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MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
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SUBJECT: Be Ready for the "Critical Days of Summer"

Summer is a welcomed season of respite, renewal, and a busy travel time in the United States and around the world. It is also a time when we all must exercise extra caution. Last year the DoD lost 83 Service members to motor vehicle and sports and recreation accidents between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

Before we begin the "critical days of summer," military and civilian leaders across the Department must reinforce the importance of safety and the need for good judgment to their teams. Safety is about doing the right thing for the right reasons, from wearing seatbelts to making sure to never drink and then drive, to simply saying "no" to risky situations.

We all must redouble our efforts to promote safety and responsibility throughout the Department. We can and must do this together.

Thank you.

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