



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY ALASKA
600 RICHARDSON DRIVE # 5000
FORT RICHARDSON, ALASKA 99505-5000



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

APVR-RDZ

12 NOV 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: U.S. Army Alaska Privately Owned Vehicle Accident Prevention Program
(CG/CofS Policy Statement #0-10)

1. I am deeply concerned about the safety of soldiers within U.S. Army Alaska. Safety is leadership business, and as leaders, we must do our best to protect our people. The importance of safety both on and off duty must be emphasized.
2. I know that leaders do not have total control of soldiers while off duty. However, I am convinced that leaders can prevent the loss of lives by being proactive in preventing accidents that result in serious injuries or fatalities.
3. Privately Owned Vehicle (POV) accidents continue to be the number one killer of soldiers. I expect every leader to implement the following initiatives:
 - a. Command Emphasis: Positive no-nonsense leadership at every level is imperative. Emphasis on POV safety must be unrelenting. Our junior officers and noncommissioned officers see their soldiers everyday. They should know their soldiers, know where they go, and what they do in order to assert positive influences on how, when, and where they operate their POVs. I believe caring leaders can influence soldiers to modify their risky behavior on and off duty.
 - b. Discipline: Junior leaders are up close and personal with their soldiers every day and know them well. Negative behavior (traffic offenses, alcohol or drug abuse, misconduct, underage drinking, substandard job performance, etc.) is often an indication of other underlying problems. These are signals that telegraph "at risk" soldiers, and can translate later into POV accidents. Leaders must counsel high risk soldiers and take actions to protect them and the public. Take soldier requests for help seriously.
 - c. Risk Management: Risk management is essential to soldier safety. Identify hazards, assess hazards, make decisions to control them, implement the controls, and supervise execution. The POV Risk Management Toolbox, developed for commanders available at your Post Safety Office and on the safety website at <http://safety.army.mil>, provides tools and countermeasures designed to help leaders prevent POV accidents. Many of these tools can be applied to protecting soldiers while participating in other off-duty activities.

APVR-RDZ

SUBJECT: U.S. Army Alaska Privately Owned Vehicle Accident Prevention Program

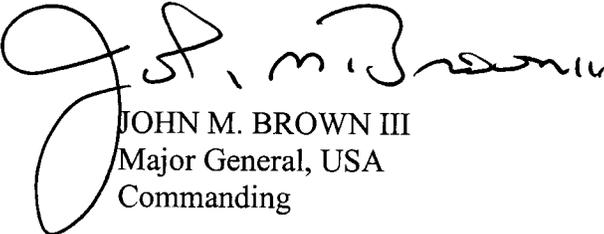
d. Standards: Set high standards. Educate and train soldiers on the use of seatbelts, risks of speed, fatigue, use of alcohol, and motorcycle safety equipment. Emphasize the use of a designated driver for social events and conduct POV safety inspections. Be uncompromising when enforcing these standards.

e. Provide Alternatives: Provide alternatives for soldiers to driving POVs. Schedule activities on post to keep soldiers off the road. Look for transportation alternatives and promote the use of alternative methods to POV use. Encourage soldiers to call a supervisor, a taxicab or to remain overnight in a hotel if they have been drinking alcohol.

f. Commander's Assessment: Following every fatal or serious injury POV accident, commanders will conduct an assessment of the accident with the involved soldier's chain of command. The focus is to determine what happened, why it happened, and how it could have been prevented. Countermeasures will be developed, implemented, and lessons learned will be publicized and briefed to every soldier in the unit.

4. I ask each of you to make a personal commitment to do your part to prevent tragic accidents. Every leader in USARAK is a safety officer, safety NCO or safety representative. As leaders, we set the standard and lead by example. If we permit our subordinates to engage in unacceptable behavior or perform unsafe acts, we lower our standards. Leaders have to be comfortable giving praise when appropriate and counseling when improvement is needed.

5. Safety and Risk Management is leadership business and I need your help to ensure that the tools available to us are utilized, i.e., POV Risk Management Tool Box, Leader's Guide, Motorcycle Safety Training, and Safety Awareness Days. Commanders must make certain every leader is aware of these available tools and insist on their use.



JOHN M. BROWN III
Major General, USA
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:

A