

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES

COMMISSIONED CORPS DIRECTIVE



EFFECTIVE DATE: **CCD 121.02**
23 January 2007

By Order of the Secretary of Health and Human Services:

Michael O. Leavitt

SUBJECT: Commissioned Corps Deployments

1. PURPOSE: The purpose of this Directive is to optimize the use of officers by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS or Department), through its Operating Divisions and Staff Divisions (OPDIVs/STAFFDIVs) or non-HHS organizations, during periods when the Corps is activated for deployment while ensuring that these organizations do not experience a shortage of officers to meet their mission. In doing so, this Directive implements the regulation:
 - 1-1. Defining the term Commissioned Corps deployment (Corps deployment); and
 - 1-2. Establishing the authorities for activating the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service (Corps) for deployment and in releasing officers from their assigned duties to respond to such deployments.
2. APPLICABILITY:
 - 2-1. This Directive applies to all Regular and Reserve Corps officers whether serving on extended active-duty or in a reserve component with the exception of Section 2-2.
 - 2-2. This Directive does not apply to:
 - a. Periods when the Corps has been declared a branch of the Armed Forces or when individuals or groups of officers have been militarized by Executive Order ([42 USC 217](#)); and
 - b. Officers who are detailed to a branch of the Armed Forces ([42 USC 215\(a\)](#)). The Armed Forces include the U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Marine Corps, and U.S. Coast Guard.
3. AUTHORITY:
 - 3-1. 42 USC 215 and [42 USC 216](#).
 - 3-2. [Executive Order 11140](#), dated 30 January 1964
 - 3-3. Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1966, effective 25 June 1966, 31 FR 8855, 80 Stat.1610.

4. PROPONENT: The proponent of this Directive is the Secretary of HHS (Secretary).
5. SUMMARY OF REVISIONS AND UPDATES: This is the first Directive within the electronic Commissioned Corps Issuance System on Corps deployments.

6. POLICY:

6-1. Corps deployment is defined as a directed, temporary assignment of officers from their assigned duties within HHS OPDIVs/STAFFDIVs and non-HHS organizations, as applicable, authorized by the President or Secretary in response during a time of war or in response to:

- a. A national emergency as declared by the President;
- b. A public health emergency as declared by the President or Secretary;
- c. An urgent public health need:
 - (1) A critical staffing shortage of health care/public health personnel within a facility or program administered by an OPDIV/STAFFDIV or non-HHS organization that threatens the health and safety of the affected population;
 - (2) A crisis response is a situation presenting a significant threat to the public health of a State, Tribe, or local community, and available resources are inadequate to respond; or
- d. A National Special Security Event declared by the Secretary of Homeland Security, is of national significance, requires special security, and is coordinated at the national response level.

6-2. To ensure that the Department, through its OPDIVs/STAFFDIVs, or non-HHS organizations, do not experience a shortage of officers to meet their mission, officers shall not be released from their regularly assigned duties to respond to the activities listed in Section 6-1 unless:

- a. Authorized to do so by the Secretary; or
- b. If detailed outside HHS, pursuant to the detail agreement between HHS and the non-HHS organization.

6-3. Nothing in this Directive shall be construed to limit:

- a. An OPDIV/STAFFDIV or non-HHS organization Head or designee from authorizing officers to perform duties in furtherance of their organization's statutory and/or departmental mission except under circumstances determined by the Secretary.
- b. The participation of officers in education and/or training activities related to Corps deployment(s) and/or force readiness under policies established by the Assistant Secretary of Health (ASH).
- c. The participation of officers in the Corps' leave program and/or outside activities program in accordance with applicable policies and procedures and/or detail agreement if detailed to a non-HHS organization.

7. RESPONSIBILITIES:

7-1. The authority to activate the Corps and release officers for Corps deployment(s) shall reside with the President and the Secretary with the exception that further delegation of the Secretary's authority may be made to the Deputy Secretary or ASH under circumstances determined by the Secretary.

7-2. The authority to promulgate policies implementing this Directive shall reside with the ASH without further delegation. Consistent with this Directive and other regulations or issuances by the Secretary or ASH, the ASH through the Surgeon General or designee(s) shall exercise field command of officers during deployments.

8. HISTORICAL NOTES: This is the first Directive on Corps deployments.

/s/

23 January 2007

Secretary

Date