

to remove from the applicable promotion list, any officer selected for promotion who is Pending Compliance at the time of selection and who later becomes Non-compliant.

- o Continuation of Service (Active Duty): Vaccination against COVID-19 is a requirement for all servicemembers in the Coast Guard. Vaccination is necessary to be worldwide deployable and protects individual medical readiness, which protects unit and Service readiness. Further, as a military service, good order and discipline, including compliance with lawful orders, is non-negotiable. Therefore, the Coast Guard will begin involuntary administrative separation processing for each Non-compliant servicemember the latter of 30 days from the release of ALCOAST 270/22 or from the date the member is issued CG-3307 P&D-41 D/E. The Coast Guard will assess its readiness needs by reviewing several factors - including, but not limited to, compliance of rate, officer specialty code/qualifications, command concerns, Non-compliant concentration at individual units, and assignment location - to determine the effective separation date, but *all Non-compliant servicemembers will be processed for separation.*

- Enlisted members.

1. Non-compliant enlisted servicemembers and enlisted servicemembers Pending Compliance are ineligible to re-enlist. Enlisted servicemembers Pending Compliance may extend their enlistment contract, but these extensions will not exceed one year. Non-compliant enlisted servicemembers will be involuntarily administratively separated for Convenience of the Government. PSC-EPM will consider the totality of a servicemember's current enlistment record in accordance with COMDTINST M1000.4 (series), which may result in a less favorable characterization of service, but not less favorable than GENERAL: UNDER HONORABLE CONDITIONS.
2. Absent one or more additional derogatory matters of record, enlisted servicemembers who are separated for COVID-19 vaccine refusal will typically receive an RE-3 re-enlistment code, which would ordinarily allow re-enlistment once the servicemember becomes vaccinated against COVID-19.
3. Commands of enlisted Non-compliant servicemembers shall coordinate with PSC-EPM to initiate involuntary administrative separation the latter of 30 days from the release of ALCOAST 270/22 or from the date the member is issued CG-3307 P&D-41 D/E. Commands will be authorized to request to delay the effective date of separation for the needs of the Service (e.g., to retain a servicemember in a critical billet until a replacement arrives). Requests for such a delay shall be included within the command endorsement to the administrative separation package. Commands shall forward such separation packages to the first flag officer in the servicemember's chain of command for review and endorsement, en route to PSC-EPM for disposition. Approved separation delays may include the approval of an extension to the non-compliant member's current enlistment based on the needs of the Service, but these extensions may not exceed one year.

- Officers. PSC-OPM will initiate the appropriate board process for Non-compliant officers in accordance with COMDTINST M1000.4 (series). Commanding

ALCOAST 104-21 EXECUTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE RISK MITIGATION AND LDRSHIP MEASURES	7/22/2022 16:05
ALCOAST 078-22 MANDATING COVID-19 VACCINATION FOR MILITARY MEMB	7/22/2022 16:05
ALCOAST 131-22 COVID-19 LEAVE-LIBERTY RISK MITIGATION FOR UNVAC MIL MBR	7/22/2022 16:05
ALCOAST 157-22 UPDATE TO COVID-19 ADMINISTRATIVE RISK MITIGATION	7/22/2022 16:05
ALCOAST 270-22 MANDATING COVID-19 VAC FOR MILITARY MBRS UPDATE	7/25/2022 9:54
ALCOAST 305_21 COVID-19_MANDATING COVID-19 VACCINATION FOR MILITARY MEMBERS	9/27/2021 12:23
ALCOAST 315_21 COVID-19_MANDATING COVID-19 VACCINATION FOR MILITARY MEMBERS UPDATE 1	9/27/2021 12:22
ALCOAST 328_21 COVID 19_MANDATORY VACCINATION COUNSELING FORMS	9/27/2021 12:22
ALCOAST 352_21 COVID-19_MANDATING COVID-19 VACCINATION FOR MILITARY MEMBERS_UPDATE 2	9/27/2021 12:14
ALCOAST 420_21 COVID-19 _MANDATING COVID-19 VACCINATION FOR MILITARY MEMBERS_UPDATE 3	11/15/2021 13:58
ALCOAST 446-21 AJUDICATION OF MILITARY RELIGIOUS ACCOMODATION REQUESTS	7/22/2022 16:05
CIH_6000_1F Coast Guard Medical Manual	9/7/2021 17:16
CIH_6230_4G Immunizations and Chemoprophylaxis for the Prevention of Infectious Diseases	8/6/2021 13:14
COMDTINST_1000_15 Military Religious Accommodations	9/7/2021 16:07
Command Toolkit 2 - Vaccine Noncompliance - Update 1	7/26/2022 16:53
ICB 009-21 - Counseling Unvaccinated Members	9/7/2021 16:10
ICB 010-21 - Mandatory Vaccinations	9/27/2021 12:25

