



Vermont State Rifle & Pistol Association
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Secretary Susanne Young
Office of Secretary of Administration
109 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05609-0201

DATE: June 3, 2021

RE: New Civilian Short-Term Lease (STL) Policy @ CEATS/EAFR

Dear Secretary Young -

Previously, I contacted you concerning an issue that the VSRPA has encountered with our use of the Camp Ethan Allen Training Site (CEATS) / Ethan Allen Firing Range (EAFR). If you are not aware of the VSRPA, we were created in 1938, we are a 501(c)(7), and since our inception we have had the honor and privilege of using the ranges at CEATS/EAFR to conduct Rifle and Pistol matches at no cost.

At your request, I carbon copied you on a letter we wrote the Adjutant General Knight, which we sent both regular mail as well as via email on 5/17/2021, and we simply asked for a meeting.

While we are certain that the General is a busy man, we have not received any response back from our letter, and we are now in the prime shooting season with no resolution to our problem in sight.

In a similar vein, we have additionally been in contact with Vermont's Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army (CASA), whose job it is to advise and support Army leaders across the country on issues pertaining to civilians / the Army. In Vermont's case, this would be Michael Popowski Esq., who at our request has been trying to contact General Knight about this same issue for well over a month - without any response from the General.

The issue at hand is that the Vermont State Rifle & Pistol Association is in receipt of a new [Short Term License \(STL\) Policy](#) forwarded to us by Vermont's Military Property and Installation Office (MPIO) which we received on 5/6/2021.

Per this new policy, the premiere facility in all of the Northeast that supports marksmanship with ranges out to 600 yards and beyond, ranges that are designed and ideally suited for running matches, will become unusable by the VSRPA and Burlington Rifle & Pistol Club (BRPC), as neither club nor its members will be able to bear the financial burden imposed by this policy.

The new fee schedule will quite effectively reduce our membership, it will reduce the number of people

coming to matches (many of which come from out-of-state), and that loss of revenue to the VSRPA would put us on the path to financial extinction. As it is our federal tax dollars that have paid for, and continue to pay for the facilities at CEATS/EAFR, we do not feel it is fair to price our use to “...*be competitive to businesses around us...*”, which was a reason given to us in writing by an MPIO employee in support of the proposed new fees.

While it would be preferable if the fees were removed completely given the benefits we provide to civilians, the Vermont Guard and the military in general, not to mention our non-profit status, it would be far more reasonable for a flat fee for the use of a range no matter whether it is a practice or a match – especially since our presence on base does not require any additional personnel, nor do we use utilities.

We SUPPORT the Guard and its mission. We SUPPORT fostering marksmanship not only in civilians, but also with any and all interested military members. What little “profit” we realize at the end of a given year we donate to Junior Shooting Programs, with no one in our organization profiting in any way as we are all volunteers.

If possible, I would respectfully request a meeting with you and possibly Governor Scott to discuss this further at your earliest convenience..

With Highest Regards,



Chris Bradley
Secretary / Treasurer - VSRPA

CC: Governor Phil Scott c/o Marianne Davidson
Michael Popowski, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army (VT)
Major General Greg Knight, Adjutant General, c/o Susan Slay
Bruce Baroffio, President - VSRPA