UNDER SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON

JUL 0 2 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Limitations on Political Activities for Army Personnel

1. References:

a. Hatch Act; Title 5, U.S. Code, sections 7321–7326

b. DoD Directive 1344.10 (Political Activities by Members of the Armed Forces), 19 February 2008

2. The political campaign season is in full swing, with the U.S. general election scheduled for 3 November 2020. No later than 15 July 2020, commanders and senior leaders will comply with Head of DoD Transition guidance on communications with Presidential campaigns (enclosure 1) and ensure that personnel are briefed on limitations to participation in political activity outlined in references 1a and 1b.

3. Although most Civilian employees may take part in political activities, the extent and nature of that participation is limited by the Hatch Act and DoD policy. Additional restrictions apply to members of the career Senior Executive Service, non-career Senior Executive Service political appointees, and officials appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate (PAS officials). Military personnel are governed by reference 1b.

4. To ensure that Army personnel are aware of the scope of both permissible and impermissible political activities, I ask that all Army personnel read and become familiar with the enclosed documents by 15 July 2020. Enclosures 2–4 provide a brief overview of the rules applicable to both Army Civilians and Soldiers and links to the rules pertaining to groups such as "further restricted" Civilian employees, "less restricted" Civilian employees, and military personnel.

5. Commanders and senior leaders will work with local ethics counselors to plan and schedule briefings, as required, to complete this requirement by 15 July 2020.

James E. McPherson

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