



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, U. S. ARMY MEDICAL COMMAND
2748 WORTH ROAD
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS 78234-6000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

MCSM

21 NOV 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR

Commanders, MEDCOM Major Subordinate Commands
Directors, OTSG/MEDCOM OneStaff

SUBJECT: Thanksgiving Safety Message

1. Thanksgiving traditionally marks the beginning of the holiday season. It is a time to give thanks and enjoy the company of family, friends, and loved ones. It is also a time to focus on managing the risks associated with your holiday weekend, especially off-duty vehicle operations.
2. The loss of even one member of the AMEDD family is a tragedy, but when an accident is a result of poor risk management, it is simply unacceptable. Motor vehicle accidents continue to be the leading cause of death for Soldiers. Use your seatbelt, and make sure all passengers buckle up. Ensure children are in an approved and properly installed safety seat. There is never an excuse for drinking and driving. If you are planning to drive long distances, be sure to examine the risks. Sometimes an alternate form of transportation is a better option especially during the winter season when roads are often icy, dark, and crowded. Plan your holiday as you would any other important mission and you will significantly decrease your chances of being involved in an accident. Lastly, I charge all leaders to personally review the travel plans of their Soldiers. Safety is a leadership responsibility. Information to help Leaders, Soldiers, and civilians, can be found at these links:
<https://phc.amedd.army.mil/topics/discond/cip/Pages/default.aspx>;
<https://safety.army.mil>.
3. As you take time off from work, please remember to maintain your vigilance against taking any unnecessary risk. Thank you for your unselfish support to our Soldiers, Families, and the MEDCOM mission. To you and your family, I extend my best wishes for a safe and joyous Thanksgiving holiday.

Army Medicine: Bringing Value...Inspiring Trust!


ERIC B. SCHOOMAKER
Lieutenant General
The Surgeon General and
Commanding General, USAMEDCOM