

UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE 5000 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC 20301-5000

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MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR PENTAGON LEADERSHIP COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS DEFENSE AGENCY AND DOD FIELD ACTIVITY DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: National Insider Threat Awareness Month - September 2022

Throughout the month of September, the Department of Defense (DoD) will conduct a series of events for the fourth annual National Insider Threat Awareness Month (NITAM), which emphasizes the importance of protecting our most valuable asset — our people — from insider risks. Our trusted workforce faces an increasingly challenging threat environment, exacerbated by the effects of the global pandemic and sophisticated adversary efforts to exploit vulnerable personnel. Maintaining effective insider threat programs, coupled with appropriate training, awareness, and resilience, are vital to supporting and empowering our workforce and reducing vulnerabilities.

This year, the Department's theme is: Critical Thinking for Digital Spaces. Increasing the workforce's awareness of manipulated information and attempts at online social engineering is critical to ensuring our trusted workforce remains resilient and vigilant against these threats. It is increasingly imperative that we arm our trusted insiders with the skills to counter increasingly sophisticated attempts to exploit our personnel, information, and resources.

NITAM is an opportunity for all Department personnel to gain knowledge and become familiar with resources to detect, engage, and assist at-risk employees. I solicit your participation and support for this comprehensive event as well as your support for the counter-insider threat activities and training efforts conducted throughout the year for all related programs. Suggested actions and activities are available from the Center for Development of Security Excellence at https://securityawareness.usalearning.gov/cdse/itawareness/index.html. Your leadership and support are vital to the safety and security of DoD personnel and resources.

Ronald S. Moultrie