



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS 61st AIR BASE GROUP (USSF)  
LOS ANGELES AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

10 April 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR LOS ANGELES AFB, FORT MACARTHUR, PACIFIC HEIGHTS  
AND PACIFIC CREST  
ALL PERSONNEL, RESIDENTS AND VISITORS  
ALL SUBORDINATE COMMAND AND TENANT UNITS

FROM: 61 ABG/CC

SUBJECT: Mandatory Wear of Face Coverings or Face Masks

1. To align with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Secretary of Defense, as well as Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti's 7 April 2020 order, I am issuing the following order.
2. Effective 10 April 2020, individuals are required to wear a cloth face covering that covers the nose and mouth at the Base Exchange (BX), Commissary, and any public area or work center in which an individual cannot maintain a minimum of six feet of physical distance. This requirement applies to any individuals present on Los Angeles Air Force Base, Fort MacArthur, Pacific Heights, and Pacific Crest, including all military members and their family members, civilian employees, contractors, retirees, hometown heroes, and visitors. Individuals without an adequate face covering will not be permitted to enter these areas.
3. This directive does not apply to persons in their personal residence (except for those on restriction, quarantine or isolation orders who must wear a cloth face covering when interacting with others), people in their personal vehicles (alone or with immediate family members), people exercising (provided there is enough physical distance between the person exercising and others), and children in the child development center.
4. The 61st Security Forces Squadron will implement the following procedures at our installation gates: All vehicle occupants, when entering the installation, must remove or lower their mask to allow the installation entry controller to properly identify each member in the vehicle. When possible, installation entry controllers will scan the driver's DBIDS CAC/identification card of the driver with the car windows rolled up. When vehicle windows do not allow the entry controller to see the personal characteristics of the occupants, the car windows must be rolled down before granting access to the installation. Any personnel, regardless of status, who refuses to lower or remove their mask to allow proper identification will be denied entry onto the installation.
5. It is important to know that wearing a face covering is not a substitute for the safety protocols implemented in earlier directives. The purpose of the cloth face covering is to decrease the spread of COVID-19 by catching droplets expressed by the individual wearing the covering. Cloth face covers DO NOT prevent the transmission of droplets from other people and do NOT replace the need to follow current physical distancing and hygiene protocols. Individuals

wearing a cloth face covering should ensure they clean their hands before adjusting the covering or otherwise touching their face.

6. Acceptable face coverings include cloth/cotton material (such as a t-shirt), a neck gaiter, balaclavas, bandanas (provided they are secured to ensure proper covering of the mouth), scarves, or other suitable covering. These face coverings will be washed daily, if re-worn. Medical personal protective equipment, such as N95 respirators or surgical masks, will NOT be issued for this purpose.

a. Personnel will not wear face coverings that have demeaning or derogatory logos, script, or imagery. More specific guidance regarding face covers in uniform is being developed at the headquarters level.

b. Leadership at all levels will use their best judgment when it comes to color, fit, and design of face covers and approach this as a force protection issue.

c. If the covering poses a safety hazard in the performance of your duties, you are allowed to remove the mask for the completion of that duty.

d. If facial hair is longer than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch, the facial covering will not provide optimal benefit. Consider trimming facial hair to  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch or less.

7. This memorandum is a directive and will continue until revoked by me, in consultation with the Public Health Emergency Officer. Any person who refuses to obey or otherwise violates its provisions may be detained and turned over to military or civilian authorities. Violations by military members are punishable under the UCMJ. Violations by any other persons can be punishable under the United States Code (USC), including but not limited to 42 USC § 271 and 50 USC § 797. Additionally, any personnel who fail to adhere to this memorandum or subsequent orders may be subject to debarment (denied access to the installation).

ANN M. IGL, Colonel, USAF  
Commander