

## OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS

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ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

DIRECTOR, NET ASSESSMENT DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Delegation of Authority to Prepay Costs of Emergency Health Care and Support Services for Civilian Employees of the Department of Defense and their Authorized Dependents Outside the United States, its Territories, and Possessions

Effective immediately, the heads of Department of Defense (DoD) Components, the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, and the DoD Field Activities and all other organization entities (referred to collectively as the "DoD Components") are delegated the authority to prepay the costs of emergency health care, including but not limited to the costs of medical evacuation and/or the costs associated with medical treatment at a health care facility abroad, for a DoD civilian employee of that Component, and the authorized dependents of that employee, assigned to, or performing temporary duty, outside the United States, its territories and possessions. This delegation is subject to the requirements of 10 U.S.C 1599b(c) and the Department of State Foreign Affairs Manual, 16 FAM 520-524.

Heads of DoD Components may delegate this authority in writing to a level no lower than the first General/Flag Officer or member of the Senior Executive Service in the employee's chain of command or supervision.

A Component's use of the delegated prepayment authority contemplated above is conditioned on execution by the affected employee of a debt acknowledgment and repayment agreement for the total costs prepaid by the component on behalf of the employee or the

employee's dependents. The debt acknowledgment and repayment agreement will provide for the reimbursement, through payroll deduction from the employee's future DoD civilian pay to Component operation and maintenance accounts, of all costs prepaid by the Component on behalf of the employee or the employee's dependents. The debt acknowledgment and repayment agreement will further provide that such repayments may be made by a third-party insurer and that reflect the employee's agreement to assign and transfer to the DoD Component any amounts received by the employee from such an insurer, up to and including the total costs prepaid by the Component.

Policy on this program will be incorporated into an appropriate DoD issuance that will include procedural guidance for debt acknowledgment and repayment.

My point of contact is Ms. Taiwanna Smith, who may be reached at 571-372-1642 or by

email at Taiwanna.r.smith.civ@mail.mil.

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