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PART 400—EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES AND CONDUCT

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 7301; 36 U.S.C. 2103.

§ 400.1 Cross-references to employees' ethical conduct standards, financial disclosure regulations and other conduct rules.

Employees of the American Battle Monuments Commission are subject to the executive branch-wide standards of ethical conduct and financial disclosure regulations at 5 CFR parts 2634 and 2635 as well as the executive branch-wide employee responsibilities and conduct regulations at 5 CFR part 735.

[69 FR 17929, Apr. 6, 2004]

PART 401—MONUMENTS AND MEMORIALS

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AUTHORITY: 36 U.S.C 2105; 36 U.S.C. 2106

SOURCE: 70 FR 32490, June 3, 2005, unless otherwise noted.

§ 401.1 Purpose.

This part provides guidance on the execution of the responsibilities given by Congress to the American Battle Monuments Commission (Commission) regarding memorials and monuments commemorating the service of American Armed Forces at locations outside the United States.

§ 401.2 Applicability and scope.

This part applies to all agencies of the United States Government, State and local governments of the United States and all American citizens, and private and public American organizations that have established or plan to establish any permanent memorial commemorating the service of American Armed Forces at a location outside the United States. This chapter does not address temporary monuments, plaques and other elements that deployed American Armed Forces wish to erect at a facility occupied by them outside the United States. Approval of any such temporary monument, plaque or other element is a matter to be determined by the concerned component of the Department of Defense consistent with host nation law and any other constraints applicable to the presence of American Armed Forces at the overseas location.

§ 401.3 Background.

Following World War I many American individuals, organizations and governmental entities sought to create memorials in Europe commemorating the service of American Armed Forces that participated in that war. Frequently such well-intended efforts were undertaken without adequate regard for many issues including host nation approvals, design adequacy, and funding for perpetual maintenance. As a result, in 1923 Congress created the American Battle Monuments Commission to generally oversee all memorials created by Americans or American entities to commemorate the service of American Armed Forces at locations outside the United States.

§ 401.4 Responsibility.

The Commission is responsible for building and maintaining appropriate memorials commemorating the service of American Armed Forces at any place outside the United States where Armed Forces have served since April 6, 1917.

§ 401.5 Control and supervision of materials, design, and building.

The Commission controls the design and prescribes regulations for the building of all memorial monuments and buildings commemorating the service of American Armed Forces that are built in a foreign country or political division of the foreign country that authorizes the Commission to carry out those duties and powers.

§ 401.6 Approval by National Commission of Fine Arts.

A design for a memorial to be constructed at the expense of the United States Government must be approved by the National Commission of Fine Arts before the Commission can accept it.

§ 401.7 Cooperation with other than Government entities.

The Commission has the discretion to cooperate with citizens of the United States, States, municipalities, or associations desiring to build war memorials outside the United States.

§ 401.8 Requirement for Commission approval.

No administrative agency of the United States Government may give assistance to build a memorial unless the plan for the memorial has been approved by the Commission. In deciding whether to approve a memorial request the Commission will apply the criteria set forth in § 401.9.

§ 401.9 Evaluation criteria.

Commission consideration of a request to approve a memorial will include, but not be limited to, evaluation of following criteria:

Criteria	Discussion
(a) How long has it been since the events to be honored took place?	Requests made during or immediately after an event are not generally subject to approval. The Commission will not approve a memorial until at least 10 years after the officially designated end of the event. It should be noted that this is the same period of time made applicable to the establishment of memorials in the District of Columbia and its environs by the Commemorative Works Act.
(b) How will the perpetual maintenance of the memorial be funded?	Available adequate funding or other specific arrangements addressing perpetual care are a prerequisite to any approval.
(c) Has the host nation consented?	Host nation approval is required.
(d) Is an overseas site appropriate for the proposed permanent memorial?	In many circumstances a memorial located within the United States will be more appropriate.
(e) Is the proposed memorial intended to honor an individual or small unit?	Memorials to elements smaller than a division or comparable unit or to an individual will not be approved unless the services of such unit or individual clearly were of such distinguished character as to warrant a separate memorial.
(f) Is the memorial historically accurate?	Representations should be supported by objective authorities.
(g) Is the proposed memorial intended to honor an organizational element of the American Armed Forces rather than soldiers from a geographical area of the United States?	As a general rule, memorials should be erected to organizations rather than to troops from a particular locality of the United States.
(h) Does the contribution of the element to be honored warrant a separate memorial?	The commemoration should normally be through a memorial that would have the affect of honoring all of the American Armed Forces personnel who participated rather than a select segment of the organizational participants.

