



**National Safety Month
June 2016**

After nearly a decade of steady decline, on- and off-duty fatalities are on the rise across the Total Force. Soldiers and Army Civilians at every level must increase their awareness of safety issues and apply measures to minimize both on- and off-duty accidents.

Senior leadership put forth a call to action earlier this year and the number of accidents stabilized. This indicates that leadership efforts and those of Soldiers and Civilians taking care of their teammates at all levels must continue to combat preventable loss. We need everyone to redouble those efforts throughout the summer months—historically the most critical time of year when off-duty accidents occur.

The Army safety team provides safety and risk management expertise to preserve readiness through the prevention of accidents that result in loss of our vital resources—our Soldiers, Civilians, and Families.

During our annual observance of National Safety Month, use the Fiscal Year 2016 (FY16) Army Safety and Occupational Health Objectives to refocus and target your safety programs to known danger challenge areas, most notably motorcycle mishaps due to rider inexperience and indiscipline. Our long-term goal is to help eliminate preventable motorcycle accidents through the establishment of Army-wide Motorcycle Mentorship Programs (MMPs). This emphasis has proven invaluable in reducing motorcycle accidents and losses at participating installations. More information on MMPs, the remaining FY16 safety objectives, and a full multimedia campaign in support of National Safety Month are available online at the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center at <https://safety.army.mil>.

A key component to reduce loss to injuries and loss of life is to communicate relevant risk management information from leaders to our Soldiers, Civilians, and Families. We are confident that an engagement strategy, coupled with proactive and adaptive risk management measures, ensures safety and buttresses overall readiness for the Total Army Team.

Thank you for what you do every day in this complex environment to keep our Soldiers, Civilians, and Families safe.

Army Safe is Army Strong!

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Sergeant Major of the Army

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Acting Secretary of the Army