



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY TRAINING AND DOCTRINE COMMAND  
950 JEFFERSON AVENUE  
FORT EUSTIS, VIRGINIA 23604-5700

ATCS-S

12 MAY 2014

**MEMORANDUM FOR TRADOC Leaders, Trainers, Soldiers, Civilians, and Family Members**

**SUBJECT: Memorial Day Holiday Safety Message**

1. Memorial Day commemorates those who died in service to our great Nation. It is our opportunity to reflect and remember the sacrifices they made while defending freedom and democracy.
2. Memorial Day also signifies the beginning of the summer season and represents a period of increased risk as people travel, celebrate, and participate in recreational and water activities. Accidental fatalities and serious injuries are often a result of poor judgment, excessive alcohol consumption, and the unsafe operation of motor vehicles, motorcycles, boats, or other recreational vehicles. Complacency and lack of discipline can result in deadly consequences.
3. Before the start of the long holiday weekend, I want all leaders to talk to every Soldier and Civilian employee about safety and accident prevention. Reinforce the use of risk management in off-duty activities. Privately owned vehicle accidents continue to be the leading cause of accidental fatalities for TRADOC and the Army. Stress the dangerous impacts of speeding, fatigue, distracted driving, and driving under the influence. Raise awareness of hazards associated with recreational water activities, and promote safe and responsible conduct. Identify those personnel who exhibit high-risk behavior and intervene as required.
4. I want your personal involvement – positive and engaged leadership at all levels will make a difference in our accident prevention efforts to ensure Soldiers, Civilians, and Family members have a safe and enjoyable Memorial Day weekend. Thank you for your service and all you do for our Army and our Nation.
5. Safety Starts Here! Victory Starts Here!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Perkins", written in a cursive style.

DAVID G. PERKINS  
General, U.S. Army  
Commanding