

DEPARTMENTS OF THE ARMY AND THE AIR FORCE
LAND COMPONENT, JOINT FORCES HEADQUARTERS KANSAS
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NGKS-AAG

24 October 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Commander's Safety Philosophy

1. The Kansas Army National Guard is in the process of change, one of the largest transformations we will see in our careers. We are activating new units as well as shifting missions and personnel of others. Several units are transitioning to new equipment; others are moving to new locations across the state. These changes could cause significant upheaval in the safety posture and culture we have built within units over the years. The ability to adapt to change is just one of several strengths we have consistently shown. We must stay aggressively focused on the safety and well-being of our Soldiers and safeguarding state and unit resources.
2. The key to accident prevention is making everyone in the organization responsible and accountable for identifying and assessing hazards, developing and implementing controls and reducing risks. Commanders are directed to integrate Risk Management into each area of operations. Establishing a "Command Safety Culture" enhances our ability to create a proactive approach to safeguarding our most valuable asset, our Soldiers!
3. Safety is not a task; it is a condition of how we accomplish that task. All Soldiers are empowered to stop unsafe acts. Everyone must have an understanding of safe versus unsafe. If you see something that is not safe, stop it! It is the job of every Soldier to know their responsibility to perform or supervise every task undertaken in the safest possible manner.
4. The goal of the Kansas Army National Guard is a zero accident rate. We will help maintain the highest degree of mission readiness by conservation of human resources through professionalism, common sense and constant vigilance. We must remain our brother's keeper. Soldier care is a top priority for me, and I have reminded every commander that I expect it to be theirs also. We must make a conscious decision to be proactive about safety at every level and at every opportunity within our formations.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert E. Windham".

ROBERT E. WINDHAM
BG, KSARNG
Commanding

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