This is the list of "references" folks are using.

Clear as day, 131/22 is where they restricted Liberty/leave for unvac folks. Case #s skyrocketed during holidays. It wasn't because Unvac were traveling.....

Enclosures

Enclosure (3) - Frequently Asked Questions

The following Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) address recent updates related to mandatory vaccinations. A full list of vaccine related FAQs can be accessed here: [Vaccine Side Effects FAQs > United States Coast Guard > Coronavirus Vaccine \(uscg.mil\)](#)

Q: I am open to taking a vaccine other than Moderna or Pfizer. What are my options?

A: A member who has received all required doses of an FDA licensed vaccine, a vaccine administered under the FDA's Emergency Use Authorization (EUA), or a vaccine on the World Health Organization (WHO) Emergency Use (EUL) is compliant with the Coast Guard's COVID-19 vaccine mandate, as described in ALCOAST 305/21 and 315/21.

Novavax's COVID-19 vaccine, Adjuvanted, recently received authorization from the FDA under a EUA and was recommended by the CDC for use as an option for adults. Novavax is an option to gain compliance IAW ALCOAST 305/21 and 315/21.

Q: What is the difference between Novavax and the previously approved COVID-19 vaccines?

A: The FDA approved vaccines (Comirnaty, Spikevax) are mRNA vaccines which teach the body how to make a protein, which then results in an immune response that helps protect us from COVID-19 infection. The Novavax vaccine is protein-based that the body develops an immune response to, which then helps protect us from COVID-19 infection. The Novavax vaccine is under FDA Emergency Use Authorization.

Q: If non-compliant servicemembers elect to take the Novavax vaccine, will they be retained by the Service?

A: A non-compliant servicemember who completes any of the FDA licensed or EUA vaccine regimens, including Novavax, prior to their final separation date, will be restored to their previous Active Duty or Reserve status.

Q: I received a denial for my religious accommodation appeal. Can I appeal again?

A: No. COMDTINST 1000.15 provides that "[a] member, who has been denied a religious accommodation, in whole or in part, may submit a written appeal to the official in the chain of command or chain of supervision one level above the officer or official who took the final action on the request." COMDTINST 1000.15 does not provide for an additional administrative appeal once the higher-level official takes final agency action on the initial appeal. CG-133 will return any subsequent requests to appeal the final agency action to the member directly, without further review or action by the Coast Guard. Consult COMDTINST 1000.15 for further guidance.

Q: I have an approved retirement/separation. Am I still required to be vaccinated?

A: There is an administrative exemption from the COVID-19 vaccination mandate, for those members with an approved separation or retirement date no later than 1 October 2022. This

2-6. Exemptions

There are two types of exemptions from immunization—medical and administrative. **Granting medical exemptions is a medical function. Granting administrative exemptions is a nonmedical function.**

a. Medical exemptions. A medical exemption includes any medical contraindication relevant to a specific vaccine or other medication. Health care providers will determine a medical exemption based on the health of the vaccine candidate and the nature of the immunization under consideration. Medical exemptions may be temporary (up to 365 days) or permanent. Standard exemption codes appear in appendix C.

(1) **General examples of medical exemptions include the following—**

(a) Underlying health condition of the vaccine candidate (for example, based on immune competence, pharmacologic or radiation therapy, pregnancy and/or previous adverse response to immunization).

(b) Evidence of immunity based on serologic tests, documented infection, or similar circumstances.

