

MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR PENTAGON LEADERSHIP DEFENSE AGENCY AND DOD FIELD ACTIVITY DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Coronavirus Disease 2019 – Transition to Health Protection Condition Bravo on the Pentagon Reservation

References: (a) Secretary of Defense Memorandum, "Guidance for Commanders' Risk Based Responses and Implementation of the Health Protection Condition Framework During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Pandemic," April 29, 2021
(b) Director of Administration and Management Memorandum, "COVID-19 – Implementation of Measures Designed to Mitigate the Threat of the Delta and Omicron Variants to the Pentagon Reservation," December 27, 2021
(c) Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness Memorandum, "Updated Guidance for Mask and Screening Testing for all Department of Defense Installations and Other Facilities," March 1, 2022

Since early January 2022, we have observed a significant decrease in the number of new cases and positive test results from coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) on and around the Pentagon Reservation. New case rates have decreased significantly since the start of the year, Pentagon waste water epidemiology testing is detecting very little-to-no presence of virus over the past weeks and new cases, as well as hospitalization and deaths have also decreased in the National Capital Region. The daily average of new cases per 100,000 people over the last 7 days within a 30-mile radius of the Pentagon Reservation meets the HPCON Bravo threshold in accordance with reference (a). As a result, the Pentagon Reservation will transition from Health Protection Condition (HPCON) Charlie to HPCON Bravo effective immediately.

With recent changes to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance, in the near future anticipate changes to Department-level HPCON guidance as well as other COVID-19 related Force Health Protection guidance, which, in turn, we will implement on the Pentagon Reservation.

With the move to HPCON Bravo, the following measures will be in effect:

- Organizations must maintain occupancy rates at less than 50% of normal occupancy.
 Previously approved exceptions above the 50% threshold, need not be resubmitted;
- Commanders and supervisors will continue to provide maximum telework opportunities to all current telework eligible employees;
- Current CDC COVID-19 community levels for Arlington County and the City of Alexandria, VA are "low" and masks are therefore not required for fully vaccinated or unvaccinated military, civilian employees, on-site contractors, or visitors. Masking regardless of vaccination status is required on the Pentagon Reservation when CDC COVID-19 community levels are "high." For Pentagon Reservation facilities not in

Arlington County or the City of Alexandria, VA follow the CDC COVID-19 community levels for the particular county where the DoD facility is located. CDC COVID-19 community levels are posted here: <u>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html</u>;

- Individuals may wear a mask if they choose regardless of COVID-19 community level;
- When local communities that are home to Pentagon Reservation facilities are at either "medium" or "high" COVID-19 community level, onsite DoD contractor personnel and official visitors will complete DD Form 3150, "Contractor and Visitor Certification of Vaccination," maintain a current copy, and show it to authorized DoD personnel upon request. Visitors who are not fully vaccinated against COVID-19, or who decline to volunteer their COVID-19 vaccination status, must show an electronic or paper copy of negative results from a U.S. Food and Drug Administration authorized or approved COVID-19 test administered no earlier than 72 hours prior to their visit;
- Physical distancing on the Pentagon Reservation will remain at 6 feet;
- Medically vulnerable personnel will continue to be permitted to self-declare their condition and pursue telework, when possible, with supervisors taking precautions to limit their exposure while in the workplace;
- The Pentagon Reservation will remain closed to the public for indoor tours. The 9/11 Memorial will be open;
- Gatherings on the Pentagon Reservation are limited to fewer than 50 persons; exceptions must be approved by me. For all meetings, compliance is required with the 6-foot distancing requirements regardless of overall capacity limits. Virtual meetings continue to be encouraged;
- Pentagon and Mark Center Conference Facilities, as well as other ceremonial areas (Hall of Heroes/corridor apexes) will be open and available for scheduling but are subject to the fewer than 50-person limit on gatherings and the 6-foot distancing requirement;
- Food court and concession options will be available with options for indoor seating; Military Department Executive Dining Facilities in the Pentagon may open at the discretion of their sponsors;
- Both campuses (Washington, DC and Gulfport, MS) of the Armed Forces Retirement Home will transition to HPCON Bravo Plus, with requirements for HPCON Bravo Plus to be established by Armed Forces Retirement Home leadership;
- The Pentagon Athletic Center will be open to all members by reservation only and will increase its maximum population (users and staff members) to 255 per 2 ½ hour session. Maximum occupancy at the Mark Center Gym is 21 and 15 at the Taylor/ Polk Building Gym per 2 ½ hour session;
- Current COVID-19 open parking permits will be extended through Friday, April 29, 2022;
- COVID-19 vaccinations and booster shots remain available through DiLorenzo Tricare Health Clinic on Mondays and Wednesdays by reservation. See the website: https://apps.sp.pentagon.mil/sites/Vaccination/Pages/Home.aspx;
- When local communities that are home to Pentagon Reservation facilities are at either "medium" or "high" COVID-19 community level, screening testing is required for unvaccinated Service members, DoD civilian employees, and on-site contractor personnel who have been in close contact with a positive COVID-19 case and who:

- 1) are unvaccinated or who have not received a recommended COVID-19 booster dose when eligible, and;
- 2) who are engaged in mission-essential activities that must be conducted on site, can also obtain testing by reservation in 1B843. See the website: https://apps.sp.pentagon.mil/sites/Vaccination/Lists/COVID%20TESTING/calend ar.aspx

My office will monitor the CDC COVID-19 community level status and will provide updates on a weekly basis (Fridays) as needed to inform Pentagon Reservation tenants in Arlington County and the City of Alexandria, VA in the event there any changes in status for those jurisdictions.

Components impacted by this change should provide personnel appropriate notification to adjust work schedules or telework status (consistent with any applicable collective bargaining agreements), transportation arrangements, and other such considerations.

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