



**20-036**



## Off-Duty POW Mishap Claims One Soldier's Life

A PV2 assigned to Fort Campbell, Kentucky, died in a privately owned weapons (POW) mishap 22 March 2020 in Clarksville, Tennessee, at 1711 local. A Private First Class was showing his newly purchased shotgun to two other Soldiers when one of them pushed the weapon away. A round was accidentally discharged, striking the PV2 in the head. Emergency medical services personnel transported the injured Soldier to a local medical center, where he was pronounced dead. Alcohol use is not a suspected causal factor. The mishap is under investigation.

Since FY16, the Army has lost an average of three Soldiers a year to POW mishaps. This tragedy was the third fatal off-duty POW mishap of FY20. Proper POW safety and handling is non-negotiable. Whether you're at the range, hunting, cleaning, transporting or showing your gun to friends, every weapon must be treated as if it is loaded.

*PLRs are intended to be used as an engagement tool for leaders to discuss the hazards and trends impacting Soldier safety and readiness. The PLR contains only basic information but provides sufficient background to allow leaders an opportunity to communicate risk at the Soldier level. More detailed information on this and other Army mishaps can be found on the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center website at <https://safety.army.mil/lessonslearned>.*

*To access current U.S. Army accident statistics and reports, visit <https://safety.army.mil/STATISTICS>.*

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Additional U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center PLR resources can be found on the USACRC website at <https://safety.army.mil/PLR>.