(c) An individual's clinical case is not readily definable. In such cases, consult appropriate medical specialists, including specialists in immunization health care.

(2) Providers who are assessing medical exemptions may seek a second opinion from a provider experienced in vaccine adverse event management, such as specialists in immunization health care at a medical center, or seek additional consultation from MILVAX.

(3) Annotate electronic ITS and paper-based service treatment records with exemption codes denoting evidence of immunity, severe adverse event after immunization (except for the Medical Readiness Reporting System), other temporary or permanent reasons for medical exemption, and other appropriate categories.

(4) Report cases warranting permanent medical exemptions due to a vaccine related adverse event to the Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS) at the Web site at <http://www.vaers.hhs.gov> and as discussed in paragraph 2-10.

(5) Revoke medical exemptions when they are no longer clinically warranted.

b. Administrative exemptions. Standard exemption codes appear in appendix C.

(1) *Separation or retirement.* Within 180 days before separation or retirement, Service personnel may be exempt from deployment (mobility) immunizations, if one of the following conditions are met:

(a) They are not currently assigned, deployed, or scheduled to perform duties in a geographical area where an immunization is indicated.

(b) The commander has not directed immunization because of overriding mission requirements. Personnel who meet separation or retirement requirements and desire an immunization exemption must identify themselves to their commander. The member must have approved retirement or separation orders. Active duty personnel continuing duty in the reserve component are not exempted on this basis.

(2) *Thirty days or fewer of service remaining.* Applies to civilian employees and contractor personnel who will leave a permanent (other than OCONUS deployments) assignment subject to immunization within 30 days or fewer.

(3) *Religious exemptions.*

(a) *Servicemembers.* Immunization exemptions for religious reasons may be granted according to Service-specific policies to accommodate religious beliefs of a Service member. This is a command decision made with medical, judge advocate, and chaplain input.

1. Requests for religious exemption must comply with the provisions of the applicable policy and/or regulation for the Servicemember requesting religious accommodation. For the Army, religious accommodation policy is provided in AR 600-20. For the Navy and Marine Corps, waivers are granted on a case-by-case basis by the Chief, Bureau of Medicine, and Surgery. For the Air Force, permanent exemptions for religious reasons are not granted; the MAJCOM commander is the designated approval and revocation authority for temporary immunization exemptions. For the Coast Guard, CG-122 is the designated approval and revocation authority for religious immunization exemptions. USCG requests must be forwarded through the appropriate chain to Commandant CG-122 via CG-112.

2. A military physician must counsel the applicant. The physician should ensure that the Servicemember is making an informed decision and should address, at a minimum, specific information about the diseases concerned; specific vaccine information including product constituents, benefits, and risks; and potential risks of infection incurred by unimmunized individuals.

3. The commander must counsel the individual that noncompliance with immunization requirements may adversely impact deployability, assignment, or international travel.

4. Per DODI 1300.17 and applicable service regulations will be provided whether Servicemembers with pending active requests for religious exemption are temporarily deferred from immunizations, pending outcome of their request.

5. Religious exemptions may be revoked, in accordance with Service-specific policies and procedures, if the individual and/or unit are at imminent risk of exposure to a disease for which an immunization is available.

(b) *Civilian employees.* Civilian employees submit requests for immunization exemption for religious reasons to their supervisors. Civilian requests are processed in accordance with Part 1605, Title 29, Code of Federal Regulations and component policies.

(c) *Bargaining units.* Civilian personnel affected by this document who are members of bargaining units will be

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
U.S. COAST GUARD

ADMINISTRATIVE REMARKS

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. §552a(e)(3), this Privacy Act Statement serves to inform you of why DHS is requesting the information on this form.

AUTHORITY: 14 U.S.C. § 505

PURPOSE: To document a USCG service member's achievements, accomplishments, Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) infraction(s), or any other USCG military pay or personnel activity.

ROUTINE USES: Authorized USCG officials will use this information to validate a USCG service member's achievements, accomplishments, UCMJ infraction(s) or any other USCG military pay or personnel activity. Any external disclosures of information within this record will be made in accordance with DHS/USCG-014, Military Pay and Personnel, 76 Federal Register 66933 (October 28, 2011).

