



NEW YORK ARMY NATIONAL GUARD SAFETY OFFICE **RISK MANAGEMENT MONTHLY**

**SEP
2025**

September is Drivers Training Safety Awareness Month!



Labor Day 2025

Labor Day, celebrated on the first Monday of each September, is the nation's official commemoration of its workers' contributions to national strength, prosperity, and well-being. For all you do to defend this country, protecting its well-being, thank you.

The long weekend also marks the unofficial end of summer. Unfortunately, summer activities also bring on certain hazards. Over the past five fiscal years (FY 2020-2024), the Army has experienced 76 off-duty mishaps during the Labor Day weekend period. Motor vehicle mishaps accounted for the largest proportion of these mishaps, nearly 40% of the total. Sports, recreation, and physical fitness activities were also a significant contributing factor, accounting for 37% of all incidents. Both bicycling and water-related sports and activities were the most frequent causes of mishaps, each occurring four times over the five-year period. Tragically, four Army fatalities were reported during these Labor Day weekends for this time period (two resulted from water-related sports and activities and two from hiking incidents). This data shows the continued risk associated with both vehicular travel and recreational activities during extended holiday periods and stresses the importance of risk mitigation strategies for Soldiers during off-duty time.

As we approach Labor Day weekend, now is the time to address the importance of risk management while off duty and work on strengthening the Army safety culture. Don't become a victim this Labor Day, and don't lose a friend or a Family member because you didn't properly think through your travel plans or use all appropriate safety devices, such as seat belts, life preservers, and personal protective equipment.

Visit <https://safety.army.mil> for tools to help you and your Soldiers manage risks while off-duty. The 2025 Off-Duty Safety Awareness Presentation is now available and includes ready-to-use safety briefs, including speaker notes, on topics such as private motor vehicles and water safety. Although the presentation and speaker notes can be used as is, you can also add or delete slides and modify the notes to suit your presentation style or to reflect what is happening in your unit. Safety Shorts, another tool available and accessible via the new Safety Brief Tools tab on the website, are one-slide briefings with quick video clips and safety tips for individual topics, such as motorcycle, open water, and grilling safety. They are accessible via a smartphone or tablet with no CAC required.

Thank you again for being part of this great Army. Have a happy and safe Labor Day.

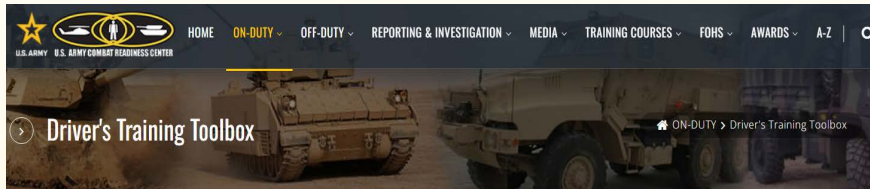
BE ALL YOU CAN BE - Readiness Through Safety!

J. Phelan

Jean Pierre Alcedo
Command Sergeant Major

JCB

Jonathan C. Byrom
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding



Driver's Training Toolbox

The U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center developed this toolbox to assist commanders, examiners and instructors in the management of driver training. The toolbox provides a central location for the materials necessary to establish and maintain an effective driver training program.

Please direct your questions, comments or suggestions to the Ground Division at usarmy.rucker.hqda-seccarmy.mbx.safe-helpdesk@army.mil or call (334) 255-1390, or DSN 558-1390.

Example Master Driver's Training

Introduction Phase I Phase II Phase III Phase IV Supporting Materials

[Download All Documents Below \(zip file\)](#)

Driver's Training Program Review

- Introduction
- Responsibilities
- Licensing Process

Driver's Training Program Preparation

- Driver Selection
- Instructor Guidance
- Instructor Requirements
- Planning Organizing and Developing DT Program

Most Requested

- ▶ Regulations
- ▶ DA Pams
- ▶ Army Technical Publications
- ▶ Training Circulars
- ▶ Miscellaneous
- ▶ On-Duty Motor Vehicle Mishaps Card
- ▶ Battle Drills for Driving Through Adverse Terrain and Weather

Other Resources

Tactical Vehicle Training Evaluation

- ▶ [Online Survey Results](#)

Sample Programs and SOPs

- ▶ General
- ▶ SOPs
- ▶ Example Master Driver's Training
- ▶ Tactical Driver's Training
- ▶ Emergency Vehicle Driver's Training

Graphics and Videos

- ▶ Videos
- ▶ Posters
- ▶ Graphic Training Aids



<https://safety.army.mil>



Safety Tools & Resources



*The New York Army
National Guard Safety
Webpage*



*The Army National Guard
Safety Website*



*Is your command compliant?
Initiate a Command Safety
Assessment*



*The United States Army
Combat Readiness Center
Website*



*The future of Safety
Reporting and Statistics
for the Army*



*Create & Manage your
deliberate risk management
worksheets online*

Proponent for this Monthly Newsletter is the NYARNG Safety Team

New York Army National Guard, ATTN: MNAV-OS, 330 Old Niskayuna Road, Latham, New York 12110-3514

3rd-Quarter TACTICAL VEHICLE SPIKE

The USACRC recently conducted a study of tactical motor vehicle mishaps that occurred from FY15 to FY20, which revealed a mishap spike during the third quarter of every year.

Tactical motor vehicle mishaps are the **No. 1 on-duty killer** of the Army's ground-based Soldiers.

Driving is the deadliest hazard most Soldiers will face daily, not high-risk operations like live-fire ranges.

At least 30 percent of Soldiers directly involved in third-quarter tactical vehicle mishaps during the study period were on duty more than 12 hours. Training could be pushed later on the clock during longer days, adding more strain to already fatigued Soldiers.

Adverse environmental conditions were cited in over half of all tactical vehicle mishaps during the study period's third quarters. Darkness, dust and other obscurants can greatly increase risk for even a simple convoy movement. Environmental factors are most commonly cited in collisions among multi-vehicle convoys.

While a significant increase in tactical motor vehicle mishaps was evident in the third quarters throughout the five-year study period, the months of May and June were particularly risky. Nearly one-third — 28 percent — of the Army's on-duty vehicle mishaps are occurring during these two months.

Leaders at every level must have the authority to correct unsafe behaviors and be knowledgeable in the practice of dynamic risk management, which is simply reassessing and mitigating risk as conditions change in the mission profile. Leaders must make risk management part of every real-time decision.

Inadequate driver training programs are cited in more than 80 percent of tactical vehicle mishaps investigated by the USACRC. The September 2019 update to AR 600-55, The Army Driver and Operator Standardization Program, sets clear standards for effective driver training programs and mandates a progressive training and licensing model executed by senior unit leaders.

The Joint Risk Assessment Tool, Driver's Training Toolbox, Army Readiness Assessment Program and Small Unit Leader Cards can help leaders tackle the third-quarter spike. All are available at <https://safety.army.mil>.



CHECK OUT THE USACRC ON SOCIAL MEDIA

<https://safety.army.mil>



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