



Safety Gram

Protecting Resources Through Better Risk Management

Safety Division's Monthly *Safety Gram* is provided to senior leaders to maintain awareness of mishap trends that directly affect the operational readiness of the Corps. This information should also be disseminated at every level of your command to assist high-risk Marines and Sailors in understanding the impact of the decisions they make every day both on and off-duty.

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May 2014: Mishap Summary

The Mishaps below occurred throughout the USMC from May 1 - 31, 2014, causing serious injury or death to Marines, and/or damage to equipment.

9 May 2014. An AV-8B was airborne, when the A/C had an engine malfunction and crashed in an unpopulated area. The pilot successfully ejected and does not have any apparent injuries. The aircraft was a total loss.

19 May 2014. During a training flight, a single MV-22B reported a crew chief missing from the aircraft while in flight. SNM was last seen in the aircraft minutes after take-off. His body was subsequently found and identified.

23 May 2014. SNM attempted to perform a back flip and landed on his head. SNM is being treated at a medical center, and is currently assessed as permanent total disability.

23 May 2014. SNM and civilian girlfriend rented a single engine aircraft and departed with a planned destination in another state. SNM was not heard from within a reasonable time of this activity. Attempted contact with aircraft and SNM's cell phone was unsuccessful, a search was initiated, and he and his companion were found deceased.

31 May 2014. A CH-53E, while returning to base, crashed on the runway. There were five crew, and 13 military and civilian passengers on board.

Be a Pal

CDR Leslie Kindling

Recently while waiting at an intersection, I saw a wonderfully decorated Arlington (VA) Transit bus reminding me to "Share our streets – Be a PAL" (Predictable, Alert and Lawful) when walking, biking, and driving. I thought a lot about this during the remainder of my commute and it came quickly to mind when asked to contribute to Safety Gram.

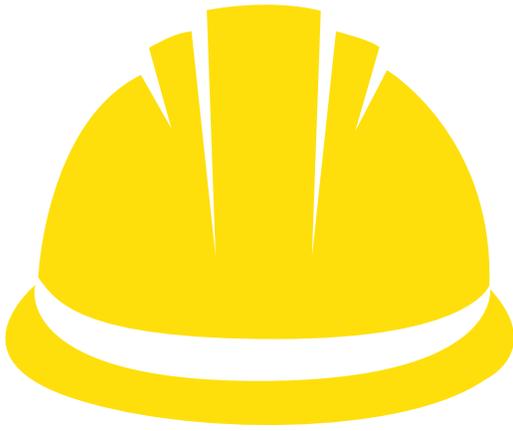
Predictable. Do I signal my intentions clearly? Am I where I am expected to be? The road and surrounding sidewalks are complex areas with lots of moving parts. Our brains have to process that information and direct our muscles to respond accordingly. The fact that there are so many moving parts requires our brain to make predictions of future movements based on current conditions and experience. When we follow the laws, it makes the predictions easier and more accurate.

Alert. Have I been paying attention to my surroundings? Staying alert helps me collect the correct information to make good predictions and it reduces the chances I will have to make a sudden, unexpected move which could interfere with the predictions of others.

Lawful. When we all follow the rules, the complex movements around the roads are easily predictable. We can expect cars to stop at stop signs and turn right from the right lane. By avoiding speeding, we allow the brain time to process the changing scene rather than rushing it to a potentially flawed conclusion.

By being predictable, alert and lawful we help everyone on the road reach their destination safely.





OSHA **in** ACTION

OSHA Launches Annual Summer Campaign to Prevent Heat-Related Illnesses

On 22 May, the Occupational Safety & Health Administration announced the launch of its annual Campaign to Prevent Heat Illness in Outdoor Workers. For the fourth consecutive year, OSHA's campaign aims to raise awareness and educate workers and employers about the serious hazards of working in hot weather by providing resources and guidance to address these hazards.

"Heat-related illnesses can be fatal, and employers are responsible for keeping workers safe," said U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez. "Employers can take a few easy steps to save lives, including scheduling frequent water breaks, providing shade, and allowing ample time to rest."

In 2012, there were 31 heat-related worker deaths and 4,120 heat-related worker illnesses. Heat illness disproportionately affects those who have not built up a tolerance to heat, and it is especially important for employers to allow new and temporary workers time to acclimate. Workers at particular risk include those in outdoor industries, such as agriculture, construction, landscaping, and transportation.

Visit OSHA's heat campaign Web page for free educational materials in English and Spanish, as well as a free heat application for mobile phones. More information can be found at <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/heatillness/index.html>.

