



PERSONNEL AND  
READINESS

## UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

FEB 27 2018

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF, NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR MANPOWER AND  
RESERVE AFFAIRS  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY FOR MANPOWER  
AND RESERVE AFFAIRS  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY FOR MANPOWER  
AND RESERVE AFFAIRS  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE FOR MANPOWER  
AND RESERVE AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: Prohibition on the Use of Marijuana or its Chemical Components by Military  
Service Members and Department of Defense Civilian Employees

This memorandum reaffirms the Federal prohibitions on the use of marijuana by military personnel at all locations in accordance with Article 5, Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). The provisions of the UCMJ apply regardless of State, District, or Territorial laws permitting the use of marijuana, to include medical use. Military personnel are subject to prosecution and administrative action for marijuana use, possession, or distribution under Article 112a of the UCMJ. Federal Law supersedes the legislative initiatives of the State, District, or Territories of the United States. Legislative initiatives of States, District, or Territories are not binding on the military in the administration of military justice under Chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code. This prohibition includes chemical components and extracts of marijuana listed as Schedule I illicit drugs by the Drug Enforcement Administration.

Department of Defense (DoD) civilian employees are subject to restrictions governing drug use contained in DoD Instruction 1010.09, "DoD Civilian Employee Drug-Free Workplace Program," and applicable Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Guidelines.

For additional information, contact CAPT Eric R. Welsh at [eric.r.welsh2.mil@mail.mil](mailto:eric.r.welsh2.mil@mail.mil).

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert L. Wilkie".

Robert L. Wilkie