

SAFETY UPDATE

Fort Sam
Houston
Installation
Safety Office

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Change in the Air– Provost Marshal says farewell to Safety Office

LTC Goggins' ambition when he first arrived to Fort Sam Houston (FSH) was to build the safety program at FSH into the model for the Army. His first challenge – how to revamp the existing FSH safety program to achieve this goal? He began by establishing and defining systems and processes to give our safety programs definition and structure. This action directed his focus to the study and evaluation of the safety regulations in order to ascertain what a safety program entails. LTC Goggins con-



Military Police working at the Walters Entrance

cluded that the safety staff was already performing at a high level but needed just a boost of fresh energy to put it over the top. Also, the program needed publicity to ensure the rest of the command would know how strong a safety program FSH had.

Milestones during LTC Goggins' tenure as the Director of Public Safety were: Redesign the safety web page, Institute a system for accident reporting online, Achieve DOD recognition for the Ergonomics Program, (continued on page 2)

Pedestrian/POV Safety at FSH

Over 2,300 people cross Stanley Road alone on any given day– and that was before the gate closures! Along with the gate closures, there have been many changes to our driving patterns and a reduction in available

parking spaces. This has resulted in a tremendous increase in pedestrian traffic. The Safety Office continues to receive reports of individuals darting across the streets to get to where they are going or of near misses

where vehicles almost hit someone at crosswalks.

Have you had to park at the Roadrunner in order to walk to AMEDDC&S or MEDCOM because this was the closest parking lot available? (Continued page 3)

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Upcoming Training

- ? *Risk Management, 13 Nov 0800-1000*
- ? *Hazard Communication, 15 Nov 0830-1030*
- ? *Contracting Officer Representative (COR)/IMPAC Course, 28 Nov 0800-1600*
- ? *Incidental Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens (BBP), 4 Dec 0830-1030*
- ? *Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), 11 Dec 0830-1030*
- ? *Excavation Trenching & Shoring Safety, 18 Dec 0830-1030*

Classes are currently held at the Roadrunner, Building 2797. For dates and times check out our website at www.cs.amedd.army.mil/iso/ or call us at 221 – 9872.

Mr. Guadalupe Gomez,
Safety and Occupational
Health Manager

Change in the Air– Provost Marshal (continued...)

Develop a local Safety Video, Establish a Quarterly Awards Program, Develop a Safety Guide for Collateral Duty Safety Officers Initiate a Safety Update (newsletter), and Establish a computer based safety training (cbt) just to name a few.

LTC Goggins also provided a briefing for BG LaCoste on the FSH Safety Program accomplishments. The FSH Safety office receives numerous requests for training packages both on and off the web site, safety program reviews/visits from safety personnel from not only other Army installations but external safety organizations as well. The FSH Safety Office has received command recognition and shines for all clients, whether it is OSHA, internal management or FSH employees.

The Safety Award program and CDSO training has enabled FSH personnel to excel in their own organizational safety programs and in making these safety programs more visible at all levels. He credits much of these successes to Mr. Lupe Gomez, Safety Manager, for his outstanding leadership in coordinating the talents of not only his civil service staff but that of the A/P Resources, Inc. safety consult-

“ I feel proud to have served with such an outstanding Safety Office”
LTC Jessie J. Goggins, Provost Marshal / Director of Public Safety.

ants (contract support). LTC Goggins stated, “I feel proud to have serve with such an outstanding safety office”.

On the horizon, security and safety are paramount to his current responsibilities. He asks that FSH personnel understand that delays at the gate will happen. His personnel will not compromise security or safety by rushing through the gate entry checks. Controlled access is here to stay – steps had already been taken prior to Sep 11 in accomplishing this. However, personnel need to be aware that the level of security at the gates will be determined by DOD requirements and national security. Vehicle decals will be issued to a primary and an alternate vehicle. Additional vehicle registrations will be made based on special considerations. Personnel may contact Vehicle Registration at 221-2570 for additional information or questions. Visitor gates are the Walters and Binz

Engleman entrances.