CONSEQUENCES OF FAILURE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION: Providing this information is voluntary. However, failure to provide this information may result in a delay in administering this form.

Entry Type: Performance and Discipline (P&D-41A) COVID-19 Mandatory Vaccination Counseling

Reference: (a) COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC 072247Z SEP 21/ALCOAST 315/21

(b) DoD Instruction 6205.02, DoD Immunization Program (23 Jul 19)

(c) Immunizations and Chemoprophylaxis, COMDTINST M6230.4 (series)

(d) Military Religious Accommodations, COMDTINST M1000.15 (series)

Responsible Level: Unit

Entry:

You are hereby counseled that, per references (a) – (c), you are required to receive a COVID-19 vaccine that has received full licensure from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), in accordance with FDA-approved labeling and guidance. The COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective at preventing COVID-19 and reducing the risk of severe illness and death, as well as the risk of people spreading the virus that causes COVID-19.

If you have medical questions about the vaccine or believe you should be granted a medical exemption per ref (c), consult your health care provider. If you wish to seek a religious accommodation per ref (d), you should schedule an interview with a Chaplain and then submit the request through your chain of command.

Refusal to receive the vaccine when directed to by medical or military authority may result in both administrative and punitive consequences, to include punishment or prosecution under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. You may also be processed for involuntary separation from the Coast Guard.

: I acknowledge the above entry.

: I intend to seek an exemption or accommodation. My request will be submitted within 7 days of this date.

1. NAME OF PERMANENT UNIT

2. NAME OF UNIT PREPARING THIS FORM

3. NAME OF MEMBER (Last, First MI)

4. EMPLOYEE ID NUMBER

5. GRADE/RATE

File original in SPO PDR, Email copy to CG PSC-BOPS-C-MR



MEMORANDUM

From: [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

Subj: REQUEST FOR RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION FROM THE COAST
GUARD'S COVID-19 VACCINATION MANDATE

Ref: (a) [REDACTED]
(b) ALCOAST 305/21 R 262212Z AUG 21
(c) ALCOAST 315/21 R 072247Z SEP 21
(d) Military Religious Accommodations, COMDTINST M1000.15 (series)
(e) Immunizations and Chemoprophylaxis for the Prevention of Infectious Diseases,
COMDTINST M6230.4 (series)
(f) 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000bb et seq., Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993, (RFRA)
(g) U.S. Coast Guard Civil Rights Manual, COMDTINST M5350.4 (series)

1. Reference (a) is your request that the Coast Guard accommodate a religious practice so that you will not be required to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, as required by references (b) and (c). I have been delegated the authority to act on this request by CG-1 pursuant to reference (d). I have carefully reviewed your request in accordance with references (d)-(f). **Your request is denied.**
2. I made this decision after considering your right to free exercise of your religion or religious beliefs and the government's compelling interest in mission accomplishment, to include military readiness; unit cohesion; good order and discipline; and the health and safety of you, the members assigned to your unit and within the Coast Guard, and the public with whom the Coast Guard regularly interacts. I then considered whether requiring you to receive the COVID-19 vaccine is the least restrictive means available to achieve this compelling interest. It was your burden to establish the religious nature and sincerity of your beliefs and that receiving the vaccine would substantially burden your religious belief or practice. **For the purpose of this administrative decision, I do not question the sincerity of your religious belief or whether vaccine requirements substantially burden your religious practice.** The Coast Guard reserves the opportunity to make these determinations, but I do not need to address them here to resolve your request.
3. I have concluded that there are no lesser restrictive means available other than vaccination to achieve the compelling government interest here. In assessing your request, I considered that the Coast Guard is a military service that must be ready at all times to perform its military and other missions. The military nature of the Coast Guard and the readiness obligations of military service would likely suffice to require vaccination. In addition, the Coast Guard is unique

first dose of the Pfizer vaccine. The Pfizer vaccine is currently the only vaccine that is mandated for military personnel. Therefore, a deferment of vaccination until notice of deployment or temporary duty assignment would result in your inability to execute orders in a timely manner, resulting in mission degradation or failure. The Coast Guard cannot afford to have portions of its workforce unable or unprepared to respond to domestic emergencies and other short-fuse requests for assistance.

