



## DEPARTMENTS OF THE ARMY AND THE AIR FORCE

JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS · ALASKA  
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
PO BOX 5800  
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6 April 2020

Commander 's Note #11

FROM: JFHQ AKNG/OTAG

SUBJECT: Authorized Wear of Cloth Face Coverings

1. Reference: Department of Defense Guidance on the Use of Cloth Face Coverings, dated 05 April 2020.
2. Protection of the force is a top priority of senior leadership. As the Department of Defense and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are now advising wear of non-medical masks in public, members of the Alaska Organized Militia (AKOM) are authorized to temporarily wear masks while in uniform. To the extent practical , all members will wear cloth face coverings when they cannot maintain six feet of social distance in public areas or work centers. We are actively working to provide face coverings for members that work in areas where social distancing measures are difficult to maintain. Further guidance will be issued from the Military Departments on specific guidance on the wear and appearance of the cloth face covering.
3. This authorization applies to all AKOM personnel - including AGRs, Title 32 and Title 5 civilians, and those on State Active Duty.
4. This is a precautionary measure to prevent the spread of COVID-19 , and to provide protection to our Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen. This does not replace other precautionary measures but is an addition. This authorization remains in effect until rescinded. Point of contact for this Commander's Note is CMSgt Winfield Hinkley, Command Senior Enlisted Leader, AKNG-CSEL, winfield.s.hinkley.mil@mail.mi,1907-428-6052.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Torrence W. Saxe", is positioned above the typed name.

TORRENCE W. SAXE, Maj Gen, AKNG  
The Adjutant General



**SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
1000 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
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APP.052020

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF MANAGEMENT OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
DEFENSE  
SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS  
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE  
CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU  
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
DIRECTOR OF COST ASSESSMENT AND PROGRAM  
EVALUATION  
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION  
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
DEFENSE  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR LEGISLATIVE  
AFFAIRS  
ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PUBLIC  
AFFAIRS  
DIRECTOR OF NET ASSESSMENT  
DIRECTORS OF DEFENSE AGENCIES  
DIRECTORS OF DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Department of Defense Guidance on the Use of Cloth Face Coverings

The Department of Defense (DoD) is committed to taking every precaution to ensure the health and wellbeing of our Service members, DoD civilian employees, families, and the Nation in response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. DoD supports, and will continue to implement, all measures necessary to mitigate risks to the spread of the disease, consistent with the Department's priorities to protect our people, safeguard our national security capabilities, and support the government's whole-of-nation response.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain, especially in areas of significant community-based transmission. Military personnel, DoD civilian employees, their family members, and DoD contractors are strongly encouraged to follow CDC guidelines on the use of cloth face coverings in public settings or where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.

Effective immediately, to the extent practical, all individuals on DoD property, installations, and facilities will wear cloth face coverings when they cannot maintain six feet of social distance in public areas or work centers (this does not include in a Service member's or Service family member's personal residence on a military installation). This includes all:

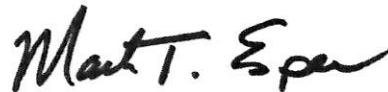
- Military Personnel

- DoD Civilian Employees
- Family Members
- DoD Contractors
- All other individuals on DoD property, installations, and facilities

Exceptions to this requirement may be approved by local commanders or supervisors, and then submitted up the chain of command for situational awareness. Security checkpoints may require the lowering of face covers to verify identification.

The Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness will issue updated force health protection guidance on DoD implementation. The Military Departments will issue guidance on wear for Service members. As an interim measure, all individuals are encouraged to fashion face coverings from household items or common materials, such as clean T-shirts or other clean cloths that can cover the nose and mouth area. Medical personal protective equipment such as N95 respirators or surgical masks will not be issued for this purpose as these will be reserved for the appropriate personnel.

The Department will continue to implement force protective measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to our total force and their families, and the American people. The latest DoD policies can be found at <https://www.defense.gov/Explore/Spotlight/Coronavirus>.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt T. Eper". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.