



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

MCSM

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

20 JUN 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR

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

SUBJECT: Independence Day Holiday Safety

1. We are proud to call America our home and blessed to live in a Nation of unmatched freedom and opportunity. I encourage you to reflect on the values we hold and the freedoms we cherish as we celebrate our Nation's 235th birthday.
2. Tragically, the fourth of July weekend is classified as the deadliest time to travel the roadways. July fourth not only has the statistic as the highest number of fatal vehicle accidents, but also the highest percentage of alcohol related fatal accidents. A high number of Americans are celebrating and then getting into vehicles either tired or intoxicated. Please make sure you are well rested and sober before getting behind the wheel. As we prepare our Soldiers for the holiday, take a close look at their travel plans and ensure they have used the Travel Risk Planning System (TRiPS).
3. We need to go above and beyond the routine pre-holiday safety briefings and POV safety checks and create a culture of safe thinking. While we continue to focus on preventing vehicle accidents, remember to mentor subordinates and peers, on the aggressive use of risk management and the "Take-5" minutes for safety before engaging in recreational activities, at home, on the water, or wherever leisure activities may take them this fourth of July holiday weekend.
4. I encourage you to visit the Combat Readiness/Safety Center site and access the Safe Summer 2011 campaign. Clicking on the Safe Summer 2011 logo at <https://safety.army.mil> opens a virtual tool box full of summer safety related videos, articles, and posters that will help keep all Soldiers, Civilians, and their Families safe.
5. Your safety is vital to the continued defense of our Nation. I'm counting on each of you to avoid unnecessary risks and keep safe as you enjoy this patriotic holiday weekend.

Army Medicine: Bringing Value and Inspiring Trust!


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