5. Ultimately, unvaccinated Coast Guard members place not only themselves at risk, but also hold at risk every other member in the unit and the public. Your inability to practice social distancing at your unit and the ineffectiveness of other preventative safety measures pose a substantial risk of you contracting or spreading COVID-19. This in turn decreases the military readiness of the unit and the Coast Guard as a whole. You must be medically ready and able to perform your duties for your unit to function effectively.

6. I therefore find that there are no means less restrictive than full vaccination to achieve the Coast Guard's compelling governmental interest because of the conditions under which the Coast Guard executes its missions and your role within that execution. **Your request for a religious accommodation to the Coast Guard's COVID-19 vaccine mandate is denied.**

7. Your request also raised concerns regarding the need for a medical exemption. I have taken no action on your medical concerns because your arguments for a request for a medical exemption are not appropriately addressed in your religious accommodation request. You still have the opportunity, if you have not already done so, to submit a request for a medical exemption in accordance with paragraph 2-6 of reference (e).

8. You have 10 business days after receipt of this decision to receive your first dose of a two-dose vaccine or the single dose of a single-dose vaccine.

9. If you wish to appeal this decision, you must do so within 10 business days after receipt of this decision. The appeal authority for this matter is the Assistant Commandant for Human Resources (CG-1) at HQSPolicyandStandards@uscg.mil. The appeal must include the specific basis on which you believe the initial denial was in error.

10. You have the right to file an Equal Opportunity complaint by contacting a Civil Rights Service Provider within 45 calendar days of any denial. For complaint processing, see Chapter 5 of Reference (g).

11. If you do not begin the COVID-19 regimen or submit an appeal within 10 business days after receipt of this decision, you will be in violation of the lawful order in reference (c), as well as any other order that you received from competent authority to become vaccinated against COVID-19, and will be subject to all punitive and administrative consequences for failing to comply.

#



MEMORANDUM

From: [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

Subj: DECISION ON APPEAL OF RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION DENIAL

Ref: (a) [REDACTED]

(b) [REDACTED]

(c) Military Religious Accommodations, COMDTINST 1000.15 (series)

1. I have personally reviewed and fully considered your appeal (reference (a)) of the decision to deny your request for a religious accommodation (reference (b)). I find no error occurred in reaching the decision to deny your religious accommodation request. As such, and in accordance with reference (c), your appeal is denied.
2. My decision in your case came only after extensive consideration. I personally reviewed your appeals package and consulted with a Judge Advocate to ensure I accurately applied the law and policy to your specific circumstances. My actions in denying your request are intended to meet Coast Guard requirements as a ready military workforce and national first responder in which you play a valuable role.
3. I realize my denial of your appeal is not welcome news. It takes courage to submit an accommodation request that requires sharing your closely held beliefs, as well as to trust others to treat those beliefs thoughtfully. I also understand that you may have experienced additional stress during this process and, if so, strongly encourage you to take advantage of the many resources the Coast Guard provides to help you best manage that stress. Contact your command if you have questions about how to access these resources.
4. I have no doubt that you have made significant sacrifices along your journey, investing yourself in our Coast Guard and the Nation. I hope you will decide to comply with the Coast Guard's vaccine requirement and continue your service well into the future.



MEMORANDUM

From: [REDACTED] Command Chaplain [REDACTED]

To: Commandant (CG-133)

Thru: Commandant (CG-112)
[REDACTED]

Subj: REQUEST FOR RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION CHAPLAIN INTERVIEW ICO
[REDACTED]

