pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY
AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

TO The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and Pennsylvania State Veterans Commission Members

FROM Nicholas M. Taylor
Chairman, Pennsylvania State Veterans Commission

DATE January 23, 2022

RE Change from In-Person to Virtual Meeting – 4 February 2022

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform all concerned that I am changing the 4 February 2022 meeting from in-person to virtual.

My reason for this action is because all sixty-seven (67) counties in Pennsylvania are reporting a "Severe" risk rate and a "Very High" positive COVID test rate. Only two counties (Forest and Sullivan) are reporting a "High" risk rate for positive tests.

While the numbers are up, statistics are showing that the Northeastern states may have "peaked" and very slowly the numbers are declining. Again, the effects of the Delta Variant and Omicron are shown to evade immunity and have a high transmission rate. If you recall, I changed last month's meeting to a virtual one based on the Commonwealth reporting a "Very High" overall risk rate. My responsibility is protection of the force and our personnel.

I have requested the Commission's Administrative Officer, Mr. Gregory Holler, to forward this to you on my behalf. Additionally, Mr. Holler will provide you with the WEBEX link for participation on this date, along with the read-ahead materials.

I appreciate your understanding in this important matter. Virtual meetings are not my first choice, but I cannot, in good conscience, ask you to be present when the risk level is higher than last month. I believe you will see a steady declining trend and a lower overall risk rate in the next few weeks. Please protect yourself and family and stay safe!

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NICHOLAS M. TAYLOR
Chairman
Pennsylvania State Veterans Commission