Secretary of Labor Called for a Fall Protection Stand-Down

Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez launched an unprecedented partnership for safety: More than one million workers were anticipated to participate to prevent falls in construction

Secretary Perez and Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Dr. David Michaels served as champions for the National Fall Safety Stand-Down, which occurred 2-6 June, reaching more than a million workers and bringing together tens of thousands of businesses across the country. Falls are the leading cause of death in the construction industry. In 2012, 279 construction workers lost their lives in falls from heights and more than 8,800 construction workers were seriously injured by falls. Over the course of the Stand-Down, employers and workers voluntarily stopped work to talk about saving lives and preventing fatal falls, reaching more workers, businesses, and workplaces than ever before.

"This is an unprecedented effort with a record number of participants coming together for worker safety," said Secretary Perez. "The economy is on the rebound, housing starts are on the rise, and the summer construction season is getting underway. Now is the time to focus on this vital safety issue and make sure all construction workers get to come home at the end of every workday."

"Our message is 'safety pays and falls cost,'" said Dr. Michaels. "We emphasize planning ahead, providing the right equipment—such as

guard rails or safety harnesses, lines and anchors—and training all employees. Three simple steps can save lives."

During the week, OSHA partnered with the Associated General Contractors, the Associated Builders and Contractors, the National Association of Home Builders, the National Roofing Contractors Association, the Steel Erection Association, more than ten international unions including the Carpenters, the Laborers Union, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the Ironworkers Union, CPWR, community organizations, faith-based organizations, and universities nationwide.

The national Stand-Down is part of OSHA's third annual Fall Prevention Campaign, launched in partnership with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, National Occupational Research Agenda, CPWR, and the Center for Construction Research and Training. For more information on the national stand-down, read the press release and statements from Secretary Perez and Assistant Secretary Michaels (https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=25755), visit OSHA's National Safety Stand-Down page (<https://www.osha.gov/StopFallsStandDown/>), and consider utilizing the resources made available through the organization (<https://www.osha.gov/StopFallsStandDown/resources.html>).



Personal Firearms Safety

As a Marine, there is a high likelihood that you may handle a firearm numerous times over your career. In addition to this probability, many servicemen and women choose to own and operate personal firearms. Privately-owned guns may offer a false sense of safety, in the sense that they may be used recreationally, or that their presence in your home may promote an air of informality. Despite this misleading sensation, it is just as crucial that personal firearms are handled with the utmost safety – perhaps to a greater degree, when accounting for peripherals such as family.

While the vast majority of gun owners are entirely safe and responsible with their firearms, emphasizing safe practices is never a bad idea. Whether the weapon is used for recreational shooting, hunting, or personal protection, exercising caution and diligence is a must. The Naval Safety Center provides the following information to refresh you on the importance of personal firearm safety.

Basic Rules

Rule #1: Treat every weapon as if it were loaded. This rule will prevent unintentional injury to personnel or damage to property that could occur when handling or transferring possession of a weapon. Every firearm should be considered loaded until it has been examined and proven otherwise. Upon receipt of the weapon, the chamber should be checked to ensure it is not loaded.

Rule #2: Never point a weapon at anything you do not intend to shoot. This rule enforces the importance of maintaining awareness of the direction in which the muzzle is aimed and reinforces positive identification of the target.

Rule #3: Keep your finger straight and off the trigger until ready to fire. This rule also minimizes the risk of firing any weapon negligently and also reinforces positive identification of the target.

Rule #4: Keep the weapon on safe until you intend to fire. This rule enforces the use of the weapon's safety feature(s) and reinforces positive ID of the target.



Storage

Depending on your choice of firearms, or their quantity, different storage containers may be more suitable for your needs. Rifle/shotgun, pistol/revolver, and multipurpose safes are just a few of the options available to gun owners. In terms of safeguarding your personal firearms the following suggestions are highly recommended:

- Keep firearms out of reach of children, young adults, and persons with special needs. Persons with special needs are those individuals who need support to maintain an adequate level of independence, or are not self-sufficient with the loss of adequate support from caregivers.
- Persons with felony convictions are not allowed by law to be in possession of firearms.
- Keep firearms unloaded when not in use.
- Keep firearms and ammunition stored in separate, lockable locations.
- Properly store and secure firearms in one of the following: a locked storage cabinet/locker/safe, a gun rack with locks, or a portable carrying case with locks.
- Safeguard firearms upon removal from home and/or during transport.
- Always use a trigger lock when the firearm is not being used.

Training

For individuals who wish to privately own a firearm, training is certainly encouraged. A personal firearm safety training course is available on Navy Knowledge Online as E-Learning with the Catalogue Number/Course ID: CSF-PFS-010. The training is optional at this time, but it is highly recommended for firearm owners. Mandated training will be directed when the next revision to the Navy Recreation and Off-Duty Safety Program (OPNAVINST 5100.25B) instruction is finalized.

