AUG 18 2004

Assistant Secretary for Health
Office of Public Health and Science
Washington D.C. 20201

TO: Surgeon General

FROM: Acting Assistant Secretary of Health

SUBJECT: **Commissioned Corps Personnel Memorandum (PPM) 04-006**
The Basic Level of Force Readiness for Officers Detailed to the Armed Forces

1. Authorities

A. 42 U.S.C. 215(a) and Subchapter CC23.5, INSTRUCTION 8, "Detail of PHS Commissioned Officers to Federal Agencies."

B. Subchapter CC26.1, INSTRUCTION 8, "PHS Readiness Standards," and Manual Circular PHS No. 377, "Basic Level of Force Readiness Standards for the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service."

2. Policy

Officers appointed into the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service (Corps) who are detailed to a component of the Armed Forces ("detailed officers") are subject to the laws, regulations and policies governing the military service to which detailed. (42 U.S.C. 215(a)). As a result, detailed officers are expected to meet the same force readiness standards as their military colleagues and be available for worldwide deployment. Therefore, effective immediately, detailed officers who meet the health, safety, and physical readiness standards for the military service to which detailed will satisfy Sections 5.a and 5.b of Manual Circular PHS No. 377.

Detailed officers must continue to meet the training and professional competency standards set forth at Section 5.c.(1)-(3) of Manual Circular PHS No. 377. In addition, detailed officers responding to Corps deployment may report for duty in the appropriate Corps uniform or the uniform of the military service to which detailed (See Section 5.c.(4)).

This PPM will remain in effect until 30 June 2006 unless rescinded earlier or introduced into a policy INSTRUCTION contained in the Commissioned Corps Personnel Manual.

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