



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 1ST ARMORED DIVISION AND FORT BLISS
11685 SERGEANT MAJOR BOULEVARD
FORT BLISS, TEXAS 79918-8040

AFBL-CG

1 APR 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Thirteenth Amended Fort Bliss Work Safe, Live Safe Order

1. **AUTHORITY.** Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ); AR 600-20 (Army Command Policy); DoD 5500.7-R; Under Secretary of Defense Memorandum (Tools to Mitigate the Threat of the Omicron Variant of Coronavirus Disease 2019 in the Department of Defense), 30 December 2021; Under Secretary of Defense Memorandum (Updated Guidance for Mask and Screening Testing for all DoD Installations and Other Facilities), 1 March 2022; and 10 U.S.C. §§ 801–946, 973. This order rescinds and replaces the Twelfth Amended Fort Bliss Work Safe, Live Safe Order issued on 3 March 2022.

2. **APPLICABILITY.** This Order applies to all individuals located on Fort Bliss including those subject to military orders, DoD personnel, and individuals stationed, and/or attached to units on Fort Bliss, whether on or off the installation. This includes units rotating through Fort Bliss for mobilization/demobilization and/or training. For purposes of this memorandum, Fort Bliss includes the main installation, all training areas, William Beaumont Army Medical Center, and all government housing areas.

3. **STATEMENT OF MILITARY PURPOSE AND NECESSITY.** Vigilance and mitigation efforts remain necessary to maintain readiness and protect the Fort Bliss community from the spread of COVID-19. This version of the order modifies restrictions for social gatherings, in-person meeting, conference, and events based on the current local virus contraction rates and concerns. The most important public health action to end the pandemic remains increasing the number of fully vaccinated personnel. Vaccination saves lives, prevents illness, and reduces the spread of COVID-19. The booster shot improves an individual's protection against serious illness from COVID-19, so all personnel are highly encouraged to get the booster when eligible.

4. **COMPLIANCE WITH LOCAL HEALTH ORDERS.** All Servicemembers, family members, DA Civilians, and contractors, both on and off post, will comply with all applicable local authority (city, county, state) public health orders. Where one order is more restrictive than another, personnel must adhere to the more restrictive order.

5. **MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND CONFERENCES.** Commanders, directors, supervisors, and leaders should minimize in-person meetings within their organizations and maximize the use of virtual meetings.

a. When the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is medium or low in El Paso County (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>), there is

no restriction on the number of participants for in-person meetings, events, and conferences.

b. When the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is high in El Paso County, all in-person meetings, events, and conferences (referred collectively herein as "meetings") sponsored by the Army will have no more than 50 participants, and ensure recommended social distancing is used. This restriction does not apply to military training and exercises. Route all requests for exceptions to this restriction through your chain of command. The Under Secretary of the Army is the approval authority for all exceptions. For approved meetings in excess of 50 people, all in-person participants for the meeting must provide proof of vaccination with a completed DD Form 3150 or provide a negative COVID-19 test completed no earlier than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

6. OFFICIAL TRAVEL. Fully vaccinated personnel are not restricted from official travel. Individuals who are unvaccinated or decline to provide information regarding their vaccination status are limited to mission-critical official travel as determined by the Secretary of the Army. The term "fully vaccinated" means individuals who are at least 14 days removed from their second dose / shot of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine or their single dose / shot of Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine.

7. SOCIAL GATHERINGS.

a. On-Post Gatherings. When the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is medium or low in El Paso County, there is no restriction on the number of participants for on-post social gathers. When the Community Level is high, hosts must ensure on-post social gatherings do not exceed 50 participants.

b. Off-Post Gatherings. Servicemembers are prohibited from hosting, attending, or participating in any off-post gatherings that violate public health orders of the City or County of El Paso or State of Texas.

8. ACCOUNTABILITY FORMATIONS & PHYSICAL TRAINING. Commanders are expected to continue to conduct physical training, accountability formations, and other appropriate unit formations. The 50-person limit in paragraph 5 does not apply to accountability formations or physical training, regardless of the Community Level. Unvaccinated personnel are required to wear a mask in formation and while conducting physical training with other personnel.

