

SPECIAL BULLETIN

COVID-19 UPDATE



March 19, 2020

National Commander: 'We Will Rise to the Occasion'

Maj. Gen. Mark Smith, Civil Air Patrol National Commander and CEO, has issued a letter to members about "these ... most challenging and unsettled times" as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to expand.

CAP members' characteristic desire to serve their communities and their country will be fulfilled once requests for assistance materialize, Smith says, at which point "we will do our part to serve others while mitigating and minimizing the risk to our members."



"I have faith in you. I've seen what you're capable of accomplishing, and it's confidence-inspiring," he concludes. "You will reflect the best of this amazing organization that we are in. We will rise to the occasion. We will persevere like our forebearers, we will conquer the challenges we face, and we will be a better, more innovative organization as the result!"

[Read the Letter](#)



Adjustments Outlined for Cadet Learning, Promotions During Pandemic

Maj. Gen. Smith has issued guidelines to unit commanders for special steps to be taken regarding cadet learning and promotions while restrictions are in place prohibiting face-to-face contact during the COVID-19 pandemic.

[More About the New Guidelines](#)

Membership Services Notification: Delays Possible

Due to public health guidelines to work remotely as much as possible, the National Headquarters Membership Services staff will have limited office presence. This is expected to last through May 11.

New member applications and renewals will continue to be processed, but processing time may take longer than usual.

Our ability to answer phones is limited, but we will respond to voicemails as quickly as possible. The best way to reach Member Services is [via email](#).

Procedures, Concerns Outlined for Sanitizing Aircraft, Vehicles

During this particularly challenging time, it is imperative that CAP maintain a level of operational readiness to support lifesaving missions we may be called on to perform.

Keeping aircrews trained and current is a big part of maintaining operational readiness. Consequently, steps must be taken to minimize the risk of contamination from high-touch surfaces in CAP aircraft and vehicles.

[More Tips for Sanitizing](#)

Health Officer's Video Demonstrates Sanitizing Procedures



Lt. Col. Gregg Olsen, California Wing health services officer as well as an internist and oncologist, has recorded a video on how best to sanitize aircraft and vehicles during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Wing, Subordinate Unit

Inspection Steps Announced

The schedule for upcoming wing compliance inspections has been revamped. In addition, remote inspections are encouraged for subordinate units that last underwent inspection 24-27 months ago.



[More About Inspections](#)



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