



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 32D ARMY AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE COMMAND
111 SLATER ROAD
FORT BLISS, TEXAS 79916

AFVL-CG

8 December 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Winter Holiday Safety Message

1. I join with CSM Ross in thanking every member of our team - Soldiers, civilian employees, and our Family members - for your devoted service, commitment, and sacrifice over this past year. We sincerely appreciate your efforts which enable this command to defend against those who would oppose us and the values we as a Nation hold dear. At this special time of year we pause to remember those who are deployed, guarding freedom in far away lands, as well as their family members and loved ones who anxiously await their return. We extend special holiday well wishes to you and we look forward to your safe return home.
2. As you celebrate this holiday season be ever mindful to do so in a safe manner. We know from past experience that privately owned vehicle accidents and alcohol related incidents are the most common risks during this season. When travelling, always insist that every passenger use seatbelts, don't drive when distracted or fatigued, limit driving during the hours of darkness, and have a contingency plan should the winter weather make the roadways unsafe. As you celebrate with friends and family, do so responsibly. Have a battle buddy. Do not make alcohol the focal point of your social activity. If your festivities include alcohol, do so in moderation, and have a plan for you and your guests that includes designated drivers.
3. Engaged leaders make a tremendous difference in the safe and responsible behavior of their Soldiers. It is vitally important that leaders take time to know their Soldiers' holiday plans, make leader checks, and reinforce the expectation of discipline both on and off duty. Every Soldier in the formation is important to their unit, this command, and the Army. Engaged leadership will help ensure that this holiday season is not marred by senseless tragedy.
4. Again, we thank you for all that you do. Our best wishes to you this holiday season, and for a safe and prosperous 2012.

SWIFT AND SURE!

JAMES N. ROSS
CSM, USA
Command Sergeant Major

JOHN G. ROSSI
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding

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