



Navy Region Southeast All Hands Message

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Update: June 25, 2020

COVID-19

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HPCON Bravo - NS Guantanamo Bay, NAS Corpus Christi, NAS Kingsville, NSB Kings Bay

HPCON Charlie – All other southeast installations

STATUS UPDATE #16

Team Southeast,

COVID-19 remains a threat to our people and our mission that we cannot ignore. As the Navy makes risk-based decisions to enable travel to resume and allow bases to reduce their Health Protection Conditions (HPCONs), it is imperative that we do not forget our individual responsibilities to protect our shipmates. Every one of us must hold ourselves, and each other, accountable for our actions toward containing COVID-19 and not allowing it in our workplaces.

US Fleet Forces Command issued a Fragmentary Order (FRAGORD 20-024.013 IN RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019) this week reemphasizing the need to follow proper protocols and guidelines to protect the Navy workforce during the pandemic. The order highlights the need to maintain Force Health Protection Measures both on and off installations – even when the local community has less stringent measures in place or when the state is depicted as green on the [Navy travel tracker](#).

Until an installation is approved to change their status to HPCON Bravo, Charlie measures will continue to be followed. Service members and commands are required to adhere to the following measures. A few such measures include:

- Cancel unit and installation sponsored events
- Issue instructions to personnel to avoid large public gatherings and practice social distancing
- Maximize telework plans for telework ready employees
- Cancel large public gatherings on installations
- Re-scope, modify, delay or cancel upcoming exercises
- Continue to approve leave and travel to and from the area on a case-by-case basis

Government civilians, contractors, and family members are strongly encouraged to follow the guidelines to protect service personnel from the disease.

Read the [full FRAGO](#) to get the full list.

For Echelon II commands, which includes Navy Region Southeast and our subordinate commands, additional guidelines are in place while in HPCON Charlie:

- Maintain a physical distance of at least six feet from others when you are in close contact for 15 minutes or more and to the maximum extent practical, wear cloth face coverings when you are unable to maintain six feet of physical distance.
- To the maximum extent possible, do not gather in groups of over 10 people.
- Limit travel to/from place of residence/work with stops only for essential business.
- Service members are prohibited from visiting, patronizing, or engaging in the following off-installation specific facilities, services or activities.
 - Recreational swimming pools, gyms, fitness facilities, exercise classes, saunas, spas, and salons
 - Tattoo/body art/piercing parlors
 - Barber shops, hair or nail salons and massage parlors
 - Cinemas/theaters
 - Participation in team/organized sports
 - Dine-in restaurants (take-out is authorized), bars, nightclubs, casinos, conferences, sporting events, concerts, public celebrations, parades, public beaches, amusement parks or other events designed to promote large gatherings, to include indoor religious services
 - Outdoor recreation where common use facilities are used and if a minimum of six feet physical distancing cannot be maintained
 - Non-essential commercial retail establishments and shopping malls
- For use of on-installation services, observe guidance provided by regional and installation commanders.

Additionally, all service members, government civilians, contractors, and family members are encouraged to minimize unnecessary, in-person use of the following services and activities:

- Use of mass transit
- Auto repair, maintenance and annual inspection
- Curb-side and drive through services
- In-home domestic services
- Drive-in spiritual services
- Banking services
- Pet care and veterinary services
- Post office
- Laundry services
- In-residence social gatherings that include more than 10 guests

For an installation or command that is in HPCON Bravo, it is imperative that personnel continue to practice physical distancing of six feet and wear face coverings to the maximum extent practical when social distancing cannot be maintained. It is also vital that personnel maintain a

proper awareness of COVID-19 mitigation measures, precautions or guidance provided by the chain of command and civil authorities.

We know these measures are tough. We know that after several months of stay at home orders and quarantine, people are ready to get out and enjoy life again. We aren't there yet. There are still dangers from the virus and we need everyone to put our service – and our shipmates – first, for just a little while longer.

These measures are to safeguard the health, safety and welfare of our service members and to ensure mission readiness. Anyone who feels sick or has had potential contact with a COVID-19 positive individual should contact their chain of command immediately to discuss the proper steps to take. As we have seen from prior incidents, the close nature of our work environments can take a single instance of contamination and spread it quickly through our ranks. Vigilance and strict adherence to these rules is required and violations of these orders can have both adverse health consequences and consequences under the UCMJ.

The recent increase in cases, especially in the southern states, is a cause to redouble our efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19. Rededicating ourselves to the measures that proved successful in mitigating the spread of the virus early on is only prudent. These steps are being taken because we care about every single member of the team and your families. Execute the guidelines properly, and we will get through this. Be Smart! Be Well! And as always, Be Safe!