

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY SOUTH POTOMAC 6509 SAMPSON ROAD, BLDG 101 DAHLGREN, VIRGINIA 22448-5108

> NSASPINST 1754.2 NO2 IUN 2 6 2017

## NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY SOUTH POTOMAC INSTRUCTION 1754.2

From: Commanding Officer, Naval Support Activity South Potomac

Subj: CHILD SUPERVISION GUIDELINES

Ref:

OPNAVINST 1700.9E SECNAVINST 1752.3B

- 1. <u>Purpose:</u> To establish Installation-wide Child Supervision Guidelines for families on NSASP.
- 2. <u>Background:</u> It is the responsibility of every parent and/or guardian in the NSASP community to provide a safe and healthy environment for his/her children. NSASP assists families in fulfilling this important responsibility by providing facilities, services, and communicating expectations regarding parental responsibilities within the installations.
- 3. <u>Guidelines:</u> All children require varying degrees of supervision depending upon demonstrated maturity and levels of self-discipline and personal responsibility. The following guidelines provide child supervision requirements for parents on NSASP:
- a. Child Supervision Guidelines: The person providing supervision must be physically and mentally capable of safely caring for children. The following outlines the basic requirements for child supervision on NSASP:
- (1) Children under the age of eight (8) years must never be left unsupervised or unattended and must be closely monitored (within sight) by a parent or designated responsible person.
- (2) Children between eight and twelve (8-12) years of age may be left alone without direct supervision for reasonable periods of time; however parents should provide indirect supervision such as frequent call/check-ins by either parent of the child or occasional checks by an adult neighbor or friend.

These children should be carefully rehearsed in procedures to follow in the event of an emergency; e.g. how to contact parents, a responsible adult and/or emergency services (police, fire, poison control).

- (3) Children between thirteen and sixteen (13-16) years of age do not require direct supervision during the day, but must have adult supervision overnight.
- (4) Children seventeen (17) years of age and older may remain at home overnight without adult supervision.
- (5) When direct parental supervision cannot be provided, the parent must arrange suitable alternative childcare through the base Child Development Center, Child Development Homes, a babysitter, and/or an adult neighbor.
- (6) Babysitters must be at least thirteen (13) years of age and sufficiently mature to provide for the children in their care. However, they must be at least eighteen (18) years of age to supervise overnight. Babysitters under eighteen (18) years of age would normally be limited in the number and ages of children in their care. Successful completion of a certified program (e.g. Red Cross Babysitter, FFSC Babysitting Class, etc.) is mandatory.
- (7) Children with special physical, mental, and emotional needs must be supervised consistent with their developmental levels, but not less than the supervision requirements contained here.

## b. Definitions:

- (1) Children unmarried persons under the age of eighteen (18) years.
- (2) Parents biological or step, guardians or the sponsor of family members under the age of eighteen (18) years.
- (3) Babysitters responsible persons thirteen (13) years or older, entrusted to care for children and are required to abide by the Child Supervision Guidelines.
- (4) Supervision assuming responsibility for child(ren) and using reasonable judgment in providing for their care.

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(5) Neglect - actions or omissions by a parent, guardian or caretaker which includes, but is not limited to, deliberate or negligent withholding or depravation of necessities (nourishments, shelter, clothing, and health care), lack of adequate supervision, emotional or educational neglect and abandonment.

M. A. O'LEARY