



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

**COVID-19 AWARENESS
MAY 20, 2020**



COVID-19 Awareness – May 20, 2020

Region and MIDPAC Ohana,

We have seen many changes within the past week as some restrictions have lifted in our worksites and personal lives. The growth of the virus has flattened here in Hawaii, proving the value of social distancing and other safe practices in combating COVID-19. Governor Ige recently signed Emergency Proclamation #8, which sets 5 June as the date for reopening more businesses. Conditions have improved to a point where we can start moving towards a new “normal.”

Last Friday, I signed COMNAVREGHI NOTICE 5100, laying out our processes for restoring full operational capability in our command and staff; you can find the notice on our CNRH G2 directives page. You have done a great job adapting to the use of teleworking and other measures, and as circumstances improve, the conditions to increase our in-person worksite manning numbers will also improve. We will take a three-tiered approach to resuming operations: Tier One limits in-office manning to no more than 50% of normal manning, Tier Two operations are at 75% manning, and Tier Three restores full manning. Movement between tiers is at my discretion, and I will only make changes after carefully considering the status of force health protection conditions, local area restrictions, and the operational needs of the Navy.

I cannot emphasize enough that our collective safety remains my top priority during all operations, including the way we gradually transition back to a new “normal.” The primary goal of recovery efforts is to fully reintegrate the workforce, but know that this is a long-term effort, and we will strive to reach a pre-COVID-19 level of productivity under the post-COVID-19 force health protection measures. This means as part of Tiers One and Two, we will maintain social distancing requirements. Cloth face-covering will still be required when social distancing is not feasible. Hand-washing, use of disinfectants and other heightened hygiene measures will remain an important part of our daily work lives.

The signs are promising, but as I have said many times, we must remain vigilant. As we transition back to “normal,” we must be prepared to react accordingly if a second wave of the virus materializes. We’ve learned a tremendous amount during the first round, and I am confident we will continue to persevere and overcome.

Stay informed as we work through this process. The latest COVID-19 information remains at your disposal on the CNRH COVID-19 webpage at <https://www.cnic.navy.mil/regions/cnrh/om/coronavirusdisease-2019.html>. If you use social media, follow the CNRH Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/NavyRegionHawaii/>. And don’t forget to ensure your family’s readiness for a severe weather event by developing your own response plan as we near hurricane season. Plenty of tips can be found here - <https://www.ready.navy.mil/>.

It would be difficult to find a time in our Navy's history that compares to the unique challenges we have faced in the past two months, and through it all, you have carried out your duties extremely well. Keep your vigilance sharp and stay in the fight, as we transition to the next phase. As always, I encourage you to continue to share your ideas, concerns, lessons, or questions as they relate to our current campaign.

As always, please take care of yourselves and your families.

V/r, Robb

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