



Barracks Move Options

There are two basic methods by which soldiers may move their property from one barracks to another: a Do It Yourself (DITY) move or a formal government sponsored move.

An advantage of the DITY move is that the Soldier is responsible for packing and moving their own property and will stay with their property during the move; the opportunity for loss or damaged items is generally reduced.

A disadvantage of the DITY move is that the government's liability is limited and there is a presumption of loss on the Soldier. An advantage of the more formal government sponsored move is that the Soldier has greater recourse if items are damaged or destroyed during the move. The presumption of loss is shifted from the Soldier to the government.

A disadvantage of the government sponsored move is that significantly more time and resources must be invested in this type of move.

Requirements of a DITY move

The Soldier must make a high dollar item inventory (any individual item worth over \$100) before they begin to move. An inventory sheet is available through the claims office. The inventory should list the make, model and serial number of each item. These inventories should be collected by the Soldier's chain of command before commencement of the move.

Soldiers must keep any easily stolen item in their personal control. This means cash, jewelry, small electronic items and any other high dollar value items that can be easily taken. If these items turn up missing they will not be compensated.

It is presumed in a DITY move that damage is the result of negligence on the part of the Soldier and is therefore, generally, not compensable. If a Soldier suffers damage they will have to overcome this presumption. They should immediately note any damage and report it through the chain of command. The Soldier must prove they have no fault in the damage. Soldiers should inspect their possessions once they have completed moving and immediately report any lost or damaged items, in writing, to their chain of command. The Soldiers can then make a formal claim for damaged or lost items to the Claims Office. Again, there is a presumption that any loss or damage was due to the Soldier's own negligence. All claims will be reviewed to determine if the loss was truly accidental or unavoidable. Claims which meet this test will be paid.

Requirements of a Government Sponsored Move

The Soldier must make a *complete* inventory of *all* items to be moved. An inventory sheet is available through the claims office. The inventory must include the make, model and serial number of high dollar value items being moved as well as an accurate description of all items being moved, as well as, the number of items should. The inventory must indicate any damage that exists on the property. The chain of command must verify the inventory for accuracy and completeness. The chain of command will keep the inventories until the move is complete.

Soldiers must inspect, reassemble and operate all property as soon after the completion of the move as possible. Any damage or lost property must be reported immediately to the chain of command. The chain of command must verify the claimed damage and compare the damage to the description on the inventory. Any damage or lost property must be noted on a memorandum signed by both the soldier who owned the property and a member of their chain of command in the rank of E-7 or above. Failure to note a loss or damage in a timely fashion will preclude recovery for the Soldier.

Money and easily pilfered items, such as jewelry, watches and cameras, must remain in the possession of the soldier at all times. Any loss or damage to these items will be presumed to be due to the negligence of the soldier. Only if the evidence demonstrates that something outside of the Soldier's control caused the loss will they be allowed to file a claim for these items.

If you have any questions about barracks move claims or any other type of claim, contact the Fort Carson Claims Office at 526-1355.

The Claims Office is located in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Building 6222, 1633 Mekong St., Fort Carson, CO 80913, on the first floor.

Office hours are 0900-1600 Monday through Friday (1200 – 1300, closed for lunch.)