



Preserving and protecting our Army's combat resources

## U.S. ARMY COMBAT READINESS CENTER

FROM THE COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR

### Readiness through Safety in 2017

Welcome back, I hope everyone had an enjoyable and well-deserved holiday break. It's a New Year and in typical Army fashion, we'll keep rolling along in 2017.

Since Oct. 1, five Soldiers have perished in pedestrian accidents. One Soldier was on duty and the others were off. In all of FY16, five Soldiers died in pedestrian accidents. This is an alarming trend, especially as we're only in second quarter, FY17.

Multiple challenges and new Safety and Occupational Health requirements require modernization of the Army Safety and Occupational Health (SOH) Program. Stakeholders from across the Army have collaboratively developed the framework for a modern Army Safety and Occupational Health Management System (ASOHMS).

The USACRC has initiated information technology (IT) capability modernization efforts through the Army Safety Risk Management Information System-Revised (ASMIS-R) program of record, which will evolve into the desired Army SOH Enterprise Information Management System (ASOHEIMS). The ASOHEIMS IT capability will not only enable ASOHMS, it will also help eliminate stovepipes and redundancy and minimize unit administrative burdens. Modernizing the SOH Program will enhance the ability of Commanders and Leaders at all echelons to preserve readiness through the prevention of accidental loss.

As we move closer to launching the Army Safety and Occupational Health Management System (ASOHMS), we will provide more details and guidance about this innovative initiative.

Regardless of grade, rank, or position, safety and loss prevention are everyone's business. The Army Safety Awards Program promotes and motivates success in accident prevention through risk management by recognizing individual and unit accomplishments in safety.

Recognition breeds a comprehensive competition and each Commander wants his or her organization to be the best. Preventing accidents and protecting resources through implementation of effective safety programs sets the stage for optimal success. Individuals and organizations succeeding in these goals should be recognized and rewarded for keeping their formations safe. To learn more about the Army Safety Awards program, visit <https://safety.army.mil/AWARDS.aspx>.

There's an old adage that there are no new accidents. With that said, why do we continue to lose Soldiers in preventable mishaps? What element is missing when we engage our Soldiers to impress upon them the importance of safety? Alternatively, what element is working as evident by the new record low for mishap fatalities in 2016? Send me your suggestions and best practices. Let's collaborate.

You've heard this before in 2016 but it bears mentioning again for 2017; I can be your conduit to Army Safety. My focus is to enable you to better educate and inform our Soldiers in an effort to reduce accidental losses and preserve readiness. I know we will continue to affect change, together.

BG Farnsworth and I wish you all a fruitful 2017 and we thank you for your commitment to your Soldiers and the U.S. Army.

Readiness through Safety

Terry D. Burton  
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