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PERSONNEL AND  
READINESS

**UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE**  
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

**APR 24 2020**

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS  
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS  
DIRECTORS OF DEFENSE AGENCIES  
DIRECTORS OF DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Authorized Departure — Individuals at Higher Risk from COVID-19 from  
Guantanamo Bay

DoD eligible family members (EFMs) and civilian employees who have determined they are at higher risk of a poor outcome if exposed to COVID-19 or who have requested departure based on a commensurate justification in foreign areas — as well as a civilian employee and/or other EFMs who may need to accompany them — are authorized to depart Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. DoD civilian employees occupying emergency positions who wish to depart their duty station must consult with their supervisor.

Pursuant to Paragraph 2.B.1 of the April 20, 2020, “Modification and Reissuance of DoD Response to Coronavirus Disease 2019 – Travel Restrictions” (Modified Travel Restrictions), approved by the Secretary of Defense, a stop-movement of all international travel has been implemented for DoD uniformed and civilian personnel and their sponsored family members not under the authority of a Chief of Mission until June 30, 2020. Therefore, DoD EFMs and non-emergency civilian employees may depart by exception only, under the exceptions set forth in Paragraph 3.B.1 of the Modified Travel Restrictions.

For those who are approved for exceptions, I approve the United States as the designated safe-haven for departing DoD EFMs and DoD civilian employees. The United States consists of the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

All travel arrangements must be made in accordance with the Joint Travel Regulations (JTR). DoD EFMs of Service members will be processed for safe-haven allowances in accordance with the JTR, Chapter 6 (Evacuation Travel), paragraph 0602. DoD civilian employees and their EFMs will be processed for allowances in accordance with the JTR, Chapter 6, paragraph 0604.

The DoD point of contact is Ms. Ann Lee, Office of the Executive Director, who may be reached at [ann.y.lee6.civ@mail.mil](mailto:ann.y.lee6.civ@mail.mil) or (703) 693-3002.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Matthew P. Donovan", is located below the text.

Matthew P. Donovan

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cc:

Chief Management Officer of the Department of Defense  
Under Secretary of Defense for Policy,  
Chief Operating Officer  
Deputy Chief of Staff G1, U.S. Army  
Chief of Naval Personnel  
Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel,  
U.S. Air Force  
Deputy Commandant for Manpower  
and Reserve Affairs, U.S. Marine Corps  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense  
for Military Personnel Policy  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense  
for Civilian Personnel Policy  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense  
for Military Community & Family Policy  
Director for Manpower and Personnel,  
Joint Chiefs of Staff J-1  
Director for Manpower and Personnel,  
European Command J-1  
Headquarters, Department of the Army Personnel  
and Education-Mobilization Operations  
Defense Intelligence Agency, DXS-4B  
Defense Travel Management Office