



RECCE TOWN UPDATE (21 JUNE)



SECDEF STOP MOVEMENT ORDER: EXCEPTIONS TO POLICY

Happy Father's Day, Recce Town!

I want to explain why some Exception to Policy Requests (ETPs) are approved ... and others are not. Mission Essential travel is pretty straight forward, so this will focus on Humanitarian and Hardship ETP considerations.

The 9 RW ETP Process:

All ETPs are considered on a case-by-case basis. Each request is evaluated based on: 1) the risk it poses to people and mission, 2) the impact or hardship if travel is not approved, and 3) the status of virus in CA, en route stops, and the destination *at the time*. Safeguarding our personnel, their families, and our mission is the top priority.

In General...expect immediate family emergency travel requests to be pushed to 16th AF for a waiver, but not extended family requests – *unless* there is a specific extended family situation that warrants risk consideration, or the risk is low.

For example: driving has less risk of virus exposure than flying, some states have less density of cases than others (think NE vs NY), some grandparents or uncles were a more significant part of someone's life than others. Hence, a sibling's healthy newborn, the funeral of a grandparent you visited once a year, or Mom's 50th birthday will likely not be pushed to 16th AF...but visiting a terminally ill grandparent you lived with during high school, or driving to a funeral in a state with decreasing cases will *probably* be forwarded.

This has been a difficult time, and I'm so proud of how well Recce Town members continue to handle the COVID crisis. I want to push all ETPs for approval, but we must balance supporting family needs against protecting our Airmen, installation, and mission.

This Friday, 26 June we will pick up again with Facebook live sessions where Chief King and I can continue to answer any questions you have on this...or anything else!

~ RECCE 1

Travel ETP waivers may be granted for 3 categories of travel:

- 1) Mission Essential
- 2) Humanitarian
- 3) Extreme Hardship



ETP waiver authority is the first General Officer in the traveler's Chain of Command.

- The 9 RW's G.O. waiver authority is Brig Gen Rowlett, 16th AF
- 9 RW ETPs are screened at the Sqn, Grp, and Wing before sending to Brig Gen Rowlett
- If it does not meet the criteria, I will not push them to 16th AF
**New: If your ETP is denied, a brief explanation will be provided.*



This process is fluid, and will change depending on status of virus spread and DoD guidance.



The SecDef's stop movement order:

<https://media.defense.gov/2020/Apr/20/2002284632/-1/1/1/MODIFICATION-AND-REISSUANCE-OF-DOD-RESPONSE-TO-CORONAVIRUS-DISEASE-2019-TRAVEL-RESTRICTIONS.PDF>