

## COVID-19

March 20, 2020

### HPCON CHARLIE MINUS

#### STATUS UPDATE #3

We are facing a challenging threat from the COVID-19 pandemic. Every day brings an increasing number of individuals diagnosed with this virus, and no situation presents a one-size fits all approach. Out of the 12 states that comprise our region, [the CDC has classified](#) Arkansas, Louisiana, Tennessee, Georgia, South Carolina and Mississippi as having sustained community transmission. Since our last update on March 18, the number of positive COVID-19 cases across our 12 states has doubled to more than 1,200 cases.

As we continue to see more cases in the Southeast Region, our mission remains the same; shore support to the Fleet. We will continue to be candid with information we provide to you in order to help you to make smart decisions to stop the spread of COVID-19, while also meeting the mission of the Navy.

What I want you to know is that the health and well-being of our Sailors, civilians and families continues to be our top priority. Given the acceleration of the pandemic wave and the significant rise of infected personnel, all Navy Region Southeast installations have been directed to set Health Protection Condition Charlie Minus (HPCON C MINUS) today, March 20, 2020.

Each HPCON (A, B, C, D) corresponds to the increased risk to members of the Navy family and the community from the spread of a virus or infectious disease. HPCON C MINUS coincides with CDC warning level 3, which indicates sustained community transmission.

For our Region, the HPCON change does not add any new measures we haven't already implemented. What it did was add planning factors for our staff and installations to help protect our people, while ensuring our mission capability to support the Fleet. Prior to the setting of HPCON C MINUS, Region Southeast had already implemented many of the requirements set forth in HPCON C MINUS. Some examples of actions taken by Commanding Officers include:

- Cancelling unit/installation sponsored events and large public gathering events.

- Issuing instructions on reduced personnel aboard installations (only personnel essential to complete the mission)
- Directing telework plans.
- Postponing, modifying, or cancelling exercises.

Currently, all measures for MWR facilities, Navy Exchange, Commissary, and Child and Youth Programs remain the same as they did under HPCON B measures. As always, check your specific installation's social media sites for any changes to these functions.

At this time, there has not been any "shelter-in-place" orders issued by any government agency in our 12 states. If one of our states or local governments directs shelter-in-place, the Region and local commands will work to ensure that Navy personnel conducting mission essential functions are exempt from such state and local restrictions. Navy personnel not conducting mission essential functions in areas under State control shall act in accordance with the applicable provisions of any public health emergency declarations made by public health officials at the state, local, tribal, and territorial levels. If you have any questions about what you should do in this situation, contact your command.

Individually, we are asking you to continue proactive protection of your health. That means:

- Avoiding unnecessary contact with others, such as shaking hands and hugging. Practice social distancing.
- Observing local guidance on movement restrictions and access requirements for military installations.
- If you are eligible to telework, you are highly encouraged to do so. Take the [telework training in TWMS](#) and complete the Telework Agreement ([DD Form 2946, Dec 2011](#)) with your supervisor.
- Avoiding unnecessary travel, especially to areas known to be experiencing active disease transmission.
- Ensure a 14-day supply of food, medication, and other items needed for babies and pets are available.
- Complying with medical orders for self-isolation or quarantine.

- Taking everyday actions to stop the spread of germs.

## **LATEST NAVADMINs**

Navy Personnel Command has been issuing many NAVADMINs in response to COVID-19. It is important that you visit the [Navy Personnel Command COVID-19 resource website](#), as well as following their [Facebook page](#). Additionally, we will update our "Recent Updates" link under our Coronavirus tab on the left side of the CNRSE [COVID-19 webpage](#).

## **FUTURE UPDATES**

Monitor news resources and public health updates and your installation's Facebook pages regularly to stay informed. Navy Region Southeast will continue to provide Navy-specific updates for the Navy family weekly (or more frequently as needed) at [www.facebook.com/NavyRegionSE/](http://www.facebook.com/NavyRegionSE/).