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SUBJ/HUSBANDING SERVICE PROVIDER PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS AND CHANGES//

RMKS/1. The U.S. Navy has a long history of contracting husbanding support provider (HSP) companies to provide on-site logistics support to ships in non-U.S. Navy ports domestically and overseas. These partnerships enable our enduring forward presence by offering services and materials that satisfy Navy requirements. The recent events regarding port visits and husbanding support have highlighted the need to ensure there are no gaps or vulnerabilities within the Navy's HSP process and the need to build a layered defense to prevent any future fraud, waste, and abuse.

2. Task Force Navy Operational Commanders' Support (TF NOCS) was established and charged with interim implementation oversight and execution of Navy-wide HSP process improvement. TF NOCS will serve as the unifying element in a collaborative effort that spans Fleet Commanders, Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP), and Navy Education and Training Command (NETC). This effort will result in enduring controls and program governance through process improvements, fiscal accountability, and Navy HSP services training.

3. The new HSP Off-Ship Bill Pay process has been tested over the past several months with great success and will officially be implemented Navy-wide on 1 October 2015. Any ship scheduled for a port visit that commences on or after that date must use the off-ship bill pay process. Under the direction and guidance of the Fleet Commanders, HSP service payments will transition off-ship effective 1 October 2015. Disbursing Officers are no longer authorized to dispense payments for HSP services. For the full rollout of this program to succeed, it is imperative all stakeholders have regular communication and diligent oversight until the process becomes routine.

4. Commanders and Commanding Officers are responsible for the execution of port visits. Stewardship and accountability of taxpayers' dollars is a "Total Force" responsibility, across all Navy, especially for Fleet Commanders and Ships' Commanding Officers and those under their command. As we implement the new HSP process, vigilance should be exercised at every level so that leadership is alerted to any evidence of fraud, waste, and abuse. Improprieties can only be corrected through your deliberate efforts.

5. Released by R. R. Braun, Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy.//

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