



## DoD DIRECTIVE 1015.17E

### DoD EXECUTIVE AGENT FOR ARMED FORCES ENTERTAINMENT

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**Originating Component:** Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness

**Effective:** November 30, 2022

**Releasability:** Cleared for public release. Available on the Directives Division Website at <https://www.esd.whs.mil/DD/>.

**Incorporates and Cancels:** Paragraphs 1.5. and 5.2. of DoD Directive 1000.26E, "Support for Non-Federal Entities Authorized to Operate on DoD Installations," February 2, 2007  
DoD Instruction 1330.13, "Armed Forces Entertainment Program," March 23, 2004

**Approved by:** Kathleen H. Hicks, Deputy Secretary of Defense

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**Purpose:** This issuance:

- Establishes policy and assigns responsibilities for the DoD Armed Forces Entertainment (AFE) Program.
- Designates the Secretary of the Air Force as the DoD Executive Agent (EA) for AFE in accordance with DoD Directive (DoDD) 5101.01.
- Designates the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness as the Principal Staff Assistant overseeing the activities of the DoD EA for AFE in accordance with DoDD 5101.01.

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## **SECTION 1: GENERAL ISSUANCE INFORMATION**

### **1.1. APPLICABILITY.**

This issuance applies to OSD, the Military Departments, the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within the DoD.

### **1.2. POLICY.**

a. The DoD AFE Program provides high-quality live and virtual professional entertainment to Service personnel and their family members stationed outside the continental United States (OCONUS). Priority is given to personnel in contingency operations, remote and isolated locations, and ships at sea.

b. Responsible communication and operations security practices will be applied when promoting performances and using social media, in accordance with DoD Instruction (DoDI) 8170.01 and DoDI 5400.17.

c. Delays en route to or from the entertainment location may be authorized at U.S. Government expense only when the delay is for the DoD's convenience.

## **SECTION 2: RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **2.1. UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PERSONNEL AND READINESS.**

The Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness:

- a. Serves as the Principal Staff Assistant overseeing the activities of the DoD EA for AFE in accordance with DoDD 5101.01.
- b. Is responsible for the policy and oversight of the DoD AFE Program.

### **2.2. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR MANPOWER AND RESERVE AFFAIRS.**

Under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs develops DoD policy governing the DoD AFE Program and provides oversight and guidance for implementing the policies and responsibilities in this issuance.

### **2.3. SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS.**

The Secretaries of the Military Departments assign at least one full-time active duty officer per Military Service to:

- a. Staff and support the AFE office.
- b. Develop and validate entertainment needs.
- c. Collaborate on DoD-wide planning for effective and efficient program delivery.

### **2.4. SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE.**

In addition to the responsibilities in Paragraph 2.3., and in their capacity as the DoD EA for AFE, the Secretary of the Air Force:

- a. Administers the DoD AFE Program and designates and staffs an appropriate organizational element within the Department of the Air Force as the AFE office.
- b. Manages the DoD AFE Program in accordance with DoDI 1015.10, this issuance, and established policies and procedures.
- c. Coordinates annually with the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Community and Family Policy to establish the scope of the DoD AFE Program and resource requirements.

d. Coordinates with the United Service Organizations, Incorporated, to provide invitational travel orders for OCONUS entertainment in accordance with the January 7, 2008 Memorandum of Understanding between the DoD and the United Service Organizations, Incorporated.

e. Coordinates with Services when offering installation tours to ensure awareness and visibility. Enters into contracts with a variety of entertainment groups to deliver high-quality live and virtual professional entertainment to Service personnel and their families OCONUS.

f. Budgets, funds, and maintains accountability for appropriated funds for authorized expenses, including:

(1) Performance fees, travel, lodging, production, and incidentals for entertainers.

(2) Commercial and military air transportation for entertainment groups.

(3) Civilian salaries and temporary duty costs for all AFE personnel.

g. Clears all press releases concerning the DoD AFE Program with the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs before release in accordance with DoDD 5122.05.

h. Obtains permission to film or record part or all of contracted performances from the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs in accordance with DoDD 5122.05 and other Public Affairs policies, as applicable.

i. Conducts periodic assessments and annual audits of AFE financial, operational, and management controls.

## GLOSSARY

### G.1. ACRONYMS.

<b>ACRONYM</b>	<b>MEANING</b>
AFE	armed forces entertainment
DoDD	DoD directive
DoDI	DoD instruction
EA	executive agent
OCONUS	outside the continental United States

### G.2. DEFINITIONS.

Unless otherwise noted, these terms and their definitions are for the purpose of this issuance.

<b>TERM</b>	<b>DEFINITION</b>
<b>AFE</b>	A U.S. Air Force command operation that serves as the single point of contact within the DoD for providing high-quality live and virtual professional entertainment to Service personnel and their family members stationed OCONUS.
<b>EA</b>	Defined in the DoD Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms.
<b>OCONUS</b>	Outside the 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia. This includes Alaska, Hawaii, and the U.S. territories and possessions.

## REFERENCES

- DoD Directive 5101.01, “DoD Executive Agent,” February 7, 2022
- DoD Directive 5122.05, “Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs (ATSD(PA)),” August 7, 2017
- DoD Instruction 1015.10, “Military Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) Programs,” July 6, 2009, as amended
- DoD Instruction 5400.17, “Official Use of Social Media for Public Affairs Purposes,” August 12, 2022
- DoD Instruction 8170.01, “Online Information Management and Electronic Messaging,” January 2, 2019, as amended
- Memorandum of Understanding Between the Department of Defense and the United Service Organizations, Incorporated, January 7, 2008<sup>1</sup>
- Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, “DoD Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms,” current edition

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<sup>1</sup> Available on the Internet at <https://dodmwrandsalepolicy.defense.gov/Support-Agreements/USO/>