



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, U. S. ARMY MEDICAL COMMAND
2050 WORTH ROAD
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS 78234-6000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

MCHO-CL-Q

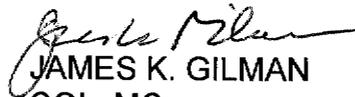
16 March 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR All Deploying Soldiers Who Possess Healthcare
Licenses/Certifications

SUBJECT: Requirement to Maintain a Current License/Certification While Deployed

1. Some healthcare workers' licenses/certifications will expire during deployments.
2. The Chief Counsel of Department of Defense Health Affairs (DoD HA) has opined that healthcare workers who must maintain a current valid, unrestricted license/national certification to practice must keep that license/certification current while deployed. This includes physicians, dentists, dietitians, advanced practice nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, physician assistants, social workers, psychologists, audiologists, nurses, licensed practical nurses, EMTs, and any other AOC/MOS that currently requires license/certification. The DoD will not waive this requirement.
3. Each individual license/certification holder is personally responsible to maintain his or her license/certification. Individuals must contact the state board or national certification agency themselves and determine how they can maintain a current license/certification if deployed. Workable options vary by state and include early renewal, delegation by power of attorney to someone else to renew, or web-based renewal. Enclosed is a sample letter that may be used to query the board or certification agency about options for renewal.
4. Any individual who is unable to work out a mechanism to maintain a current license/certification while deployed should immediately notify his or her Chain of Command.
5. The POC for this action is LTC Elaine Fleming, Quality Management Division; Health Policy and Services Directorate, (210)221-8104, DSN 471-8104.

Encl


JAMES K. GILMAN
COL, MC

Asst. Chief of Staff, Health Policy and Services

(State license Board/ State or National certifying Board)
(address of Board)

(date)

Dear Board:

I currently hold a _____ (license or certification for the practice of
_____ from _____ (State or National Certifying body),
_____ (license or certificate) number _____.

I am being deployed by orders of the U.S. Army overseas as part of Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Noble Eagle, and my license is due to expire on _____. I need to make sure I keep my _____(license/certification) current but am concerned that I may not be able to receive/send mail in a timely fashion once deployed. I would like to know what my options are regarding early renewal, use of power of attorney for someone else to renew in my absence, web-based renewal process or any other option you may have for me to use.

Please let me know my options as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

(Signature)

(your name)

(address)

(phone/FAX #s)

(e-mail address)