



STATE SAFETY OFFICE
HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK ARMY NATIONAL GUARD
330 OLD NISKAYUNA ROAD
LATHAM, NEW YORK 12110



SAFETY MESSAGE 18-09

A Successful Safety Program

The safety program within the New York Army National Guard is a successful one. This program is made up of the following components, each working together to create a safe working and training environment for our Soldiers:

- * Solid management commitment – Your leadership in the NYARNG is fully committed and supportive of safety in all facets of operations. MG Shields and COL Andonie are invested in the well-being of Soldiers and their families. Their commitment translates to leader support at all levels within the NYARNG.
- * Training – The NYARNG Safety Office provides comprehensive training to the full-time work force as well as support to M-Day Soldiers. The Motorcycle Safety Course is one example of a program managed through the Safety Office that all members of the NYARNG can participate in at no cost. First Aid, CPR, and AED training is also available.
- * A culture of safety – The military is constantly searching for ways to minimize dangers that Soldiers are exposed to. Military operations are inherently dangerous. Leaders realize that Soldiers are their most important asset and every step must be taken to keep them as safe as possible. The [Army's Combat Readiness Center](#) supports safety throughout Army operations worldwide. They provide resources to help units establish an effective safety program and then continue to maintain it. The CRC also tracks accidents and provides data to safety professionals to help them identify and avoid trends.
- * Enforcement of safety rules – Commanders are responsible for safety programs. They can delegate the authority to Additional Duty Safety Officers (ADSO), but they cannot delegate the responsibility. ADSO's establish, manage, and maintain safety programs within units. Commanders must strenuously enforce safety rules. Practicing effective Risk Management is one method of enforcement. Following established safety guidelines and setting the example is another method.

* Regular safety meetings – Safety managers and leaders at all levels are required to conduct Safety Meetings. These meetings are required by the regulations at certain organizational levels. Impromptu safety meetings can occur anytime a new task is going to be executed. Convoy safety briefings, range safety briefings, and motor pool safety briefings are examples of safety meetings that help to reinforce the culture of safety within our units and organization as a whole.

The safety training we receive during our military careers also helps us keep our families safe. We don't just think safety when preparing to convoy to Annual Training, we think safety when we are getting the car ready to take the family on vacation. We all need to take safety seriously and stop accidents before they happen. Vigilance is required to stay alert to potential hazards and not allow complacency to creep in and harm our Soldiers.

To find previously published Safety Messages go to our NYARNG Safety Website:

<http://dmna.ny.gov/safety/>

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Links to additional safety materials:

<https://safety.army.mil/MEDIA/SeasonalSafetyCampaigns/AllSeasons.aspx>