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ALNAV 074/20

MSGID/GENADMIN/SECNAV WASHINGTON DC/-/JUL//

SUBJ/PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF HEMP PRODUCTS UPDATED//

REF/A/ALNAV/SECNAV/069/20//
REF/B/DOC/DOD/FEB 20//
REF/C/DOC/SECNAVINST/APR 19//

NARR/REF A IS ALNAV 069/20 PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF HEMP PRODUCTS UPDATED. REF B IS OFFICE OF UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PERSONNEL AND READINESS MEMORANDUM/ ADOPTION OF PUNITIVE GENERAL ORDERS TO ADDRESS USE OF HEMP PRODUCTS 26 FEB 20. REF C IS SECNAVINST 5300.28F MILITARY SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND CONTROL//

RMKS/1. Reference (a) is superseded by this ALNAV.

2. On December 20, 2018, the President signed into law the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, removing industrial hemp from the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802(16)) and excluding from the definition of marijuana those hemp products containing up to 0.3 percent tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) on a dry weight basis. THC in marijuana and in those hemp products containing more than 0.3 percent THC remain illegal.

3. Due to this change in the law, new hemp products are commercially available in the United States, the normal use of which could cause a positive urinalysis result. The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) does not determine or certify the THC concentration of commercially available hemp products, such as cannabidiol (CBD). Accordingly, these products may contain appreciable levels of THC, yet omit any reference to THC on the product label and/or list an inaccurate THC concentration. Consequently, Sailors and Marines cannot rely on the packaging and labeling of hemp products in determining whether the product contains THC concentrations that could cause a positive urinalysis result.

4. Substance misuse by members of the Armed Forces is incompatible with military standards of good order and discipline, performance, and operational readiness. It is the goal of the Department of the Navy (DON) to eliminate substance abuse. The use of products containing, made, or derived from hemp, including CBD, may interfere with the DON Drug Detection and Deterrence Program and result in the reporting of unlawful levels of THC in Sailors and Marines. In order to ensure military readiness and the reliability and integrity of the Program, the knowing ingestion (orally, intravenously, through smoking/vaporization, absorption of transdermal or topical applications, or through other means) of products containing, or products made or derived from, hemp is prohibited IAW references (b) and (c). This
ALNAV is a lawful general order that is effective immediately without further implementation and is applicable to all DON personnel. The prohibitions in paragraph (5) below are general intent offenses. This means that a violation of this ALNAV occurs whenever a Service Member intends to use any product made or derived from hemp, as prohibited in paragraph (5), regardless of the Service Member’s intended consequences of that use (e.g., mental or physical effects). Any violations of this general order are subject to adverse administrative actions and/or disciplinary action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

5. Effective immediately:
   a. Sailors and Marines are prohibited from using any product made or derived from hemp (as defined in 7 U.S.C. 1639o), including CBD, regardless of the product's THC concentration, claimed or actual, and regardless of whether such product may lawfully be bought, sold, and used under the law applicable to civilians. "Use" means to inject, ingest, inhale, or otherwise introduce into the human body. "Use" includes the use of hemp products designed to penetrate through the skin layer, including but not limited to transdermal patches. "Use" also includes the use of topical products containing hemp, such as shampoos, conditioners, lotions, lip balms, or soaps.
   b. This prohibition does not apply to use pursuant to legitimate law enforcement activities, by authorized personnel in the performance of medical duties, or without knowledge that the product was made or derived from hemp, including CBD, where that lack of knowledge is reasonable.
   c. This prohibition also does not apply to the ingestion, consumption, or use of cannabinoid formulations approved as drugs by the FDA for which the Service Member has a valid prescription, such as Dronabinol (Marinol, Syndros) and cannabidiol (Epidiolex). A prescription will be deemed valid if issued by the Service Member's assigned Department of Defense approved medical service provider or a civilian medical professional whose care the Service Member was referred or directed to seek.
   d. This prohibition also does not apply to the use of durable goods containing hemp, such as rope or clothing.

6. The primary point of contact for this message is Assistant Secretary of the Navy, (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), Drug Demand Reduction Program.
   a. For United States Marine Corps Commands: Mr. Eric Hollins, eric.c.hollins@usmc.mil or by phone at (703) 784-9526.
   b. For Navy Commands: Ms. LaNorfeia Parker, Lanorfeia.parker@navy.mil, or by phone at (901) 874-4900.

7. This ALNAV is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until superseded or cancelled, whichever comes first.

8. Released by the Honorable Kenneth J. Braithwaite, Secretary of the Navy. //

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