



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

**COVID-19 AWARENESS
DEC 2, 2020**



COVID-19 Awareness – Dec. 2, 2020

Region and MIDPAC Ohana,

Thanksgiving is behind us, and we are moving full-throttle into December and the holiday season. We have seen somewhat stable numbers of new COVID-19 cases since our last update, which shows how seriously you have taken the pandemic. The protective measures that have been widely accepted are largely responsible for an infection rate that has remained among the lowest in the nation since we first felt the impact of the virus earlier this year.

Even with this recent flattening in the numbers of new virus infections, there have been some changes to travel policies that you should consider. Last Friday, Governor Ige approved Kauai Mayor Kawakami's emergency rule to return to a mandatory 14-day quarantine effective at midnight on December 2. The rule applies to all incoming travelers, including mainland, inter-island residents, and visitors, including military stationed on Oahu who have planned a holiday trip to Kauai.

This is a good reminder that while we may be seeing a light at the end of the nine-month COVID-19 tunnel, we cannot afford to let our defenses down. We have seen a surge in the number of new cases subsequent to every holiday, and we may encounter the same thing following Thanksgiving. So even as we begin our holiday preparations in earnest, we must be mindful that the virus is still with us and that the burden of protecting yourselves, your families and your shipmates rests with each of you.

In each of the weekly COVID-19 updates I have sent you, I have included a link to the CNRH/MIDPAC COVID-19 Updates and Resources webpage. This is your gateway to numerous other websites containing a wealth of information on virtually every aspect of dealing with COVID-19. I strongly encourage you to visit the page often, but instead of trying to visit every site - every week, pick one or two from the different groups of websites to help you keep the information fresh in your mind. For example, this week you may want to check the Hawaii Department of Health's guidance on how to safely gather with friends or families. It's part of their resource page, and can be found at <https://hawaiiicovid19.com/safe-gatherings/>. Bookmark this or other COVID-19 websites that interest you and check back often. It is just another of the many resources to help in your battle against this faceless foe.

As always, take care of yourselves and your families.

V/r, Robb

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