



**COMMANDER, NAVY REGION HAWAII/  
NAVAL SURFACE GROUP  
MIDDLE PACIFIC**

**COVID-19 AWARENESS  
August 12, 2020**



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**COVID-19 Awareness – August 12, 2020**

Region and MIDPAC Ohana,

The number of COVID-19 cases, both here and on the mainland, continued to grow during the past week. As you know, this sustained increase placed us back to Health Protection Condition Charlie (HPCON C). New cases on our bases and in our community are reaching nearly every aspect of our day-to-day lives.

The growing numbers are a reminder of the relentless nature of this virus and signal that we will remain in this battle for the foreseeable future. We must understand that the countermeasures we have employed are effective in reducing the virus' spread. We know that face coverings help - social distancing is effective - personal hygiene is critical. Making the right choices is of paramount importance, and this is where we must devote more attention.

One way to make the right decisions is to approach our daily routine with the same sort of risk analysis, good judgment and adherence to safety practices used in planning military operations. Many of us are anxious for the time when we can gather with our neighbors or go out to dinner with a group of friends. There may be activities that you want to join, but if there are more than 10 people present, or if there is no social distancing, or if no one is wearing a face covering, risk analysis – and current rules and guidelines – tell you that you must not join in.

COVID-19 does not recognize national or state boundaries and does not observe holidays or weekends; this virus does not distinguish between work and home. If you are exposed to COVID-19 while attending a meeting of co-workers, it is highly probable that you could take the virus home to your family. Conversely, if you pick up the virus while attending a neighborhood picnic, you could pass it along to unsuspecting office mates.

Bottom line: be careful, make smart decisions, look after each other. And follow the clear guidelines put out by our military and Hawaii leadership.

I've said it often, and I'll say it again – you have done a magnificent job under extraordinarily difficult situations. If you see something that you think we are missing, or if you need clarification on our operations during COVID, bring it up with your chain of command.

Please continue to take care of yourselves and your families.

V/r, Robb

RDML Robb Chadwick, USN