Best advice – Plan Ahead. If you are using a rental car or need more than a day pass, please go to Vehicle Registration at building 367 to obtain a pass according to your stay. Vehicle registration for events like a conferences for example are being offered on site, again contact Vehicle Registration to coordinate details in advance. The 443rd Military Police Company and the 2nd of the 142nd Infantry have been mobilized to meet security requirements.

Safety issues of concern are: Vehicles speeding at the gates. Personnel are reminded that the speed limit is 10 mph. Be courteous to fellow drivers when merging in traffic at the gates. Above all else - *Watch Out For Pedestrians!* Pedestrian traffic has increased and with it the pedestrian and vehicle accidents. Getting to work a few minutes early is not worth the heartache of knowing you might hit someone. Worried about getting to work on time? Start your day earlier. If you have a safety concern or question please call the Safety Help line at 295-SAFE (7233).

FSH Accident Stats– From 13 Aug - 8 Nov 2001

Category	# Reports
Slips, Trips, Falls (Bumped into)	12
Strained Back/Arm/Groin Area	9
GOV (Rollover)/POV (Pedestrian) Accidents	8
Lacerations/Puncture	4
Ergonomic (CTD's)	3
Struck by	3
Dehydration	2
Fell through Roof (Broken Wrist)	1
Tore Achilles' Tendon	1
Lack of Safety Equipment in Vehicle (Near Miss)	1
TOTAL	44

Pedestrian/POV Safety at FSH (Continued from page 1)

People are opting to use a bicycle in order to avoid the long traffic lines at the gates as well. Driving to work earlier to avoid long lines has also resulted in more traffic in the early morning hours. All of these are contributing factors in recent safety concerns.

Within the last few weeks, Fort Sam Houston has experienced four pedestrian/POV accidents. All could have resulted in permanent to fatal injuries.

A vehicle struck a child riding his bicycle after darting into the street. We must continue to remind and instruct our children to look both ways before crossing the street. This includes when using bicycles, roller blades, scooters, or just running after a ball. Parents and soldiers are reminded that it is a requirement to wear a bike helmet at all times while on the installation. The fact that this child was not wearing a helmet signifies how lucky he was.



Slow down and watch out for each other!

A soldier riding his bike to work was also struck by a vehicle that failed to yield the right of way. Again, no serious injuries occurred. This bicyclist did have a helmet and a light attached to his bicycle. With more pedestrians and bicyclists on the streets, everyone must be more aware when driving at Fort Sam Houston.

An employee was struck when walking across Stanley Road. This person was fortunate not to suffer any permanent or fatal injuries. The vehicle that

struck this person swerved around another vehicle stopped at a crosswalk not realizing a pedestrian was crossing the street. Individual in the vehicle was detained and received three citations. Let's be reminded that patience is a virtue, but safety is a must! Following too closely or rushing to reach your destination can lead to disaster.

The fourth incident occurred just outside the gates at Grayson Street in front of building 44 where an individual was crossing the street and was struck by a vehicle. Caution to Pedestrians: Don't always assume that a car has seen you. Stop and be sure the car is going to stop or has actually stopped before attempting to cross a road.

Contact the building manager or call the Safety Office, 295-SAFE (7233), if you notice poor lighting or other safety hazard on your way to work. Again, with the increase of pedestrians and bicyclist let's be more aware when driving on post.

ATTENTION is the key to prevention.

