MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF MANAGEMENT OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU
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

SUBJECT: Delegated Authority for Overseas Travel Restrictions in Response to Coronavirus Disease 2019

The attached Secretary of Defense memorandum, Travel Restrictions for DoD Components in Response to Coronavirus Disease 2019, dated March 11, 2020, directs the Chief Management Officer (CMO) to serve as one of the approval authorities for exceptions to the newly established overseas travel restriction guidance for Defense Agencies and DoD Field Activities. The other approval authorities are the Combatant Commander concerned if the traveler is assigned to a Combatant Command, the Secretary of the Military Department concerned for personnel under his or her jurisdiction, and the Secretary or Deputy Secretary of Defense for travelers in the Office of the Secretary of Defense and all other DoD Components. Exceptions may be granted in compelling cases where the travel is: (1) determined to be mission essential; (2) necessary for humanitarian reasons; or (3) warranted due to extreme hardship.

Effective immediately, and while these travel restrictions are in effect, I delegate my authority to grant exceptions to the travel restrictions for Defense Agencies and DoD Field Activities to the OSD Principal Staff Assistants with authority, direction, and control over the respective Directors of the Defense Agencies and DoD Field Activities for travelers assigned to those organizations and their families. This authority may be further delegated in writing only to a level no lower than the first general or flag officer or member of the Senior Executive Service in the traveler’s chain of command or supervision. These exceptions are to be granted on a case by case basis, shall be limited in number, shall be coordinated between the gaining and losing organizations, as appropriate, and shall be made in writing.
Further delegations and any exceptions granted to individuals will be provided in writing to Executive Services Directorate (ESD), Washington Headquarters Services. ESD will provide the CMO with periodic updates on the delegations and exceptions.

Our understanding of COVID-19 continues to evolve and this delegation of authority will be evaluated as conditions warrant. Please ensure widest dissemination to ensure this is clearly communicated to those affected by these changes to travel policy.

The point of contact for this memorandum is Chris Choate, (703) 692-5475 or christopher.r.choate.civ@mail.mil.

Attachment:
As stated

cc:
Directors of Defense Agencies
Directors of DoD Field Activities