SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
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WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000

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MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF MANAGEMENT OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR OF COST ASSESSMENT AND PROGRAM EVALUATION
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS
DIRECTOR OF NET ASSESSMENT
DIRECTORS OF DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Modification and Reissuance of DoD Response to Coronavirus Disease 2019 – Travel Restrictions

References:
(a) Secretary of Defense Memorandum, "Travel Restrictions for DoD Components in Response to Coronavirus Disease 2019," March 11, 2020 (hereby cancelled)
(b) Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum, "Stop Movement for all Domestic Travel for DoD Components in Response to Coronavirus Disease 2019," March 13, 2020 (hereby cancelled)
(c) MOD 1 TO REVISION 01 TO DOD RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS-2019 EXORD, March 24, 2020 (hereby cancelled)
(d) Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Memorandum, "Modifications for Authorized Departures and Ordered Departures Related to COVID-19," April 3, 2020
(e) Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Memorandum, "Force Health Protection Guidance (Supplement 4) – Department of Defense Guidance for Personnel Traveling During the Novel Coronavirus Outbreak," March 11, 2020

The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) continues to present significant risk to our forces as the DoD considers domestic and overseas personnel travel. These movements present

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the threat of spreading COVID-19 within our ranks and communities. My priorities remain – protecting our Service members, DoD civilians, and families; safeguarding our national security capabilities; and supporting the whole-of-nation response.

Effective immediately, this memorandum cancels references (a), (b), and (c) and reissues travel restriction guidance for DoD Components that will remain in effect until June 30, 2020.

Travel Restrictions

All DoD Service members will stop movement, both internationally and domestically, while this memorandum is in effect. All DoD civilian personnel, and dependents of DoD Service members and DoD civilian personnel, whose travel is Government-funded will stop movement, both internationally and domestically, while this memorandum is in effect.

Except as provided below, this stop movement applies to all official travel, including temporary duty (TDY) travel; Government-funded leave travel; permanent duty travel, including Permanent Change of Station (PCS) travel; and travel related to Authorized and Ordered Departures issued by the Department of State. For DoD Service members, it also includes personal leave outside the local area and non-official travel outside the local area. DoD Components may onboard civilian employees within the local commuting area only, and civilian employees whose travel to the local commuting area is not government-funded.

Exemptions

The following circumstances are exempt from these travel restrictions:

a. Travel associated with uniformed personnel recruiting and accessions activities, to include accessions, basic training, advanced individual training, and follow-on travel to the first duty station. The Military Departments will notify me prior to reducing or suspending recruiting, accessions, basic training, or advanced individual training.

b. Travel by patients, as well as their authorized escorts and attendants, for purposes of medical treatment. Travel by medical providers for the purposes of medical treatment for DoD personnel and their families is also authorized.

c. Travel for Global Force Management (GFM) activities (defined as deployments/redeployments ordered in the GFM Allocation Plan and Combatant Command Assigned Force Demand tasking, including Service internal rotations to support, and TDY used to source ordered capabilities). Such travel to execute Operations, Activities, and Investments or Service-related training will be coordinated between the Combatant Command, the Joint Staff, and the appropriate Military Department. All GFM-scheduled deployments/redeployments of U.S. Navy vessels and embarked units and personnel is authorized, provided they are in-transit and have met the 14-day restriction of movement provided for under reference (e), and any applicable subsequent guidance.

d. Travel by authorized travelers who departed their permanent duty station and are "awaiting transportation," and by authorized travelers who have already initiated travel (including intermediate stops). Such travelers are authorized to continue travel to their final destination on approved orders.

e. Travel by authorized travelers whose TDY ends while this directive is in effect. Such travelers are authorized to return to their permanent duty station.

f. Travel authorized by the Commander, U.S. Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM), to continue execution of the Joint Deployment and Distribution Enterprise as required to project and sustain the Joint Force globally. This includes forces (aircrews, vessel crews, and mission essential personnel) ordered on prepare-to-deploy orders alert status, air refueling, global patient movement, mortuary affairs support, inland surface, sea and air sustainment missions, support to other U.S. Agencies (as approved by me), and moves of personnel and equipment that support USTRANSCOM's global posture requirements.

g. Travel by individuals pending retirement or separation.

h. Travel by those under authority of a Chief of Mission and authorized by that Chief of Mission.

Waivers

As set forth below, waivers to this directive may be granted in writing in cases where the travel is: (1) determined to be mission-essential; (2) necessary for humanitarian reasons; or (3) warranted due to extreme hardship. These waivers are to be executed on a case-by-case basis, must be determined to be in the best interest of the U.S. Government, and shall be coordinated between the gaining and losing organizations. Mission-essential travel refers to work that must be performed to ensure the continued operations of mission-essential functions, including positions that are deemed key and essential, as determined by the responsible DoD Component.

Approval authority for waivers belongs to:

a. The Combatant Commander if the individual is assigned or allocated to a Combatant Command;

b. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff if the individual is assigned to the Joint Staff;

c. The Secretary of the Military Department concerned for personnel under his/her jurisdiction;

d. The Chief of the National Guard Bureau (NGB) for all personnel assigned, attached, or allocated to the NGB and, for travel using Federal funds, all travel by title 32 and title 5 personnel assigned throughout the National Guard; and

e. The Chief Management Officer for personnel in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Defense Agencies, DoD Field Activities, and any other DoD entities not listed above.

This authority to approve waivers may be delegated in writing no lower than the first general or flag officer or member of the Senior Executive Service or equivalent in the traveler's chain of command or supervision. Delegations previously authorized under references (a) through (c) remain in effect until those delegations are rescinded or superseded. References in prior delegations to "member of the Senior Executive Service" are deemed to include equivalent personnel.

Additional Guidance

The restrictions above give preeminence to the safety and security of our personnel, their families, and our communities. During this period of travel restriction, the Department will take several measures to enhance traveler safety, lessen the burden on DoD personnel and their families, and ensure continued operations. Each of your organizations, as applicable, will take immediate action to:

a. Clearly communicate the contents of this directive to those individuals affected by these travel restrictions;

b. Establish pre- and post-travel screening and reception procedures for all authorized travelers as provided in reference (e) and any applicable subsequent guidance, to include establishing a means of communication with all personnel throughout the pre- and post-travel screening and reception process and providing information regarding prescribed actions for their particular circumstances;

c. Use military- or DoD-contracted end-to-end travel using aircraft or other conveyance for DoD-sponsored travelers to the greatest extent practical;

d. Inform all travelers of their responsibility to contact their gaining organization in advance of travel and to keep the organization updated on their travel itinerary;

e. Document within travel orders the exemption or waiver under which the travel is authorized; and

f. When practicable within operational requirements, consider either in-place assignment extensions or the applicability of waivers for PCS moves for uniformed personnel with school-age dependents in order to minimize school year disruption and education costs.

The Department will maintain a continuous conditions-based assessment of the COVID-19 pandemic, to include the ability of Force Providers, Combatant Commands, and USTRANSCOM to meet travel restriction requirements; host nation policy considerations regarding DoD force deployments; and COVID-19-related infrastructure at forward deployed

locations. Based on this assessment, I will review this policy every 15 days to determine if travel can resume earlier than June 30, 2020. As we continue to monitor the rapidly evolving COVID-19 outbreak, this guidance will be updated, as warranted, consistent with the priorities outlined in the first paragraph of this memorandum.