

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE 6TH AIR REFUELING WING (AMC) MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA



3 June 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR INDIVIDUALS ON MACDILL AFB

FROM: 6 ARW/CC

SUBJECT: Transition to Health Protection Condition (HPCON) Charlie

References: (a) 6 ARW/CC, "Transition to Health Protection Condition Bravo," 25 May 2022 (hereby superseded)

- (b) Secretary of the Air Force, "Department of the Air Force (DAF) Guidance for Commanders' Risk-Based Responses and Implementation of Health Protection Condition Framework during the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Pandemic," 19 May 2021
- (c) Under Secretary of Defense, "Force Health Protection Guidance (Supplement 18) Revision 1 DoD Guidance for Protecting All Personnel in DoD Workplaces During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Pandemic," 6 January 2022
- (d) Secretary of the Air Force, "Delegation of Authority, COVID-19 Guidance Related to Travel and Meetings," 3 November 2021
- (e) Under Secretary of Defense, "Consolidated Department of Defense Coronavirus Disease2019 Force Health Protection Guidance," 4 April 2022
- (f) Under Secretary of the Air Force, "COVID-19 Restrictions for DAF-Sponsored In-person Events," 4 May 2022
- 1. This letter supersedes the previous HPCON Bravo memo, Reference (a). Due to the HIGH community risk level for COVID-19, in accordance with Reference (e), we are modifying the HPCON level from Bravo to **Charlie**, effective 4 June 2022. To continue minimizing the spread of COVID-19, the following guidance is in effect until updated or rescinded.
- 2. Unit and mission partner commanders will evaluate mission areas to ensure maximum COVID mitigation strategies are in place, prioritize staffing against essential tasks, and limit unnecessary exposure. Permit liberal telework where possible, especially for individuals who self-identity as immunocompromised or being at high risk for disease. Consider limiting occupancy of common areas where personnel are likely to congregate and interact, in accordance with the above References. MacDill AFB will utilize the 11 categorical exemptions included in Reference (c), with any further exemptions approved by 6 ARW/CC. Specifically exempted from workplace occupancy limits tied to HPCON levels are US Central Command Headquarters, US Special Operations Command Headquarters, Special Operations Command Central Headquarters, Marine Central Command Headquarters, the Navy Operational Support Center, Regional Satellite Communications Support Center-East, Joint Communications Support Element, the 6th Air Refueling Wing and the 927th Air Refueling Wing. Additional exemptions to the HPCON Charlie workplace occupancy limit (less than 50% in-person) shall be routed through the chain of command or from the mission partners to 6 ARW/CC for approval. When making an exemption decision, the 6 ARW/CC will weigh operational, readiness, and safety impacts as well as the mitigation measures, such as vaccination percentage, when considering the risk of allowing the spread of COVID-19 within the facility in question.

- 3. In set forth by Reference (e), while on MacDill AFB, all DoD personnel (defined as all Service members, DoD civilian employees, onsite DoD contractor personnel, and visitors) will maintain strict hygiene measures, practice social distancing (maintaining a distance of greater than six feet where appropriate). Mask wear will be determined by CDC COVID-19 Community Levels (Low, Medium, or High). Indoor mask wear is required while MacDill AFB remains in High Community Level, per Reference (e).
- 4. As directed by Reference (e), all DoD personnel who are not fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are required to test at least weekly. DoD personnel who perform telework or work remotely full-time are not subject to weekly testing, but must provide a negative result from a test performed within the prior 72 hours for entry into a DoD facility.
- 5. Reference (e) limits meetings to 50 participants or less. For any planned in-person meetings, events, and conferences sponsored by DoD with more than 50 people, units must obtain advance approval from DoD or Component Head.
- 6. With regard to travel for leave and pass (liberty), all personnel will follow their respective organization's most current policies outlining restrictions, in addition to relevant DoD or Service-specific guidance. Individuals who are not fully vaccinated or decline to provide information about their vaccination status are limited to mission-critical official travel (for both domestic and international travel), in accordance with References (e) and (f).
- 7. Service members will abide by current guidelines for quarantine and isolation. If you are given a "Notice of Isolation" memorandum signed by our PHEO, due to illness or positive COVID-19 test results, you are not allowed to leave your residence except to receive required medical care. You should have no person-to-person contact with any non-isolation individuals except as approved by the PHEO.
- 8. All individuals should avoid social gatherings that do not readily allow for appropriate health and safety practices, whether on or off base. Our best defense to prevent severe illness and hospitalization due to COVID-19 and future variants is up-to-date vaccination (fully vaccinated and booster shot(s) when eligible), along with your cooperation in adhering to appropriate health and safety practices. Thank you for helping to protect our mission capabilities.

BENJAMIN R. JONSSON, Colonel, USAF