MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF THE NAVY
CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

SUBJECT: Mandatory Coronavirus Disease 2019 Vaccination of Department of Defense Service Members

References: (a) Secretary of Defense Memorandum, “Mandatory Coronavirus Disease 2019 Vaccination of Department of Defense Service Members,” August 24, 2021
(b) DoD Instruction 6205.02, “DoD Immunization Program,” July 23, 2019

Reference (a) mandates vaccination against coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) for all Service members on active duty and in the Ready Reserve, who are not fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

Service members are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after completing the second dose of a two-dose COVID-19 vaccine or two weeks after receiving a single dose of a one-dose vaccine. Those with previous COVID-19 infections are not considered fully vaccinated.

The Services are requested to provide ASN M&RA plans to implement COVID-19 inoculations to the Force by Thursday, September 2, 2021, for consolidation and DON messaging. The plans should include a completion timeline and be consistent with reference (b) processes to address medical and administrative exemptions (including religious or other exemptions).

The Surgeon General of the Navy is requested to coordinate with the Surgeons General of the other Military Departments and the U.S. Coast Guard to assist in updating the Joint Regulation on Immunization and Chemoprophylaxis for the Prevention of Infectious Diseases to include the vaccination for COVID-19.

Department of the Navy personnel within the Secretariat or otherwise not under the authority of the Chief of Naval Operations or the Commandant of the Marine Corps will also adhere strictly to the provisions of reference (a) and additional guidance, when issued.

The Department of the Navy remains committed to protecting our people. Vaccinating our Service members will help to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and further ensure the readiness of the Force.

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Acting

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