

VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE
Lexington, Virginia

GENERAL ORDER)
NUMBER 65)

26 August 2021

Digital Copyright Compliance Policy

The Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) of 2008 includes specific statements requiring colleges and universities to comply with digital copyright laws, and requires VMI to provide the following information:

Federal Copyright Laws

Copyright infringement is the act of exercising, without permission or legal authority, one or more of the exclusive rights granted to the copyright owner under section 106 of the Copyright Act (Title 17 of the United States Code). These rights include the right to reproduce or distribute a copyrighted work. In the file-sharing context, downloading or uploading substantial parts of a copyrighted work without permission or legal authority constitutes an infringement.

Penalties for copyright infringement include civil and criminal penalties. In general, anyone found liable for civil copyright infringement may be ordered to pay either actual damages or

VMI considers copyright violations very seriously, and will cooperate with the RIAA and/or the MPAA in order to protect itself from potential liability. Punitive steps may result in the loss of network access or other disciplinary action up to and including dismissal or termination. Fines or court fees will be the responsibility of the user.

Remember: Downloading, copying or sharing material (such as music, movies, games, or applications) without permission from the copyright holder is against federal law and in violation of VMI's Acceptable Use of VMI Information Systems Policy (<http://www.vmi.edu/AppropriateUse>). Any such violations can result in discipline up to and including dismissal from VMI or termination of employment.

Helpful Links

United States Code, Title 17 <http://www.copyright.gov/title17/>

US Copyright Office FAQ <http://www.copyright.gov/help/faq>

MPAA: Copyright and Protecting Creativity <https://www.mpaa.org/what-we-do/advancing-creativity/>

Where to Watch: Legal movie and TV access outlets <https://www.justwatch.com/us>

FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT:

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DIST: E, Cadets
OPR: IT