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THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1200

DEC 10 1996

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** SURGEON GENERAL OF THE ARMY  
SURGEON GENERAL OF THE NAVY  
SURGEON GENERAL OF THE AIR FORCE

**SUBJECT:** Policy Memorandum: Off-Duty Employment by DoD Dental Care Providers

This is to clarify DoD policy that there is no conflict of interest with active duty military dentists "moonlighting" in the civilian sector as long as DoD requirements concerning off-duty employment by DoD health care practitioners (including Department of Defense Directive 6025.7) and applicable Service regulations are met. Enrollees of the TRICARE Family Member Dental Plan (TFMDP) are not entitled to similar care from the direct care system while they are enrolled in TFMDP. Since TFMDP enrollees are not eligible for dental care through the direct care system, there is no dual eligibility for dental benefits (as in other OCHAMPUS programs). Therefore, dental care services which are delivered by "moonlighting" active duty dental officers (as well as civilian dentist government employees and contractors) to TFMDP enrollees in CONUS, are not prohibited by DoD or CHAMPUS dual compensation or conflict of interest rules. If those services otherwise meet the requirements of the TFMDP, they may be claimed and paid by the contractor administering the TFMDP. You are urged to widely publish this policy memorandum.

This policy has been coordinated with the DoD Office of General Counsel. My point of contact is Commander Bill Craig, who may be reached at (703) 695-3331.

*Edward D. Martin*

Edward D. Martin, M.D.

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary

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