CASCOM 6 SENDS

16-04

December 17, 2015

Holiday & New Year Safety Message

1. The holiday season is upon us. There is increased potential for accidents during the holiday season. Take appropriate precautions to ensure celebrations do not turn into tragedies.

2. There are a few areas I wish to emphasize while traveling or on leave during this time:

a. Drive Defensively. Stay current on weather and road conditions before traveling and remember to use seatbelts and child restraints. Remain vigilant when traveling and remember to take scheduled rest stops and switch drivers.

b. Alcohol. There are inherent dangers and potential adverse actions that accompany excessive alcohol consumption. Drink responsibly and remain hydrated by drinking plenty of water. Respect yourself and those around you. We are all responsible for identifying high risk behavior and mitigating those risks with additional controls.

c. Buddy System. One of the most effective ways to prevent a tragedy is by watching out for each other. Senior leaders must provide positive guidance and counseling to their junior leadership and ensure that high at-risk soldiers who are exhibiting issues with personal problems or risky behavior receive the appropriate counseling and attention.

d. Fire Hazards. Overloaded electrical circuits, dried out Christmas trees and unsupervised space heaters pose a life ending or altering event. Do not overload outlets or "daisy-chain" surge protectors or extension bars. Ensure you follow manufacture guidance when using Christmas lights. Ensure you have a fire extinguisher and emergency services phone numbers nearby in case of a fire.

3. Enjoy your time with family and friends. Remember and embrace the holiday spirit and safety during this period. I look forward to seeing each of you back to work in the New Year.

Support Starts Here!

DARRELL K. WILLIAMS
Major General, U.S. Army
Commanding

Vigilance and Teamwork!