

FATALITY



AFZF-SAFE

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, III CORPS AND FORT HOOD
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OCT 24 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Privately Owned Vehicle (POV) Fatality

1. A recent POV rollover resulted in the loss of a III Corps Soldier. The accident occurred on the first day of our new Fiscal Year (FY). The SGT lost control of his vehicle while attempting to negotiate a curve, traveled off the roadway, and overturned. The Soldier sustained fatal injuries and his passenger received non-life threatening injuries. The specifics of this accident are still under investigation.

2. This incident is the first POV fatal accident of FY12. During FY11, III Corps experienced 16 accidental fatalities (6-POV; 7-Motorcycle; 2-POV/Pedestrian; and 1-Personal Injury (drowning). Automobile and motorcycle accidental fatalities remain challenging for commanders and leaders throughout the Army. Contributing factors continue to be excessive speed, aggressive driving, fatigue, alcohol, and cell phone usage. Additionally, failure to utilize protective equipment contributes to the severity of injuries. Leaders and Soldiers must be aware of potential road hazards and take actions to mitigate these risks.

3. Our first line of defense to prevent needless accidents is individual discipline. Junior leaders play a big role in this fight as well. Leaders must take positive action to enforce standards and guide Soldiers on the path of risk mitigation. Active dialogue between Soldiers and leaders can be a great deterrent to undisciplined decisions. First-line leaders must be engaged and empowered to make these corrective actions. Senior leaders must mentor first line supervisors to develop the skill sets necessary to guide Soldiers through the planning and execution process of their off-duty activities. Positive leadership involvement will make a difference.

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DONALD M. CAMPBELL, JR.
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding

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