

Discharging of Ordnance / Firearms Guideline The United States Artillery Reserve, Inc.

1. Purpose

The United States Artillery Reserve, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as the Artillery Reserve) is committed to providing an environment for our members, officers, volunteers, associates and persons served by the Artillery Reserve that is safe and free from potential dangers associated with firing of ordnance and firearms as defined in the Artillery Reserve By-Laws.

2. Authority and oversight for Discharging of Ordnance and Firearms*

Discharging of any / all ordnance and firearms at events in which the Artillery Reserve participates is under the full control of the Chief of Artillery, the Chief Ordnance Officer and their designees. At least one of these individuals must be present when discharging of ordnance and firearms occurs.

3. * Definition

The definition of “ordnance and firearms” within this guideline is expanded to include all weaponry within the Artillery Reserve including but not limited to cannon, mortars, hand guns, long guns and all associated devices involved in such firing to include powder, primers and firing caps.

4. Location

The location upon which the discharging of cannon and firearms is permitted is determined by event coordination staff. Following receipt of this information, the Chief Ordnance Officer or designee, as defined by the Artillery Reserve By-Laws, has full authority for placement and operation of artillery pieces and firearms.

- 1) Under NO circumstances are cannon to be discharged within 50-yards (front and side) of any persons other than those individuals also participating in the firing event (i.e., a re-enactment scenario including detachments, sections and batteries).
- 2) General side distance firing minimums are 7-10 yards, hub to hub for cannon.
- 3) Rear placement of limbers falls in line with guidelines stipulated in Field Artillery Tactics 1864.
- 4) To the rear of a cannon, a minimum of 100' is highly suggested as the safe operating distance from the hub of a cannon to an event safety line established for members of the general public and for re-enactor participants such as civilian and medical safety staff.

- 5) No firing of cannon in camp is permitted unless approved by the Chief Ordnance Officer or designee. If permitted, the 50-yard minimums defined in Section 3 Location must be adhered to.
- 6) The Chief Ordnance Officer has the authority to modify any of these guidelines in the interest of event, public and participant safety.

5. Penalty and/or liability

Failure to adhere to these written guidelines OR verbal guidelines so stated at events which the Artillery Reserve participates, can and will result in the detachment(s) and personnel in question immediately being removed from further participation at the specific event in question. Failure to adhere will also result in a formal investigation by designated staff in line with the By-Laws of the Artillery Reserve.

Adopted this 9th Day of July, 2019
James Lynch
President and Commander
United States Artillery Reserve, Inc.