

# Post phasing in new security measures

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*Carlisle Barracks and area first responders provide assistance to a "victim" during a exercise in this file photo.*

Big voice tests, phone calls and text messages are just a few of the more obvious parts of the multi-layered and proactive security posture here at Carlisle Barracks, but every

day randomly selected and behind-the-scenes actions are taking place -- all designed to help keep employees and families safe.

“We’re constantly changing, evaluating and incorporating new actions as part of our security protocols in an effort to remain unpredictable,” said Bob Suskie, director of Emergency Services here, which includes the gate guards, police and firefighters. “We take our responsibilities of making sure this is a safe and secure installation very seriously.”

More visible are the series of emergency response exercises that are held throughout the year that culminate with a large exercise each summer.

“It’s important that we train our people and exercise our emergency response plans because in an actual event most people are not thinking clearly and will react according to how they have been trained,” said Barry Shughart, chief of Emergency Management here.

A recent example was the active shooter drill held in Root Hall, the main academic building of the Army War College.

“We wanted to make sure that every student, staff member and employee knew what to do in the event

of an incident,” said Shughart. “It allows us to see how effective our plans are, what we need to refine and how we can better educate our community on what to do.”

In addition to exercises, Carlisle Barracks collaborates with local law enforcement and emergency response agencies across the state to share information, resources and training opportunities. Monthly meetings bring representatives from emergency responders from on and off the installation together to talk security concerns that affect the region plan and coordinate actions among professionals accustomed to working together.

“We’re a part of the larger community and have a responsibility to do all we can to protect not just the people who live and work on post, but in the community as well,” said Shughart.

Reports of suspicious activity from the community are important, according to Suskie.

“I want to encourage everyone to remain vigilant and to report any suspicious activity to local law enforcement authorities,” said Suskie. “If you see something, say something.” Suspicious activities can be reported at

<http://carlislebarracks.carlisle.army.mil/iWatch/SuspiciousActivityReport.cfm> Immediate threats should be reported to the Carlisle Barracks Police Desk at (717) 245-4115.

### **New level of checks for all visitors coming**

Recently Carlisle Barracks instituted a new screening process for delivery vehicles and contractors. Drivers fill out and sign a form allowing the security team here to run a National Crime Information Center background check. These changes were driven by a US Homeland Security Directive and are a sign of what’s to come for all visitors to the installation in the next year.

“Visitors coming to Carlisle Barracks, who do not have a federal government-issued identification card, will be subject to a background check before being allowed to enter the installation,” said Suskie. This means that all visitors without a CAC card will fill out and sign a form that will allow the security team to run the NCIC check. Those with certain violations will not be allowed access to the installation.

“Those who show a common access card (CAC card), Military ID, Military Dependent ID, or an issued Installation Access Control pass won’t be affected.”

For now, all visitors are still currently subject to a vehicle inspection before being allowed to enter the installation. The background-check initiative won’t be implemented until the completion of the Visitors Control Center at the Claremont Road gate, and development is expected later this year.

A website with all of the required forms

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