



COMMANDER, NAVY REGION HAWAII/  
NAVAL SURFACE GROUP  
MIDDLE PACIFIC

COVID AWARENESS  
MARCH 13, 2020



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**COVID Awareness - Mar. 13, 2020**

Region and MIDPAC Team,

We are certainly living in some interesting times. Over the past few weeks, we have experienced a significant shift in the way we view something as simple as a virus. Terms like “Novo-Coronavirus” and “COVID-19” have become front-page news. As I am sure you are aware, earlier this week the World Health Organization classified COVID-1 (Coronavirus) as a world-wide pandemic, and President Trump introduced measures Wednesday night aimed to curb the potential impact. It is safe to say that we can expect more steps to follow. The impact certainly varies in different regions, but we are all experiencing effects, whether it is long lines at the grocery stores/COSTCO or impacts to planned travel. The guidance has been coming in at a pretty rapid rate through various avenues (Government/CDC, DOD, Navy...). Our Region Crisis Action Team (CAT) has been stood up since last week and they have been staying on top of the latest guidance and planning. I also convened an Operational Planning Team (OPT) which met this week to examine the broad range of factors that go into how we plan to sustain our mission. Our top priority, as we plan for possible future contingencies and implement policies, will be to ensure the safety and well-being of all of you.

The importance of communication cannot be overstated. Guidance will flow to you through your supervisors, and All Hands notifications will be used when necessary. We will also share information via the command website & our social media site:

- Command Website: (<https://www.cnic.navy.mil/regions/cnrh.html>)
- Command Social Media: (<https://www.facebook.com/NavyRegionHawaii/>)

Additionally, you can check these sites for official policy and updates from Dept of Defense and Center for Disease Control:

- DoD Response – Coronavirus: <https://www.defense.gov/Explore/Spotlight/Coronavirus/>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

As always, stay in touch with your chain of command.

In the meantime, we should all do our part to help prevent the spread of the virus by staying home when you are sick, practicing social distancing when possible and looking out for each other. We will continue work to achieve the necessary workforce/mission balance and innovative ideas can come from anywhere in the command. I appreciate the hard work by all as we navigate these new waters.

V/r, Robb

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