



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON DC 20310-0200

SEP 27 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Army Safety and Occupational Health Objectives for Fiscal Year 2012

1. Because of the hard work and dedication of commanders and leaders at all levels Army losses attributed to accidents have fallen steadily during the past six years. Accidental fatalities reached their peak in Fiscal Year 2005 (FY05), when 299 Soldiers died in accidents both on and off duty. As we now approach the end of FY11, that number has been cut nearly 44 percent to 168. This is a tremendous accomplishment and we must continue our commitment to prevent accidental fatalities and keep our greatest resource safe - our Soldiers!
2. Fatalities make up only a fraction of the loss of readiness attributed to accidents. Accidental injuries and damage to equipment contribute significantly to higher costs and personnel issues, making it more difficult for commanders to successfully complete their missions. Prevention of these costly accidents must be a priority as resources become more constrained. To develop prevention strategies, we must know what is happening in the field. In our FY12 Safety and Occupational Health Objectives, you will see a shift toward reporting and addressing the lesser accidents that have such a negative effect on our readiness. ReportIt, the Army's automated accident reporting tool, will be operational beginning this calendar year, and we encourage you to take full advantage of this new capability.
3. Operating a vehicle, whether on or off duty, remains the most dangerous activity our Soldiers perform. We cannot overemphasize the importance of leaders stressing the use of restraints as a priority to their Soldiers. Additionally, leaders must take advantage of new tools available to address driving accidents both on- and off-duty, including home station Mine Resistant Ambush Protected training vehicles and the remedial driver training program being added to the Army Traffic Safety Training Program in FY12.
4. As you develop organizational safety goals and objectives for FY12, we urge you to incorporate the enclosed Army objectives as part of your program. The Director of Army Safety and the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center stand ready to assist you. Army Safe is Army Strong!

Raymond T. Odierno
General, United States Army
Chief of Staff

John M. McHugh
Secretary of the Army

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FISCAL YEAR 2012 SAFETY AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH OBJECTIVES

Objective One: Progressive Motorcycle Training. At the start of Fiscal Year (FY) 2012, the Army Traffic Safety Training Program will include two new requirements: Progressive Motorcycle Training and Motorcycle Refresher Training.

a. **Progressive Motorcycle Training.** Leaders must identify all Soldiers who ride motorcycles and track their required training. All Soldiers must complete the Motorcycle Safety Foundation Basic Rider Course—regardless of the type of motorcycle ridden—before riding a motorcycle on- or off-post. Within 12 months of completing the Basic Rider Course, every Soldier who rides a motorcycle must complete either the Experienced Rider Course or Military Sport Bike Rider Course, depending on the primary type of motorcycle ridden. Commanders must ensure that all Soldier riders complete this advanced training within the prescribed timeline, beginning 1 October 2011.

b. **Motorcycle Refresher Training.** Commanders must ensure that all Soldiers who ride motorcycles and are deployed for more than 180 days complete Motorcycle Refresher Training before riding their motorcycle. Training may be provided through contract instructors or established locally by unit members. Course details are available at <https://safety.army.mil>.

Objective Two: Aviation Class A-C Accident Reduction. Army aviation accident rates are currently trending toward all-time lows. However, to sustain this downward trend, aviation leaders must look to reduce accidents involving human error, which continues to account for greater than 80 percent of all A-C accidents. Aviation leaders must adhere to the three-step mission approval process outlined in AR 95-1 (Flight Regulations). Initial mission approval, mission planning and briefing, and final mission approval are meant to lower or mitigate risk as the approval process moves from one step to the next. Aviation commanders must enforce the three-step process and deter any temptations to skip steps or reduce the inherent rigor involved.

Objective Three: Personal Injury Reduction. Sports-related activities are categorically one of the top injury-producing activities. Evaluate on-duty physical training and sports programs to ensure that correct techniques, use of personal protective equipment and risk mitigation are in place. Train leaders in the prevention of sports injuries and emphasize the importance of using the same techniques when engaging in off-duty activities.

Objective Four: Weapons Handling. Negligent discharges continue to be the primary concern for weapons-handling mishaps. Indiscipline and complacency are common causal factors in negligent discharge incidents, whether they occur on- or off-duty.

a. Leaders from the top down must continually reinforce basic weapons safety principles on duty to influence a transfer of positive habits to privately owned weapons.

Incorporate weapons safety awareness into your off-duty safety programs and ensure that leaders include this discussion during counseling. Awareness tools such as posters, videos and pamphlets are available at <https://safety.army.mil>.

b. Although weapons proficiency and safety is an inherent Army responsibility, many DoD or outside agencies are available to assist in providing training and information on the various types of privately owned weapons. Commanders should seek potential sources of privately owned weapons training in their local area and make sure the information is available to their Soldiers.

Objective Five: Accident Reporting. A review of sample data from medical sources, casualty reports, significant activity reports and malfunction accident incident reports indicates significant underreporting of Class C and D accidents. On average each year, 77 Class A/B accident reports are not turned in or remain incomplete. Reliable and timely data is critical to accurately identify trends and understand their magnitude. It also aids in the development and dissemination of prevention programs, tools and material fixes from Headquarters, Department of the Army to the local level.

a. Evaluate accident reporting procedures and make sure your processes include cross checks with other authoritative sources, such as those mentioned above, to sufficiently capture and report recordable accidents. Leaders should encourage safety managers to proactively coordinate with other staff agencies to ensure effective communication of accidents.

b. Complete and submit all outstanding reports for FYs 2009 and 2010. Reduce the number of overdue reports from FY 2011 by 75 percent, striving to complete and submit them all as soon as possible following the end of the fiscal year.

Objective Six: Conduct a Comprehensive Review of Organizational Civilian Accident History to Identify Trends and Associated Costs. Use Federal Employees Compensation Act working groups to determine effective prevention and return-to-work strategies, and redouble efforts to improve case management in order to return injured workers to employment. In addition, ensure that your programs maximize use of the DoD Pipeline and Voluntary Protection Programs.