



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
US ARMY COMBINED ARMS CENTER AND FORT LEAVENWORTH  
415 SHERMAN AVENUE UNIT 1  
FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS 66027-2300

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

ATZL-S

16 SEP 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: FY11 Fall Safety Message and Risk Reduction Guidance

1. Reference FY11 Combined Arms Center and Fort Leavenworth Commanding General's Safety and Risk Reduction Guidance, 27 Sep 10.
2. Purpose. To provide fall safety guidance to all Combined Arms Center (CAC) and Fort Leavenworth organizations, leaders and personnel.
3. General. Summer has come to a close and we are transitioning into the fall season. Changes in weather conditions and shorter daylight hours will impact day-to-day operations and the training environment, challenging leaders at every level. Trying to accomplish the last items/activities before the inclement weather sets in can also place individuals in risky situations.
4. Take time to carefully plan your activities and remain mindful of the hazards that routinely accompany seasonal change. Recognize the special hazards associated with the change in weather and take the precautions necessary to protect yourself and your family. Good planning, leader involvement and effective communication can raise awareness of hazards associated with the change in season and promote safe, responsible behavior. Start early to raise awareness, the following can assist in this regard:
  - a. Preliminary Loss Reports (PLRs). PLRs provide a summary of the accident, trends, and corrective action to help prevent a recurrence of a similar accident and helps Soldiers and Civilians understand the impact of their decisions on and off duty.
  - b. Fall Prevention. Falls are a common place type accident which can cause serious personal injury and even death. At Fort Leavenworth, slips and falls are our leading type of accident. Since 2009 we have experienced 59 lost time accidents as a result of falls, which resulted in 103 total lost work days. Weather conditions were a contributing factor in only 11 of the 59 fall related injuries. Stay alert to your environment. Think about what could go wrong so you can prevent accidents and injuries.
  - c. Suicide Prevention. Across the Army suicides have decreased during 2011 (193) compared to 2010 (345). These numbers represent not only Soldiers but Army Civilians and Family members. Remain vigilant and identify at risk personnel. We must work

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together to prevent suicides and raise awareness. Take advantage of the accessible programs at the new Resiliency Center to promote and improve the well-being of members of our community.

d. Carbon Monoxide Poisoning. Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless and toxic gas that can cause sudden illness or death. The effects of CO exposure can vary from person to person depending on age, health, concentration and duration of exposure. Information regarding CO poisoning and steps to reduce exposure to carbon monoxide can be accessed at the following website:

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/pubs/466.html> .

e. Motor Vehicle Safety. Privately owned vehicles (POVs) continue as the leading cause of off duty accidental Soldier losses. The Army has experienced a rise in motorcycle fatalities during this fiscal year, 42 compared to 32 during FY10. Excessive speed, failure to wear seatbelts, alcohol consumption, overconfidence and indiscipline remain the leading contributing factors. Eighty percent of POV fatalities involved human error with more than sixty percent the result of speed-related crashes involving a single vehicle. Continue to stress to Soldiers and Civilians the impact of decisions made on and off duty.

f. Cold Weather Injury Prevention. It's not too early to start thinking about the prevention of cold weather injuries. When training, working outdoors, traveling, or enjoying fall and winter sports, take the appropriate measures to minimize the potential for cold weather injuries. Cold weather injury prevention information is available at the Public Health Command website: <http://phc.amedd.army.mil>.

g. Accident Reporting. TRADOC continues to experience under reporting of accidents when compared to MEDCOM injury treatment data. Ensure accidents are properly investigated and reported in a timely manner to the local safety office. Identify contributing factors and develop preventive measures to reduce recurrence of a similar accident.

5. Continue to promote the Combat Readiness/Army Safety Center's website: <https://safety.army.mil> to increase safety awareness and educate our Soldiers and Civilians.

6. Conclusion. Key elements to achieve safety goals are leadership involvement at all levels, risk management, personal responsibility and a positive attitude. Maintain situational awareness and implement appropriate countermeasures to eliminate or reduce hazards where appropriate.

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7. Stay Army Strong!

  
CHARLES A. FLYNN  
Brigadier General, U.S. Army  
Acting Commander

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