Ref: (a) COMDTINST 1000.15

1. [REDACTED] has submitted a request for accommodation of a religious practice per reference (a). I interviewed the requestor on 10 Sep 2021. I explained that this interview would not be a confidential communication as defined by reference (a) and informed the requestor that referral for confidential chaplain support was available.
2. [REDACTED] has requested an accommodation in order to be exempted from COVID-19 immunizations due to his personal religious beliefs. This is his first request for accommodation.
3. [REDACTED] is a practicing Christian. He was raised in the faith since birth. He believes strongly in the fact that the use of aborted fetal tissue in the testing and/or development of the currently available vaccines violates his personal faith. He also noted the CDC and FDA data which report significant side effects resulting from the vaccines. His belief that the body is the holy temple of God precludes him from knowingly introducing a substance into his body that could cause harm.
4. There are no alternate means of meeting this request due to Coast Guard regulations.
5. I believe that this is a sincerely held belief by [REDACTED]. He detailed the practice of his faith during daily life. He was raised in a non-denominational church setting with a grandfather who is a pastor. He and his family currently attend [REDACTED] and they are active volunteers and supporters of a local Crisis Pregnancy Center.
6. My contact information is [REDACTED]

Ordered Items: SARS-CoV-2 Semi-Quant Total Ab; Drawing Fee

Date Collected: 02/28/2022

Date Received: 02/28/2022

Date Reported: 03/01/2022

Fasting: No

SARS-CoV-2 Semi-Quant Total Ab

Test	Current Result and Flag	Previous Result and Date	Units	Reference Interval
SARS-CoV-2 Semi-Quant Total Ab ^{h11}	1.8	<0.8* 02/17/2022	U/mL	Negative=0.8
	Antibodies against the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein receptor binding domain (RBD) were detected. It is yet undetermined what level of antibody to SARS-CoV-2 spike protein correlates to immunity against developing symptomatic SARS-CoV-2 disease. Studies are underway to measure the quantitative levels of specific SARS-CoV-2 antibodies following vaccination. Such studies will provide valuable insights into the correlation between protection from vaccination and antibody levels.			
SARS-CoV-2 Spike Ab Interp ^{h11}	Positive	Negative 02/17/2022		
	Roche Elecsys Anti-SARS-CoV-2 S			

* Previous Reference Interval: (SARS-CoV-2 Semi-Quant Total Ab: Negative=0.8)

Disclaimer
The Previous Result is listed for the most recent test performed by Labcorp in the past 5 years where there is sufficient patient demographic data to match the result to the patient. Results from certain tests are excluded from the Previous Result display.

Icon Legend

▲ Out of Reference Range ■ Critical or Alert

Comments
A: This test has not been FDA cleared or approved. This test has been authorized by FDA under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). This test is only authorized for the duration of the declaration that circumstances exist justifying the authorization of emergency use of in vitro diagnostics for detection and/or diagnosis of COVID-19 under Section 564(b)(1) of the Act, 21 U.S.C. 360bbb-3(b)(1), unless the authorization is terminated or revoked sooner. This test has been authorized only for detecting the presence of antibodies against SARS-CoV-2, not for any other viruses or pathogens.

Performing Labs

Patient Details

Physician Details

Specimen Details

Document info

Result type: Primary Care Outpatient Note
Result date: [REDACTED]
Result status: authenticated
Performed by: [REDACTED]
Verified by: [REDACTED]
Modified by: [REDACTED]

Request for covid vaccine waiver

Patient: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED]

Assessment/Plan

1. Administrative reason for encounter

Reviewed the CIM 6230.4G which discusses seroimmunity for Hep A/B, MMR, and varicella for military accessions Ch3-1.a.(3), not mentioned on military personnel Ch3-2, and not for COVID vaccine.

Discussed that vaccine immunity last for longer than natural immunity to infection and recommend receiving vaccination. Discussed case with SME who agrees. **Medical waiver not recommended.**

History of Present Illness

[REDACTED] male with 19 years of active duty service currently refusing to receive covid vaccine due to religious concerns request medical waiver for the vaccine. Member cites Coast Guard Immunization and chemoprophylaxis manual stating proof of serologic medical immunity is sufficient grounds for vaccine deferral. **Member reports recent covid infection about 1-2 months ago with positive test result and therefore he should have his immunity, granted vaccine waiver. Requests COVID vaccine waiver/deferral.**

Physical Exam

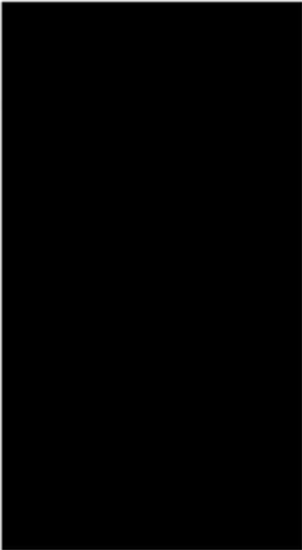
Telehealth visit:

NAD

Member's speech was normal speed, tone and volume

Member spoke in full sentences

Member not breathless with speech



September 2, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

██████████ was an active, participating and giving member of Point Harbor Church, a Bible-believing church in Chesapeake, Virginia from 2014 – 2018, until he and his family moved out of the immediate area.

