



Message from the Commanding General United States Army Training and Doctrine Command

INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY WEEKEND SAFETY

The Fourth of July is one of America's most significant holidays. It commemorates our birth as a Nation of freedom and independence. This year's anniversary marks 231 years of freedom – a remarkable accomplishment.

Tragically, the Fourth of July has also become associated with the grim recitals of accident statistics that follow the holiday. Last year, TRADOC did not experience any fatal accidents during the Fourth of July holiday. I would like to repeat that accomplishment this year.

We need to go above and beyond the routine pre-holiday safety briefings and POV safety checks. Engage your subordinate leadership to raise safety awareness. Identify individuals who exhibit "at risk" behavior and intervene with appropriate action. Ensure that Soldiers going on leave or pass use the Travel Risk Planning System and review it with their supervisors. No one is too old or too senior for a friendly reminder. Speed, fatigue, alcohol use, reckless driving, and failure to wear seat belts or required protective motorcycle gear can kill indiscriminately.

While we continue to focus on preventing POV accidents, do not lose sight of hazards associated with other seasonal recreational activities such as boating, swimming, fishing, picnics, cookouts, and other outdoor activities and sports. Lightning, heat, sun exposure, as well as unfriendly plants and animals can all lead to an unhappy ending to a holiday event. The loss of even one Soldier is unacceptable and must be avoided. Composite risk management (CRM) can provide leaders and individuals the edge in identifying and overcoming these hazards both on and off-duty.

Your involvement and leadership will make the difference. Make safety awareness a priority, use CRM, and enjoy a safe, accident-free Fourth of July holiday.

Victory Starts Here!

LEADERSHIP--FORCE PROTECTION--SAFETY




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