DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
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MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS
DIRECTORS OF DEFENSE AGENCIES

SUBJECT: Combating Trafficking in Persons in the Department of Defense

As set forth in National Security Presidential Directive/NSPD-22, "The policy of the United States is to attack vigorously the worldwide problem of trafficking in persons, using law enforcement efforts, diplomacy, and all other appropriate tools." The Commander in Chief has decreed that all departments of the United States Government will take a "zero tolerance" approach to trafficking in persons.

It is the policy of the Department of Defense that trafficking in persons will not be facilitated in any way by the activities of our Service members, civilian employees, indirect hires, or DoD contract personnel. Following the policy set by the Commander in Chief, DoD opposes prostitution and any related activities that may contribute to the phenomenon of trafficking in persons as inherently harmful and dehumanizing. Trafficking in persons is a violation of human rights; it is cruel and demeaning; it is linked to organized crime; it undermines our peacekeeping efforts; and it is incompatible with military core values.

The responsibilities of commanders and supervisors at all levels are clear, as codified by Congress under Title 10. Those statutory provisions require commanders and others in authority "to be vigilant inspecting the conduct of all persons who are placed under their command; to guard against and suppress all dissolute and immoral practices, and to correct . . . all persons who are guilty of them." Efforts to combat trafficking in persons in DoD begin with the recognition that all commanding officers and other DoD officers and employees in positions of authority are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that is consistent with statutory requirements for exemplary conduct.

I expect those in authority at all levels to examine opportunities for combating trafficking in persons and consider the attached objectives as part of that effort.

Paul Wolfowitz

Attachment:
As stated

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Objectives of DoD Efforts to
Combat Trafficking in Persons

- The education of all Service members and DoD civilians serving overseas on the worldwide trafficking menace, national policy with respect to trafficking in persons, and attendant personal responsibilities consistent with military core values and DoD ethical standards.

- Within their authority to do so, increased efforts by command and military police authorities worldwide to pursue indicators of trafficking in persons in commercial establishments patronized by DoD personnel, place offending establishments off-limits, and provide support to host country authorities involved in the battle against trafficking in persons.

- Consistent with U.S. and host-nation law, the incorporation of provisions in overseas service contracts that prohibit any activities on the part of contractor employees that support or promote trafficking in persons and impose suitable penalties on contractors who fail to monitor the conduct of their employees.

- A systemic method for evaluating efforts to combat trafficking in persons as part of ongoing evaluation and inspection programs conducted by Inspector General organizations.