



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL COMMAND
2748 WORTH ROAD
JBSA FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS 78234-8000**

**REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF**

MCSM

24 MAY 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR

**Commanders, MEDCOM Major Subordinate Command
Directors, OTSG/MEDCOM OneStaff**

SUBJECT: Memorial Day Holiday Safety

- 1. This Memorial Day we will gather at cemeteries, monuments, and parks all around our Nation. We will march in parades in cities big and small from Alaska to Florida and from Virginia to California. We do these things to remember the loyalty and bravery of our fallen in this noble calling – military service. While this day is typically dedicated to recalling the valor of men and women who died in combat, we must never forget those quiet professionals who answered the call to serve the people of the United States in peacetime as well.**
- 2. Though today may be a day away from work for many of us, Memorial Day does not only mark the beginning of the summer season. Memorial Day is a solemn day of remembrance – a day that should be properly set aside for contemplation. Ask yourself where you would be without the personal sacrifice made by our military men and women. I ask you to keep them in your thoughts.**
- 3. As you are planning your Memorial Day activities incorporate safety in all you do. Memorial Day weekend is the start of the summer season and “101 Critical Days of Summer.” Many of you and your Families will venture outdoors and engage in a wide variety of activities to enjoy the summertime weather. The arrival of summer brings with it many enjoyable activities and they often come with risk. I encourage you to enjoy the long weekends ahead, and ask that you think about safety in all that you do. Please remember to use the buddy system and watch out for one another.**
- 4. The US Army Combat Readiness Center Spring/Summer Safety campaign provides Soldiers, Civilian, and their Families with information they need to be safe this summer. This Memorial Day weekend, I challenge each of you to use risk management and safety tools to maintain safety awareness and minimize risk. This year’s campaign offers products and information on a wide variety of topics which include sports/recreation, driving, home safety and more to help keep you safe while enjoying the warmer weather. There is no better time than now to focus all our efforts**

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on safety, so take advantage of all the tools available at <https://safety.army.mil> to ensure your Soldiers stay out of harm's way.

5. My sincerest thanks to each and every one of you for what you do every day for the Army Family. Have a great holiday weekend. Army Safe is Army Strong.

Dignity and Respect!



NADIA Y. WEST
Lieutenant General, US Army
The Surgeon General and
Commanding General, USAMEDCOM