



21-039



On-Duty Sports, Recreation, and Physical Training Mishap Claims One Soldier's Life

A Staff Sergeant assigned to the United States Army National Guard, Chattanooga, Tennessee, activated under Title 10 orders for training, died in an on-duty physical training mishap 10 March 2021 in Fort Bliss, Texas, at 2100 local. The Soldier was conducting physical training in the vicinity of the unit area, when he began vomiting and requested medical assistance. Later, while exiting the latrine, he fell, striking his head on a metal crossbeam. Unit medics and physician assistant administered role 1 care on scene until emergency medical services arrived. The Soldier died en route to the hospital.

Since FY16, the Army has lost an average of one Soldier a year to on-duty sports, recreation and physical training mishaps. This tragedy was the first fatal on-duty sports, recreation and physical training mishap of FY21 and above the number of fatalities from this time last year.

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>.