HOLIDAY SAFETY—

Accident Prevention is the KEY

Why is trending important? Because it helps us identify problem areas. Using risk management we can explore proactive approaches to preventing future accidents. By addressing the two most frequently occurring type accidents at FSH alone (see accident stats on the opposite page of this publication) we can prevent almost half of all our injuries! Of course with the holidays fast approaching and as more people opt for driving rather than flying we need to be extra cautious - POV fatalities are still the Army's biggest concern. Through August of FY01, 92 soldiers have lost their lives in POV accidents. Everyone is reminded that we should be checking our vehicles routinely to ensure they are in good operating condition, especially on a long distance trip. *Safety is a personal responsibility, too.*

Slips, Trips, Falls: All supervisors at all levels need to brief their personnel on slips, trips and falls (Safety Topic 2 for Aug) - check your walkways to ensure they are safe, using the handrails when going up and down stairs, wearing the proper shoes for the job, housekeeping, etc. Give the Safety Office a call if you need the Topic information. The Safety Office has also recently obtained an excellent video on said subject.

Strained Back/Arm/Groin Area: The Safety Office in conjunction with BAMC offers a quarterly Back Injury Prevention Class for FSH personnel. Access our web-

site at www.cs.amedd.army.mil/iso for a current training calendar. Classes can also be provided per request. Supervisors need to perform job hazard analysis of those jobs that require frequent lifting and repetitive motions to identify if a need for material handling equipment is required. Know your limitations! Trying to do more than what you can do often results in a strain. Also, report any unsafe conditions - especially if your equipment is not working properly. The Safety Office personnel would rather address a safety concern than to have to investigate an accident. We are here to help and we wish everyone a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!



“The Safety Staff salutes LTC Goggins for his Leadership and Support!”

WHAT'S NEW

*A Safer Fort Sam Houston– locally produced **video** is now available for use (See your CSDO)*

For more information on Anthrax– access CHPPM's website: <http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil>

Coming Soon–

Safety Guide for Collateral Duty Safety Officers (In publication)

“How to Read and Interpret an MSDS”– part 2 of the HAZCOM cbt Series

Fort Sam Houston Quarterly Award Winners!



**Mr. Wayne Cusack, CDSO for PWBC,
Civilian of the Quarter Award Winner**

According to Mr. Eddie Rodriguez, his supervisor, “Wayne has not only addressed many safety issues that have been overlooked by others, but he stays with the issue until it is resolved”. Examples of some of these issues have been: Ensuring that the material safety data sheets (MSDSs) for chemicals used in the shops are readily available, properly disposing of excess/outdated chemicals, ensuring that personal protective equipment (PPE), e.g. face shields, are being properly used and stored, procuring proper tools and other safety equipment, and posting proper warning signs throughout the facility. As the Public Works Business Center Collateral Duty Safety Officer (CDSO), Wayne encourages personnel

to report unsafe conditions. He coordinates monthly safety meetings and ensures that safety information provided from the Installation Safety Office is passed on to personnel in his organization in a timely manner.

According to Wayne, safety has not only changed the way he works on a daily basis but it has also provided him an opportunity to help others. He believes he has an important role as the link between management and workers in resolving safety issues that arise.

Thank you, Wayne for your tenacious efforts and safety accomplishments. MSG Negron received his safety train-



**MSG Negron, Center Brigade Safety NCO
Soldier of the Quarter Award Winner**

ing at the US Army Safety Center and locally in the CDSO Course. MSG Negron is a member of the Commander's Safety Command Inspection Team as well. He has established excellent rapport with the 187th, 232nd, Academy Battalions and Echo Company for which he is responsible. Once appointed, he immediately went to work identifying and correcting hazards throughout center brigades buildings, grounds, and roadways. MSG Negron was instrumental in having pedestrian signs installed in the Troop Barrack's area which houses approximately 5,000 students. He has been instrumental in having extra lighting/ blinking lights installed and street pot-holes repaired. In addition, he had some major electrical and flooding problems corrected at Camp Bullis.

MSG Negron stated that “Since I became the Brigade Safety NCO, the way I look at things has changed. You pay more attention to details and make sure not to take any unnecessary chances. Safety is the way to protect the force and everyone needs to be involved.”

Thank you, MSG Negron for being a meticulous and conscientious safety officer.

Keep up the Good Work!