

Happy holidays to you and your families! While the holiday leave period, which runs from Thanksgiving through New Year's Day, is a time for traditions and celebrations, it's also a very dangerous time of year for Soldiers off duty. With the holiday season just around the corner and many Soldiers making plans for the holiday exodus, it is imperative that leaders talk to their Soldiers about risk management.

As always, visit <u>https://safety.army.mil</u> for tools to help you and your Soldiers manage risk, both on and off duty. The 2023 Off Duty Safety Awareness Presentation, a ready-made safety brief that's perfect for engaging Soldiers in dialogue on off-duty hazards, is available for download with speaker notes and addresses persistent hazards Soldiers face in their personal time. You may find it and many other risk management tools on our website, including counseling checklists, small-unit leader cards and downloadable safety briefings.

Reducing off-duty mishaps will always be challenging, but I'm convinced that through your effective and engaged leadership, coupled with the application of the provided risk management tools, we will succeed.

You have worked hard in 2023; enjoy some time off to refresh. Thank you again for being part of this great Army, and we look forward to seeing you back in 2024. Happy and safe holidays to you and yours!

BE ALL YOU CAN BE - Readiness Through Safety!

Jean Pierre Alcedo Command Sergeant Major

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