SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON

29 MAY 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Army Directive 2012-14 (Prohibited Substances (Controlled Substance Analogues))

1. References:

a. Department of Defense (DoD) Directive 1010.4 (Drug and Alcohol Abuse by DoD Personnel), Incorporating Change 1, 11 Jan 99.

b. Army Regulation 600-85 (The Army Substance Abuse Program), Rapid Action Revision Issued 2 Dec 09.

c. Memorandum, SASA, 10 Feb 11, subject: Prohibited Substances (Spice in Variations) (superseded by this directive).

d. Uniform Code of Military Justice (2008).

2. The purpose of this memorandum is to establish Armywide policy related to controlled substance analogues. A controlled substance analogue is a substance that is intended for human consumption and is structurally or pharmacologically substantially similar to, or is represented as being similar to, a Schedule I or Schedule II substance and is not an approved medication in the United States.

a. One example of a controlled substance analogue is derivatives of 2-aminopropanal, such as mephedrone and methylenedioxypyrovalerone (MDPV), that are listed as "Drugs of Concern" by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency. Derivatives of 2-aminopropanal are the active ingredient in the class of drugs commonly called "bath salts," which are designed solely to be used as a means to produce excitement, intoxication and/or stupefaction of the central nervous system.

b. Another example of a controlled substance analogue is synthetic cannabis and other tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) substitutes that have no known application other than mimicking the effects of THC in the human body. Numerous synthetic THC substitutes are now available on the open market in many States. Synthetic cannabis and THC substitutes are used in drugs such as "spice," which are so closely related in action to THC as to make it obvious that synthetic cannabis and THC substitutes will have the same potential for abuse as THC.

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3. The use of controlled substance analogues is inconsistent with the values of the United States Army. They are hazardous to the mission of the Army, the health of the user and the safety of the Army community.

4. Army personnel are prohibited from using, possessing, manufacturing, selling, distributing, importing into or exporting from the United States any controlled substance analogue. This includes, but is not limited to, synthetic cannabis (also known as "spice"), substances containing derivatives of 2-aminopropanal (also known as "bath salts), cathinone substitutes or the cocaine analogue RTI 126 without proper authorization. This policy does not apply to alcohol, caffeine, tobacco or lawfully used prescription or over-the-counter medications, nor does it prohibit the lawful use of traditional "bath salt" or "epsom salt" products. Army personnel may not introduce these substances into any installation, vessel, vehicle or aircraft used by or under the control of the Army without proper authorization.

5. This policy is applicable to the Active Army, the Army National Guard of the United States when in Title 10 status, and the U.S. Army Reserve. This policy is punitive, and violations of its provisions may result in punitive actions against Service members.

6. The Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1 is the proponent for this policy and will incorporate the guidance in this directive as soon as practical in the next revision of Army Regulation 600–85. Direct any questions or requests for information to Dr. Les McFarling, Director, Army Center for Substance Abuse Programs, commercial 502-626-2517 or leslie.h.mcfarling.civ@mail.mil.

7. The provisions of this directive are effective immediately. This directive will be rescinded upon publication of the revised Army Regulation 600-85.

John M. McHugh

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