Though Point Harbor's doctrine does not impact the personal decision of whether an individual receives most vaccines, the following teaching of Point Harbor demonstrates a principled religious basis on which ██████████ asserts a conscientious religious objection to the current COVID-19 vaccines. Point Harbor's Statement of Faith includes a summary of its most sincerely held religious beliefs, which includes beliefs regarding the sanctity of human life: *We believe that the active termination of a baby's life is both scripturally and morally wrong—as those who do so place themselves in God's stead. While recognizing that Christians can and do differ as to when life actually begins—we believe prudence and the witness of Scripture would understand it to be at conception... (Ps. 139).*

The Christian Church has condemned abortion – the killing of human infants while in the womb – from earliest times. The Didache, a conduct code of the early Christian community, dated by some as being as early as 70 AD, is in accord with Scripture, stating: “[D]o not abort a fetus or kill a child that is born.” A Plea for Christians, written around AD 177 by Athenagoras, stated, “[W]e say that those women who use drugs to bring on abortion commit murder, and will have to give an account to God for the abortion.” Tertullian, in his Apologeticum, written in 197 AD, wrote: “Murder being once for all forbidden, we [Christians] may not destroy even the fetus in the womb. . . .”

Fetal stem cell lines have been used in the development of the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine, and fetal stem cell lines have been used in the testing of the Moderna and Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines. See James Lawler, MD, *You Asked, We Answered: Do the COVID-19 Vaccines Contain Aborted Fetal Cells?*, *Nebraska Medicine*, August 4, 2021, <https://www.nebraskamed.com/COVID/you-asked-we-answered-do-the-covid-19-vaccines-contain-aborted-fetal-cells>.

Thus, I support ██████████ religious belief that receiving a vaccine that uses aborted fetal cell lines in the development or testing of the vaccine violates his sincerely held religious beliefs regarding the sanctity and protection of pre-born children.

Most Sincerely,

██████████
Lead Pastor



MEMORANDUM

From: [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

Subj: REQUEST FOR RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION FROM THE COAST
GUARD'S COVID-19 VACCINATION MANDATE

Ref:

- (a) [REDACTED]
- (b) ALCOAST 305/21 R 262212Z AUG 21
- (c) ALCOAST 315/21 R 072247Z SEP 21
- (d) Military Religious Accommodations, COMDTINST M1000.15 (series)
- (e) Immunizations and Chemoprophylaxis for the Prevention of Infectious Diseases, COMDTINST M6230.4 (series)
- (f) 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000bb et seq., Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 (RFRA)
- (g) U.S. Coast Guard Civil Rights Manual, COMDTINST M5350.4 (series)

1. Reference (a) is your request that the Coast Guard accommodate a religious practice so that you will not be required to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, as required by references (b) and (c). I have been delegated the adjudication authority for religious accommodation requests pursuant to reference (d). I have carefully reviewed your request in accordance with references (d)-(f).

Your request is denied.

2. I made this decision after considering your right to free exercise of your religion or religious beliefs and the government's compelling interest in mission accomplishment, to include military readiness; unit cohesion; good order and discipline; and the health and safety of you, the members assigned to your unit and within the Coast Guard, and the public with whom the Coast Guard regularly interacts. I then considered whether requiring you to receive the COVID-19 vaccine is the least restrictive means available to achieve this compelling interest. It was your burden to establish the religious nature and sincerity of your beliefs and that receiving the vaccine would substantially burden your religious belief or practice. For the purpose of this administrative decision, I do not question the sincerity of your religious belief or whether vaccine requirements substantially burden your religious practice. The Coast Guard reserves the opportunity to make these determinations, but I do not need to address them here to resolve your request.

