



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 32D ARMY AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE COMMAND
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AFVL-CG

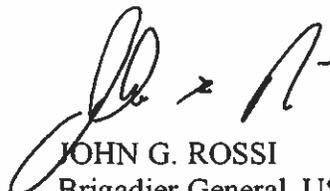
19 June 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Independence Day Holiday Risk Management

1. As we take the opportunity to celebrate Independence Day, I remind leaders to discuss with their Soldiers the common risks associated with this holiday – use of alcohol, travel, motorcycles, and fireworks. Don't lose the edge—remain vigilant to prevent becoming a victim to these hazards. Let's continue to work to meet our safety objective of *zero* preventable fatalities and *zero* accidents that result in permanent disability.
2. Do not allow alcohol consumption to be the primary focus of any gathering. Alcohol consumption impairs the ability to make good decisions and is the number one contributing factor to off duty accidents and incidents. If you are going to drink, do so in moderation and always have a battle buddy with you and your group who will remain sober.
3. Many Soldiers and Families will travel over this holiday. Leaders need to know and approve the plan and ensure vehicles are road worthy. Drivers need to be rested, alert and attentive. Driving while tired or distracted is as risky as driving drunk – don't do it! And ensure all passengers use their seat belts. You are four times more likely to die in an accident if you are not buckled in. And, as always, our motorcycle riders need to make smart decisions about riding. A rider's best PPE are the decisions he or she makes about wearing proper clothing and gear, being trained on the motorcycle, and always riding defensively.
4. Finally, be cautious when using fireworks and always supervise children who are handling them. While seemingly harmless to a child, sparklers will exceed temperatures above 1800 degrees Fahrenheit and can cause severe burns.
5. To all the Soldiers, Families and civilians of this command, thank you for everything you do. Enjoy this special holiday as we celebrate 236 years of independence.

SWIFT AND SURE!


JOHN G. ROSSI
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding

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