§ 401.10 Monument Trust Fund Program.

Pursuant to the provisions of 36 U.S.C. 2106(d), the Commission operates a Monument Trust Fund Program (MTFP) in countries where there is a Commission presence. Under the MTFP, the Commission may assume both the sponsor's legal interests in the monument and responsibility for its maintenance. To be accepted in the Monument Trust Fund Program, an organization must develop an acceptable maintenance plan and transfer sufficient monies to the Commission to fully fund the maintenance plan for at least 30 years. to The Commission will put this money into a trust fund of United States Treasury instruments that earn interest. Prior to acceptance into the MTFP, the sponsor must perform any deferred maintenance necessary to bring the monument up to a mutually agreeable standard. At that time, the Commission may assume the sponsoring organization's interest in the property and responsibility for all maintenance and other decisions concerning the monument. Once accepted into the program, the Commission will provide for all necessary maintenance of the monument and charge the cost to the trust fund. to The sponsoring organization or others interested in the monument may add to the trust fund at any time to insure that adequate funds remain available. to The Commission will maintain the monument

for as long a period as the trust fund account permits.

§401.11 Demolition criteria.

As authorized by the provisions of 36 U.S.C. 2106(e), the Commission may take necessary action to demolish any war memorial built outside the United States by a citizen of the United States, a State, a political subdivision of a State, a governmental authority (except a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government), a foreign agency, or a private association and to dispose of the site of the memorial in a way the Commission decides is proper, if—

(a) The appropriate foreign authorities agree to the demolition; and

(b)(1) The sponsor of the memorial consents to the demolition; or

(2) The memorial has fallen into disrepair and a reasonable effort by the Commission has failed—

(i) To persuade the sponsor to maintain the memorial at a standard acceptable to the Commission; or

(ii) To locate the sponsor.

PARTS 402–403 [RESERVED]

PART 404—PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

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AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 552.

SOURCE: 68 FR 8826, Feb. 26, 2003, unless otherwise noted.

§404.1 General.

This information is furnished for the guidance of the public and in compliance with the requirements of section 552 of Title 5, United States Code, as amended.

§404.2 Authority and functions.

The general functions of the American Battle Monuments Commission, as provided by statute, 36 U.S.C. Section 2101, *et seq.*, are to build and maintain suitable memorials commemorating the service of American Armed Forces and to maintain permanent American military cemeteries in foreign countries.

§404.3 Organization.

(a) The brief description of the central organization of the American Battle Monuments Commission follows:

(1) The Commission is composed of not more than 11 members appointed by the President.

(2) The day to day operation of the Commission is under the direction of a Secretary appointed by the President.

(3) Principal Officials include the Executive Director, Director of Finance, Director of Procurement and Contracting, Director of Engineering, Maintenance, and Operations and Director of Personnel and Administration.

(4) The Commission also creates temporary offices when tasked with major additional responsibilities not of a permanent nature.

(b) *Locations.* (1) The principal offices of the American Battle Monuments Commission are located at Courthouse Plaza II, Suite 500, 2300 Clarendon Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22201. Persons desiring to visit offices or employees of the American Battle Monuments Commission should write or telephone ahead (703–696–6897 or 703–696–6895) to make an appointment.

(2) Field offices are located in Paris, France; Rome, Italy; Manila, Republic of the Philippines; the Republic of Panama; and Mexico City, Mexico.

§404.4 Access to information.

(a) The American Battle Monuments Commission makes available information pertaining to Commission matters within the scope of 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(2) by publishing them electronically at the ABMC home page at *http://www.abmc.gov*.

(b) The ABMC FOIA Officer is responsible for acting on all initial requests. Individuals wishing to file a request under the Freedom of Information Act