



Changing of the Season

It's already November and for some of us, we've experienced winter-like temperatures for a few weeks now.

As you and your Soldiers brave the elements to train and execute missions in frigid conditions, I ask that you keep cold weather injury prevention in mind. The following article is about safeguarding readiness during winter: <https://safety.army.mil/MEDIA/Knowledge/tabid/97/ArticleID/527/ArtMID/478/Preview.aspx>. In it, SMEs discuss how preventing cold weather injuries are everyone's responsibility, from commanders and leaders to individual Soldiers.

While some of you contend with cold weather, others enjoy year-round motorcycle riding. As an advocate for rider awareness, I certainly appreciate the mild fall/winter season here in south Alabama. Something I want you to relay to your motorcycle mentors and riders is the importance of learning how to ride with a passenger. This is not practiced in the Motorcycle Safety Foundation's Basic RiderCourse but it's a lifesaving skill I believe is vital for all riders. Here's a Knowledge Magazine article about how taking the time and practicing riding skills helped save a Soldier's life: <https://safety.army.mil/MEDIA/Knowledge/TabId/97/ArtMID/478/ArticleID/477/Motorcycle-training>.

This is Military Family Month and as such, we have an opportunity to thank those who are our greatest supporters. Consequently, it's important to understand that when a Soldier dies in a preventable accident, it has a detrimental effect on the morale and welfare of the unit. That loss, however, extends far beyond the Army. Many times the Soldier also leaves behind a heartbroken spouse, children and family members.

We'll also honor our veterans this month. As a nation, we must never forget the debt we owe all veterans for securing freedoms we enjoy today. This is a time to pay homage to our veterans for their service – whether they served on the battlefields of Europe, Asia, the Middle East, or any other area of military operations; whether they've served at home or overseas; or whether they've served proudly in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard.

BG Farnsworth and I are appreciative of your contributions to Army Safety. One loss is too many and through your engaged leadership, our force will remain postured and ready to defeat those who wish to do us harm.

Army Safe is Army Strong!

Terry D. Burton
Command Sergeant Major