3. I have concluded that there are no lesser restrictive means available other than vaccination to achieve the compelling government interest here. In assessing your request, I considered that the Coast Guard is a military service that must be ready at all times to perform its military and other missions. The military nature of the Coast Guard and the readiness obligations of military service would likely suffice to require vaccination. In addition, the Coast Guard is unique amongst the military services because of the nature of its missions that include support of the

5. Ultimately, unvaccinated Coast Guard members place not only themselves at risk, but also hold at risk every other member in the unit and the public. Your inability to practice social distancing at your unit and the ineffectiveness of other preventative safety measures pose a substantial risk of you contracting or spreading COVID-19. This in turn decreases the military readiness of the unit and the Coast Guard as a whole. You must be medically ready and able to perform your duties for your unit to function effectively.
6. I therefore find that there are no means less restrictive than full vaccination to achieve the Coast Guard's compelling governmental interest because of the conditions under which the Coast Guard executes its missions and your role within that execution. **Your request for a religious accommodation to the Coast Guard's COVID-19 vaccine mandate is denied.**
7. You have 10 business days after receipt of this decision to receive your first dose of a two-dose vaccine or the single dose of a single-dose vaccine.
8. If you wish to appeal this decision, you must do so within 10 business days after receipt of this decision. The appeal authority for this matter is the Assistant Commandant for Human Resources (CG-1) at HQSPolicyandStandards@uscg.mil. The appeal must include the specific basis on which you believe the initial denial was in error.
9. You have the right to file an Equal Opportunity complaint by contacting a Civil Rights Service Provider within 45 calendar days of any denial. For complaint processing, see Chapter 5 of Reference (g).
10. If you do not begin the COVID-19 regimen or submit an appeal within 10 business days after the receipt of this decision, you will be in violation of the lawful order in reference (c), as well as any other order that you received from competent authority to become vaccinated against COVID-19, and will be subject to all punitive and administrative consequences for failing to comply.

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Copy: 

Table 1: Religious Accommodation Requests & Appeals

Armed Service	Initial RA Requests			RA Appeals		
	Filed	Denied	Approved	Appeals	Denied	Approved
Air Force	12,623	3,180	5	2,221	443	1
Army	3,523	391	0	55	0	0
USCG	1,308	578	0	224	0	0
USCMC	3,539	3,458	0	1,150	119	3
Navy	4,095	3,728	0	1,222	81	0
Total	25,008	11,335	5	4,872	643	4

Good morning Juan,

Reaching out to let you know that your request has been received. I will be in contact!

Most respectfully,

LTJG Nicolina Converso
Media Relations, U.S. Coast Guard
Office: (202) 372-4637

templates for COVID-19 CG-3307 forms are posted at:
(Copy and Paste the URL into Browser)

<https://www.dcms.uscg.mil/ppc/pd/page7/>

under "Performance, Discipline (PD), & General Counseling", including the newly-established CG-3307 P&D-41F/G to document compliance with the vaccination mandate following the issuance of COMDT (CG-3307) P&D-41D/E.

2. Vaccination against COVID-19 is a requirement for all servicemembers in the Coast Guard. Vaccination is necessary to be world-wide deployable and protects individual medical readiness, which protects unit and Service readiness. Further, as a military service, compliance with lawful orders is non-negotiable. Therefore, the Coast Guard is beginning involuntary administrative separation processing for all non-compliant Active Duty servicemembers. All non-compliant Reserve servicemembers will be processed for involuntary transfer to the Inactive Status List (ISL). Additionally, non-compliant Reserve servicemembers are not authorized voluntary Reserve Component Category (RCC) changes and may not be issued voluntary active duty orders of any type.

a. The Needs of the Service - including, but not limited to, rate, officer specialty, and command concerns - may delay the effective date of separation, but all non-compliant servicemembers will be processed for separation IAW REF (M).

b. Absent derogatory matters of record, enlisted servicemembers who are separated for COVID-19 vaccine refusal will typically receive an RE-3 re-enlistment code, which would ordinarily allow reenlistment once the servicemember becomes vaccinated against