



## Army Safety

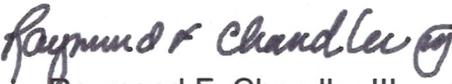
The safety and well-being of every Soldier is vital to keeping our Army the most decisive land force in the world. Since fiscal year 2005, our Army has continually reduced preventable accidents and losses: a feat unprecedented in our 236-year history during a time of war and absolutely critical to maintaining our readiness for the Nation. We commend each of you for your hard work and diligence in making safety a top-priority.

Moving forward into fiscal year 2012, our focus must remain on keeping our Soldiers safe on-duty, but our primary safety focus should be preventing losses off-duty. Our Leaders and Soldiers have done an amazing job in keeping one another safe on the job, especially given the demands placed on our force in garrison and in theater. Off duty, however, we continue to struggle with losses resulting from indiscipline and high risk behavior – particularly on our Nation's roadways and specifically accidents involving speed, failure to wear personal protective equipment or seat belts, and driving under the influence. In fiscal year 2011 alone, motorcycle fatalities increased 21 percent, and accidents in privately owned vehicles continue to claim far too many of our Soldiers lives every year.

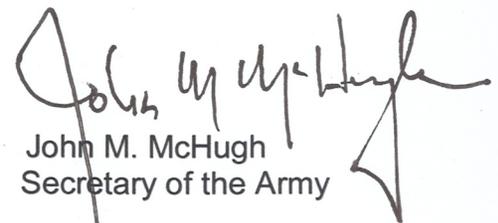
Army Leaders, at all levels, must get back to the basics of enforcing standards and reaffirming the principle that Soldiers have a duty and an obligation to stay safe 24/7, on and off duty. We must ensure the example we set is morally and ethically right – when Leaders fail to maintain the standard or lack discipline themselves, they set a climate of tolerance for risky behavior in their subordinates. This is unacceptable in today's Army. Our Soldiers deserve better from the Leaders they trust.

This year, we ask that you look inward – at your personal leadership and within your formations – to find areas you can improve upon for safety. Communicate your expectations clearly to your subordinates and uphold Army standards and discipline personally and consistently.

We are getting better as an Army, and by working together to do what we know is right, we will keep even more Soldiers safe in the year ahead. Thank you for striving every day to keep our Army safe. Together, we are The Strength of the Nation!

  
Raymond F. Chandler III  
Sergeant Major of the Army

  
Raymond T. Odierno  
General, United States Army  
Chief of Staff

  
John M. McHugh  
Secretary of the Army