



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY
121 BLAKE ROAD
ANNAPOLIS MARYLAND 21402-1300

November 6, 2020

Dear Naval Academy Family:

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, my #1 priority has been, and will remain, safeguarding the health and safety of our midshipmen, faculty, staff, and our extended Naval Academy community here in the Annapolis area. As the Thanksgiving holiday quickly approaches, this priority has remained at the forefront of my decision-making process as my leadership team developed a set of guidelines for the upcoming holiday period. I believe these guidelines will allow our midshipmen some much needed time off to celebrate the holiday with local family and friends, while ensuring we can safely execute the remainder of the semester amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

We are incredibly grateful for the outpouring of support from those in our local community who have expressed a desire to host midshipmen in their homes and at their tables for this unique Thanksgiving holiday. For your planning purposes, the following liberty guidelines will be in effect for the holiday, subject to a final approval 72 hours prior based upon local COVID-19 conditions in the community and within the Brigade:

- The Brigade of Midshipmen is currently authorized overnight liberty on Wednesday, 25 November and Thursday, 26 November within a 100 mile radius of the Naval Academy. Midshipmen may spend the night at the home of their family, sponsor, coach, or at a hotel. Liberty for the brigade expires at 0800 on Friday, November 27th in company spaces for “reading day” in preparation for final exams.
- Consistent with our current liberty adjustments, we ask that midshipmen not gather in groups exceeding 10 midshipmen (not including family/extended family) and that no more than four midshipmen reside overnight at a single residence. Adherence to social distancing and wearing of masks is expected to the maximum extent practicable.
- First-class, Second-class, and Third-class Midshipmen of legal drinking age are permitted to responsibly consume alcohol at an outdoor dining establishment or private residence during liberty. Plebes are not authorized to consume alcohol regardless of age.

Thank you in advance for your support over this holiday period in ensuring we continue to safeguard the health and well-being of our midshipmen and community here in Annapolis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sean S. Buck".

S. S. BUCK
Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy
Superintendent