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

PERSONNEL AND READINESS

APR 2 4 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 or (703) 693-3002.

Matthew P. Donovan

cc:
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