

State of New Jersey

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TAG POLICY LETTER 08-1*

27 February 2008

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S SAFETY PHILOSOPHY

- 1. The nature of our military profession is a hazardous one. We can make our environment even more dangerous by our actions or our failure to act. **Safety must be the leading aspect in everything we do both on and off duty.** I will not ask you to make safety your number one priority. I will ask you to make safety one of your core values. Priorities change all too frequently with the high ops tempo and the diversity of missions assigned, but our core values do not change!
- 2. Composite Risk Management is one of the most important tools we have; it has broad applications both in our military and civilian life. Dangers are everywhere. If we discipline ourselves to identify hazards, assess hazards, and establish control measures or stop unsafe acts, we can minimize our exposure to those risks. Through the Composite Risk Management process, we constantly look for ways to minimize risk, accept and carefully manage only the residual risk that cannot be eliminated.
- 3. Commitment to safety starts with individual commitment and discipline. Injuries to personnel and damage to equipment occur for many reasons. Complacency, excessive motivation, overconfidence, lack of training and disregard for established procedures are the greatest causes according to accident and collateral investigations. Concern for the well being of our soldiers and airmen will be exercised on every assigned task and mission.
- 4. Privately Owned Vehicle (POV) accidents have been the number one killer of Military personnel (Active, Reserve and National Guard) for far too long. Leader emphasis on POV, motorcycle and Military Motor Vehicle safety must be unrelenting. All leaders, Senior Officers to Non-Commissioned Officers must assert positive influence on our soldiers.
- 5. Safe operations occur through prevention, not through investigation. Continued vigilance will take care of you, your family, and your fellow soldiers. I want you to know my genuine concern for your safety and sincere determination to spare no effort in making your job a safe one.

(G3 Air/Safety)

GLENN K. RIETH'
Major General, NJARNG
The Adjutant General

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