



PERSONNEL AND
READINESS

UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

APR 13 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU
COMMANDANT OF THE COAST GUARD
DIRECTORS OF DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Award of the Armed Forces Service Medal for Operation CAPITOL RESPONSE I and II and the Presidential Inauguration

The Armed Forces Service Medal (AFSM) is approved for award to eligible Service members for qualifying participation in Operation CAPITOL RESPONSE I and II or the Presidential Inauguration.

- Period of Award: January 6, 2021 to future to-be-determined termination date.
- Area of Eligibility: The National Capital Region (District of Columbia, the Maryland counties of Montgomery and Prince George's; the Virginia counties of Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William).
- Eligible Personnel: Active and Reserve Component (including National Guard) members who meet AFSM eligibility criteria contained in DoD Manual 1348.33, Volume 2, "DoD Manual of Military Decorations and Awards – Campaign, Expeditionary, and Service Medals," paragraph 4.4.

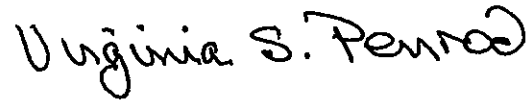
Pursuant to DoD Manual 1348.33, Volume 2, paragraph 4.4.e.(3), each Military Department will prescribe appropriate regulations for administrative processing, awarding, and wearing of the AFSM. Accordingly, the Secretary of the Military Department concerned will determine eligibility for award of the AFSM to Service members in his or her respective Military Department based on the eligibility criteria. The Chief of the National Guard Bureau is authorized to determine eligibility, based on eligibility criteria, for National Guard members who do not fall under the authority of a Secretary of a Military Department.

As an exception, due to the health risk posed by coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), award of the AFSM is authorized for one day of qualifying service if that service resulted in the member contracting the virus, or if that service was terminated early in order to comply with COVID-19 measures.

Service members relieved from their assigned deployment duties based on a determination of unsuitability, to include a substantiated investigation or inquiry into conduct, or

relating to, or associated with, the events of the January 6, 2021 breaching of the Capitol building are not eligible to receive the AFSM.

Service members should direct eligibility questions to their respective Military Departments or, if not under the authority of a Military Department Secretary, to the Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Virginia S. Penrod". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "V".

Virginia S. Penrod
Acting