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ACQUISITION,
TECHNOLOGY
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MEMORANDUM FOR: SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Joint Basing Government Purchase Card Policy

This memo explains the meaning of "for and in direct support of installations" regarding Government Purchase Card (GPC) surveillance and management for both Service Components and tenant commands at joint bases. The Deputy Secretary of Defense's January 22, 2008 memo, Joint Base Implementation Guidance, and the April 15, 2008 memo, Procurement Operations Supplemental Guidance (POSG), direct that the Joint Base Commander is responsible for surveillance and management for all procurement, including GPC procurement, that is "for and in direct support of installations" for the Military Departments' units assigned to the joint base.

All supporting and supported Service Component GPCs used for anything other than "procurement of weapon systems, items in support of weapons systems, and contingency contracting" are by definition "for and in direct support of installations" (POSG 1.1.1). Therefore, unless a GPC is being used to support the actual weapon system acquisition, or is used for a contingency operation like Operation Enduring Freedom, surveillance and management responsibility for the GPC transfers to the supporting Service Component in accordance with paragraph 3.4 of the POSG. In order to distinguish which GPCs are "for and in direct support of installations," each joint base Memorandum of Agreement should clearly identify management of the GPC program, including fund type and accounting information, for all customers. Further, because two different banks support the Department of Defense GPC programs, supported Component organizations with GPCs managed by the supporting Component will use GPCs issued by the supporting Component.

Tenant activities supported by the joint base are under no mandate to transfer management and surveillance of their GPCs because they are not part of any Service Component. Accordingly, tenant activities at joint bases must have an Installation Service Support Agreement addressing the issuance and management of GPCs.

If you have any questions, please contact Col Mickey Addison (joint base policy), 703-693-6170, or Sandy Ross (procurement policy), 703-695-9774.

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