



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

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

MCSM

11 FEB 2011

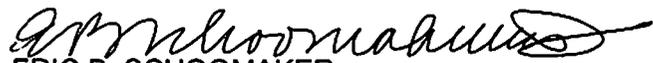
MEMORANDUM FOR

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

SUBJECT: Presidents' Day Holiday Safety Message

1. This Presidents' Day we salute the leadership and achievements of all those who have held America's highest elected office, serving as our President and Commander in Chief of our Armed Forces. As we remember our former leaders and enjoy some well-deserved time off, remember to not let your guard down. Continue to integrate accident prevention/risk management principles into all your activities and associated decisions.
2. Many of you will take advantage of the long weekend to travel, participate in winter sports, or catch-up on the household chores. Whatever you do, I ask you to keep safety in mind and use composite risk management (CRM). The fundamentals of CRM we use to plan a mission can also be used in planning our off-duty activities.
3. The challenges of harsh winter weather and associated driving hazards serve to increase the risks this time of year. I want all leaders to conduct pre-holiday safety briefings with all their personnel, giving special emphasis to the off-duty activities of their Soldiers. Fatal accidents continue to occur when off-duty and the overwhelming majority involves operating private motor vehicles. Seatbelts are the single most effective safety measure in preventing serious injuries and reducing fatalities in motor vehicle accidents. Also, continue to emphasize the dangers of operating a vehicle when fatigued, under the influence of alcohol, or driving at excessive speeds. This combination is the number-one killer of Soldiers.
4. As you enjoy the Presidents' Day holiday weekend, remember your Nation is very grateful for the sacrifices you make every day as a member of the Army Medical Command and so am I. I look forward to seeing all of you return safely to work after the holiday.

Army Medicine: Bringing Value...Inspiring Trust!

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