



Winter Safety Campaign / Merry Christmas 2025

- Merry Christmas! Be safe and take the time to reflect and spend quality time with family and loved ones! Enjoy the winter weather - safety first!
- Remember that standards and discipline, as well as safety awareness applies 24/7, both on and off duty! Always have a backup plan, be ready for anything!
- Get your FREE flu shot and stay healthy during the holidays!
- <https://safety.army.mil/MEDIA/Seasonal-Safety-Campaigns/Fall-Winter-Safety-2025>



Holiday Season 2025

While the winter holiday season is filled with traditions, celebrations, and time spent with family and friends, it is also a very dangerous time of year for Soldiers off duty and presents unique risks that demand our attention. Historically, the Army loses about 10 Soldiers between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day. Too often, these tragedies stem from private motor vehicle accidents, with speeding, failure to wear seat belts, and alcohol use as leading factors.

This year, we can change that story. As the holiday season draws near, remember that safety is a mission we all share. As stated by the Secretary of the Army in a recently released message, *Just Pick Up During the Holidays*, "we're all in this together." Leaders, stay engaged with your Soldiers, understand their holiday plans, and reinforce the importance of making sound decisions — especially on the road. Soldiers, remain vigilant in every off-duty activity and continue to look out for your battle buddies. Whether at home or on the road, risk management must remain a priority.


The U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center has produced a variety of tools to help manage risk, including the 2025 Off-Duty Safety Awareness Presentation and Safety Shorts, both of which are ready made safety briefs that are perfect for preparing Soldiers for the hazards they could encounter during the holidays. Those products - as well as numerous other risk management tools, such as counseling checklists, small-unit leader cards, and downloadable safety briefings - can be found on the USARC website at <https://safety.army.mil>.

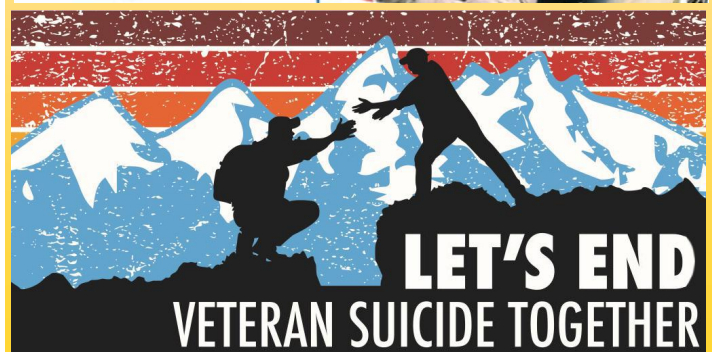
Reducing off-duty mishaps will always be a challenge, but with your engaged leadership and the disciplined use of risk management tools, I believe in our ability to rise to it. Every safe choice strengthens our formations, protects our battle buddies, and ensures we all return ready for the missions ahead. Together, we will succeed.

You have given your all throughout 2025, and now it's time to take well-earned rest. Enjoy this season with family and friends, and know that your dedication has made a lasting impact on our Army. Thank you for your service, your commitment, and for being part of this great team. We look forward to standing strong together again in 2026. Wishing you and your loved ones a joyful, safe, and memorable holiday season.

BE ALL YOU CAN BE - Readiness Through Safety!


Jean Pierre Alcedo
Command Sergeant Major


Jonathan C. Byrom
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding



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



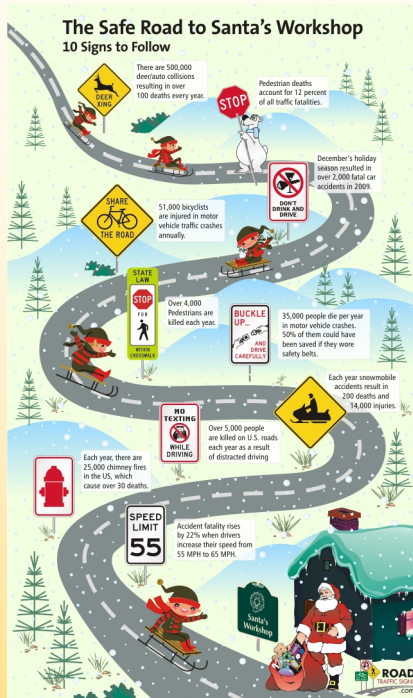
The future of Safety Reporting and Statistics for the Army



Create & Manage your deliberate risk management worksheets online

Proponent for this Monthly Newsletter is the NYARNG Safety Team

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