



16 - 034

POW Discharge Claims One Soldier's Life

A Soldier assigned to the 25th Infantry 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, Fort Wainwright, AK, died of a gunshot wound on 31 January 2016, at approximately 0200 local, in Fairbanks, AK. The 25-year old SGT was handling a personally owned hand gun while at a party, assuming the gun was not loaded, when he fired a live round to his head.

Leader Engagement Tips

- Discuss with your Soldiers the importance of not handling weapons when you are consuming alcohol; alcohol is a factor in the majority of fatal privately owned weapons mishaps.
- Tools for leaders to engage their Soldiers on privately owned weapons, please visit the USACRC link: <https://safety.army.mil/OFF-DUTY/PrivatelyOwnedWeapons.aspx>

This is the **4th** Class A Weapons Mishap fatality in FY16 compared to **0** for the same time frame in FY15. This PLR does not identify specific root causes of this incident as the investigation is ongoing. Further details will be available at a later date through RMIS (RMIS Login Required).

PLRs are intended to alert leaders to mishaps resulting in the loss of Soldiers/Civilians and to provide awareness in the interest of prevention and combat readiness.

Our Army depends on you to use these PLRs to help Soldiers understand the impact of decisions made on and off duty.

The [U.S. ARMY COMBAT READINESS CENTER](#) is interested in your comments; please [click here](#) to provide feedback on the Preliminary Loss Reports (PLR). [FAQs](#) and additional resources can be found on the USACRC website at <https://safety.army.mil>



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