



DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
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WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1010

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MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
COMMANDANT OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DIRECTORS OF DEFENSE AGENCIES

SUBJECT: Policy on Blood Donations by Non-Department of Defense Individuals to the
Armed Services Blood Program

This policy addresses blood donations to the Armed Services Blood Program by non-Department of Defense individuals on Military installations, at Military leased facilities, or aboard ships. Many individuals not associated with the Department of Defense have expressed a desire to support our troops and Military communities by donating blood at our Armed Services Blood Program blood donor centers. Most of these individuals do not have Department of Defense identification cards nor are they beneficiaries of the Military Health System.

The Military departments are authorized to accept donations from these individuals during a state of war or catastrophic event when the Armed Services Blood Program cannot meet its blood requirement or under circumstances where the local needs or community support justify the donations, provided the following requirements are met:

1. All blood donations must occur on Military and Federal installations, Military leased facilities, or aboard ships.
2. When the number of non-Department of Defense individuals wanting to donate to the Armed Services Blood Program exceeds the capability of the local Military blood donor center, they will be referred to the local civilian blood center to help meet community blood needs.
3. The Military departments must ensure that the arrangements are made with the installation medical treatment facility to treat, without charge, any non-Department of Defense individual who experiences a donor reaction in the same manner that a Department of Defense health care beneficiary would be treated. For this limited purpose, these individuals are designated as



eligible for health care in medical treatment facilities. This eligibility does not extend to health care services outside medical treatment facilities.

4. The Military departments must ensure that arrangements are made with the installation medical treatment facilities to notify and provide initial consultation for every non-Department of Defense donor with a positive test from viral or other screening steps during blood collections.
5. In times other than an urgent military need associated with war or catastrophic event, the active recruitment of non-Department of Defense donors outside the Military installations, Military leased facilities, ships, or other Federal properties involved is not permitted.

This policy is effective immediately and requires concerted efforts.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew England". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "A" and a long, sweeping underline.