



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE  
SPACE LAUNCH DELTA 30

22 July 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR Vandenberg SFB Personnel

FROM: 30 SLD/CC

SUBJECT: Guidance for "High" CDC Community Levels

1. IAW Under Secretary of Defense memo date 04 APRIL 2022: *Consolidated Department of Defense Coronavirus Disease 2019 Force Health Protection Guidance*, this memorandum outlines the implementation of additional COVID-19 protective measures at VSFB while Santa Barbara County is "High" per CDC Community Level. The following points were taken into consideration to determine appropriate mitigation measures:

- a. We have an active duty vaccination rate of 97.2% - well exceeding the local, regional, and national levels.
- b. Over the past 2 weeks, we have seen a relatively stable testing and positivity trend on the installation; we average 3-5 PCR tests, and 35-50 at-home antigen tests daily.
- c. Our community healthcare impact due to COVID has also improved with the number of available ICU beds increasing by 16 beds over the past 14 days.
- d. We anticipate improvement in Community Level based on National data. What began as a surge on the east coast lagged 2-3 weeks on the west coast. The CDC Community Level and wastewater COVID tracker have trended down on the east coast in similarly sampled populations over the last 2 weeks, and we expect to see a similar down trend locally.
- e. There has been minimal mission impact up to this point with current mitigation measures.
- f. The Santa Barbara County Public Health Department has determined the local risk to health care capacity does not warrant mask wear mandates.

2. However, to mitigate possible mission impact, we will institute following measures in accordance with DoD policy and consistent with Santa Barbara County Public Health Department. Indoor mask wearing is required for all individuals over the age of two, including Service members, DoD civilian employees, onsite DoD contractor personnel, and visitors, regardless of vaccination status. Unit Commanders and Directors are granted the authority to determine and adjudicate how the following exceptions to mask wear apply to their units and work centers:

- a. when an individual is alone in an office with walls and with a closed door;
- b. in meetings, work centers, or gatherings of less than 10 people when 6 feet of distance can be maintained;

- c. for periods of time when eating and drinking while maintaining distancing in accordance with CDC guidelines and instructions from commanders and supervisors;
  - d. when actively participating in physical fitness activities indoors with proper social distancing;
  - e. when use interferes substantively with the proper wear and use of personal protective equipment necessary for the accomplishment of one's military duties;
  - f. when working in Arc Flash, welding, or other NFPA or OSHA-directed activities that dictate specific safety gear to prevent melting or burns;
  - g. when personnel are in primary aircrew positions during critical phases of flight or emergencies; or when using flight crew oxygen equipment;
  - h. when clear or unrestricted visualization of verbal communication are essential to operations;
  - i. when mask wear could impede the clarity of mission-critical communications (including, but not limited to air traffic control, on-console space or launch operations, emergency response operations);
  - j. when mask wear could impede the safety while actively involved in mission-required tasks;
3. Despite the exceptions noted above, mask wear is required at indoor base events with over 50 individuals and in heavily-trafficked indoor public facilities (e.g. Base Exchange, Commissary, PCC etc.). SLD 30 Public Health with work with 30 FSS and other agencies identify those facilities.
4. Commanders and Directors are encouraged liberal allowance of telework especially for high-risk populations or work centers where the loss of multiple members could cause severe mission impact.
5. Attestation forms (Form 3150) will be used to assess gathering risk.
6. VSFB Public Health officials will continue to monitor the overall COVID-19 data and remain synchronized with local public health offices. As conditions warrant, additional protective measures will be evaluated for implementation.

ROBERT A. LONG, Colonel, USSF  
Commander