

Lines

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its civilian members to allow them on base. Instead the range now has to provide a list to the Security Forces at the gate and the civilian member has to check in with the gate. If the member is not on the list but wishes to shoot, then a person already on base at the range has to drive to the gate to sponsor them on base. The idea behind the cards was to make it easier for civilian shooters to have access to the range.

Now many civilians who have shot at the range on a regular basis for years have decided they would rather not deal with the hassle of trying to get on base anymore and are shooting elsewhere.

This concerns me because civilian participation is mostly what keeps the range in business and I am concerned that this will cause the range to close. I know that she has been in opposition with the range

for a long time and opposes improvements, changes, etc.

I shoot on the intramural skeet league and I don't want the range to close, but the loss of civilian participation could cause that to happen. Is there any way to change back to letting civilians on base with stamped ID cards from the range? I can't see that this is anymore "unsecured" than letting civilians on base with an escort.

Thank you for taking the time to contact me by using the Action Line. There are two reasons why the 437th Security Forces Squadron will not issue cards that allow non-DoD civilians full-time access to the base. First, AFI 31-101 tasks the security forces commander to control entry to the base. As such, I expect him to take necessary measures to ensure that only those personnel who are authorized access be allowed such access. One way he controls entry is by limiting the number and types of cards issued for base access.

Additionally, please remember that MWR facilities are intended for use by active duty and retired military, DoD civilians, their families, and authorized guests. Imagine what would happen if all MWR facilities (pool, fitness center, golf course, etc.) were open to any non-affiliated civilian desiring unescorted access. Our authorized patrons would soon be crowded out. Those authorized guests are not entitled to use MWR facilities without their sponsor, who is responsible for conduct of the guest while on base. By the "letter of the law," the 437th SFS commander could have required your guests to be sponsored on base each and every time they shoot. Instead, he has made a reasonable effort to accommodate skeet club users by allowing submission of an entry authority list (EAL) to facilitate their entry.

Now, your guests must be checked against an EAL, a win-win situation for skeet range users and the security of Charleston AFB.