9. MASK REQUIREMENT & EXCEPTIONS.

a. In accordance with DoD guidance, dated 1 March 2022, when the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is high in El Paso County (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>), all Servicemembers, Federal employees, onsite contractor employees, and visitors, regardless of vaccination status, are required to

wear a mask when inside any facility on Fort Bliss, in any government vehicle, or when visiting another Servicemember's barracks room on Fort Bliss IAW paragraph 10. Unvaccinated personnel are required to wear a mask outdoors when unable to maintain six feet separation from others. Masks will comply with applicable CDC guidance.

b. When the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is medium or low, personnel are not required to wear a mask, except when in a medical, dental, or child development center facility. This exemption to the mask requirement also applies to the mask requirement for unvaccinated personnel at physical training in paragraph 8 above. Regardless of the Community Level, the mask requirements in paragraphs 11b and 11c apply.

c. Exceptions. When mask wear is required, I grant exceptions under the following circumstances: (1) when an individual is alone in an office with floor-to-ceiling walls with a closed door; (2) for brief periods of time when eating and drinking while maintaining distancing in accordance with CDC guidelines and instructions from commanders and supervisors; (3) when the mask is required to be lowered briefly for identification or security purposes; (4) when necessary to reasonably accommodate an individual with a disability; and (5) children under 2 years of age should not wear masks. I also incorporate the exceptions for judicial proceedings listed in Memorandum, United States Army Legal Services Agency, Subject: Exception to Policy for Health Measures in Judicial Proceedings, dated 8 February 2021.

10. SPECIFIC RESTRICTIONS FOR SOLDIERS RESIDING IN BARRACKS.

a. When the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is medium or low, there is no restriction on the number of visitors in a barracks room or suite.

b. When the Community Level is high, each Soldier residing in barracks is authorized one (1) visitor within their individual barracks room / suite. "Suite" means the common area and individual barracks rooms. Soldiers will wear an appropriate mask, when required IAW para. 9a, when individuals that do not reside in their suite are present. Soldiers are not required to wear a mask while alone in their individual barracks room / suite. Soldiers residing in barracks may gather in outdoor common areas in groups no larger than 50 people IAW paragraph 5, above, provided unvaccinated personnel wear a mask IAW paragraph 9a, above.

11. RESTRICTION ON MOVEMENT (ROM) AND REPORTING. The following ROM and reporting requirements apply to all personnel based on their vaccination status.

a. Personnel arriving at Fort Bliss from an OCONUS location as the result of a permanent change of station (PCS), redeployment from theater, temporary duty (TDY) or leave (leisure travel) must comply with the following:

- (1) Fully vaccinated personnel, as defined in paragraph 6, do not require ROM.

(2) Those personnel who are not fully vaccinated will ROM for 5 days.

b. COVID-19 Positive Patients. Regardless of vaccination status, COVID-19 positive patients will ROM for 5 days from the date the test is conducted, and continue to wear a mask around others for an additional 5 days. No additional testing is required, unless they are symptomatic after 5 days. Servicemembers that live in unit barracks must ROM at a Fort Bliss Isolation and Quarantine Facility (IQF).

c. Close Contact. A close contact is any individual who is within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative period of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period. Close contacts will wear a mask until they are tested and receive a negative test result.

(1) Personnel **up to date** on their vaccination who come in close contact with an infected person must wear a mask around others for 10 days, but do not have to ROM if they remain asymptomatic. Testing is required between 5 and 7 days after close contact. If negative, no need to ROM. If positive, ROM IAW paragraph 11b, above. Personnel are considered "up to date" on their vaccination if they have received a booster shot or completed their vaccination series within 6 months (2 months for the Johnson & Johnson vaccine).

(2) Those personnel who are not fully vaccinated or personnel who are not up to date on their vaccination who come in close contact with an infected person will ROM for 5 days, test 5 days after exposure, and continue to wear a mask around others for an additional 5 days. If symptoms develop, the individual must get tested and isolate until they receive the results. If positive, ROM IAW 11b, above.

d. Units are responsible for conducting contact tracing, and ensuring their COVID-19 positive Soldiers isolate for the proper duration and in the correct location.

12. SCREENING TESTING PROGRAM. When the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is high or medium, the screening testing program required by the Force Health Protection Guidance (Supplement 23) Revision 3 dated 20 December 2021 will be utilized on Fort Bliss.

13. PUNITIVE ORDER. Paragraphs 4 – 12 of this order are punitive. Persons subject to the UCMJ may be punished according to its provisions or face adverse administrative action and persons not subject to the UCMJ may face administrative sanctions to include termination of access to Government housing facilities, Bars to the Installation, or criminal prosecution under Title 18 U.S.C. § 1382.

14. INDIVIDUAL AND UNIT COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITY. Individuals subject to this order have the duty to know and understand these prohibitions as well as all applicable provisions of local authority public health orders. Commanders will ensure their personnel are briefed on the prohibitions and requirements of this order.

AFBL-CG

SUBJECT: Thirteenth Amended Fort Bliss Work Safe, Live Safe Order

15. BOOSTER INCENTIVE. 1AD Brigades will receive a day of no scheduled activity (DONSA), when 80% of their COVID-19 booster eligible population receives a booster shot.

16. EFFECTIVE DATE. This order is effective immediately. This order will remain in effect until rescinded by me or superseded by a new order.



SEAN C. BERNABE
Major General, USA
Commanding

Encls

DISTRIBUTION:

A