R 201254Z JUN 13 FM COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC//CG-112// TO AIG 4905 BT

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SUBJ: UPDATE TO CREDENTIALING AND PRIVILEGING OF FAMILY ADVOCACY SPECIALISTS A. COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC 271545Z AUG 12/ALCOAST 389/12 B. Coast Guard Medical Manual, COMDTINST M6000.1 (series) C. Management of Family Advocacy and Special Needs Cases, COMDTINST 1754.12 (series)

- D. Coast Guard Family Advocacy Program, COMDTINST 1750.7 (series) 1. Per REF (A) established policy for the credentialing and privileging of a qualified Family Advocacy Specialist (FAS) located at the Health, Safety, and Work-Life (HSWL) Regional Practice (RP) and established the requirement that all future hires into FAS positions meet the requirements for credentialing and privileging.
- 2. Privileged FASs will now come under the same privileging review processes as described in REF (B) for other providers privileged by Commandant (CG-112). Initial provisional privileging of qualified FASs will be for one year. While provisionally privileged, all assessments completed will be reviewed by the Family Advocacy Program Manager (FAPM).
- 3. REF (A) defined FASs being privileged as Mental Healthcare Providers. To avoid confusion with other providers, that title is changed to Mental Health Counselor. All requirements for privileging contained in REF A remain the same.
- 4. FASs may receive requests to provide clinical services in situations that do not involve either a Family Advocacy Program (FAP) incident, or a concern that a FAP incident may occur, as the presenting issue. Since this can lead to the FAS being inundated with local requests for non-FAP related clinical services, these requests shall be referred to the appropriate resource (e.g., CG SUPRT, Coast Guard Clinic, TRICARE network provider, etc.) for further assessment and care instead. A privileged FAS is not authorized to provide general behavioral health services to non-FAP clients. All cases accepted for services must initially involve a FAP case/action.
- 5. If, in the course of providing clinical services to a FAP client, it is determined the client meets diagnostic criteria for a Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders diagnosis (e.g., personality disorder, adjustment disorder, mood disorder, etc.), the FAS is authorized to provide behavioral health therapeutic procedures to address the issue in the context of providing services as part of a Family Advocacy Treatment Plan. If the client is an active duty member, the FAS must refer to the primary care manager of the member to ensure all medical needs are appropriately addressed.
- 6. FAP records must continue to be maintained per REF (C) to ensure that case notes and clinical information is protected, secured and maintained separately from the medical record of the client.
- 7. FASs privileged as Mental Health Counselors must meet the following additional requirements:
- a. Must obtain a National Provider Identifier (NPI) Type 1, which is assigned at no fee as described in REF B.

- b. Must be certified in Basic Cardiac Life Support (BLS) this training can be arranged through the HSWL RP.
- 8. REFS (B) and (D) are being revised to reflect changes contained in this message.
- 9. POCs:
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- 10. CAPT Deborah R. Noyes, Chief, Office of Health Services, sends.
- 11. Internet release authorized.

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