which require a valid state vehicle registration, proof of insurance, a valid state driver's license, a safety inspection sticker for states that require one as part of their registration, and appropriate DoD credentials. Personnel assigned permanently to MCLB Albany or any of its supported commands are still required to register their vehicles at the installation Pass and ID Office, whether they live on or off base. All personnel, whether permanent or not, will still be required to provide appropriate identification credentials to sentries at base access points each time they enter the base, including active and retired DoD identification, or the RAPIDGate credentials issued to vendors, suppliers, contractors and service providers.

This base decal policy change came after the Marine Corps reviewed installation access policies across the Corps in an effort to ensure the highest levels of security Corps-wide. In March 2015, DoD policy was changed to require 100 percent ID checks at all points of entry onto all Marine Corps installations, in addition to the standard security measures already conducted. The elimination of decals further emphasizes the requirement for personnel to provide appropriate ID at the gates.

Personnel who have been issued DoD decals are no longer required to keep them on their vehicles, as, according to the new MARADMIN, "vehicle decals no longer serve a useful purpose; specifically, use of decals is incompatible with the requirement to conduct 100 percent identification card checks at all points of ingress at Marine Corps installations."

The MARADMIN also requires installations to conduct vehicle registration compliance checks during spot checks of suspicious vehicles, when conducting random antiterrorism measures, and during traffic stops. Those who fail to register vehicles aboard an installation shall be subject to citation, loss of driving privileges, impoundment and/or other adverse personnel or administrative actions. Unit leaders are required to validate compliance during holiday vehicle safety checks. Those personnel with temporary vehicle registration will still be issued visitors' validation credentials.

Additional details are available in the MARADMIN.