



March 23, 2020

**Subject:** Austal USA Employee Commute and Travel Authorization

To Whom It May Concern:

The individual presenting this letter is an Austal USA employee. Austal USA is a defense contractor building and servicing U.S. Navy vessels both domestically and overseas. As part of the U.S. Government's national response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the attached letter was received from The Assistant Secretary of the Navy, James Geurts, notifying Austal USA that its role in delivering and redelivering ships to the U.S. Navy's fleet is crucial to national security. The letter further states that Austal USA performs mission essential functions for the U.S. Navy making it part of the Defense Industrial Base that is deemed a critical infrastructure industry in the President's Coronavirus Guidelines and the Presidential Policy Directive/PPD-21 "Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience."

In recognition of the importance the U.S. Government has placed on continuing to provide mission essential functions to the U.S. Navy, Austal USA shipbuilding and service operations remain open. As a result, many Austal USA employees are required to be physically present at the various work locations where such duties are performed. These employees must therefore commute to and from work and, in some instances, travel to offsite locations both domestically and overseas.

Presentation of this letter and an Austal USA badge as proof of employment shall serve as authorization for the employee to commute and/or travel for business related-purposes for the reasons stated above. Additional verification of employment can be made by contacting Celia Scrimshire at (251) 445-5152 or [celia.scrimshire@austalusa.com](mailto:celia.scrimshire@austalusa.com). For other inquiries please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

John Bell  
Vice President of Legal Affairs  
Austal USA, LLC



THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
(RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND ACQUISITION)  
1000 NAVY PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON DC 20350-1000

March 19, 2020

Mr. Craig Perciavalle  
President  
Austal USA  
100 Addsko Road  
Mobile, AL 36602

Dear Mr. Perciavalle,

During this time of national response to the COVID-19 pandemic, I would like to emphasize the importance of employee health and safety as well reemphasize the importance of the ship construction and repair efforts you and your suppliers perform to the national defense. Delivering or redelivering our ships to the fleet is a national need that is unwavering and crucial to our national security.

Given the mission essential functions you perform, while ensuring the safety and well-being of the workforce, I cannot stress enough the importance of accomplishing this mission, and notifying the Government of any impediments that are considered likely to interfere with timely accomplishment of this mission. This is in accordance with the President's Coronavirus Guidelines and the Presidential Policy Directive/PPD-21 "Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience," which defines critical infrastructure industry to include the Defense Industrial Base.

Secretary Modly, Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), Commandant of the Marine Corps (CMC), and I understand that this national emergency presents a challenge and we are dedicated to working closely with you to ensure the safety of the workforce and the national security mission.

Sincerely,

  
James F. Geurts