

SAFETY ALERT

USARC SAFETY SENDS

FATAL PRIVATE MOTOR VEHICLE MISHAP



On 16 June 2026 at approximately 1653 hours, a private motor vehicle mishap claimed the life of a 79th Theater Sustainment Command Soldier. The SM completed his duty day and traveling on the 210 freeway in San Bernardino County, CA when he collided with a tractor trailer. First responders declared the SM deceased at the scene from sustained injuries. The mishap is under investigation by the California Highway Patrol.

Soldier Tasks:

- Obey all traffic laws (posted speed limits, move over for flashing yellow lights)
- Always wear your seatbelt (driver and all passengers must buckle up)
- Scan the road ahead (look to the next hilltop, curve or intersection)
- Eliminate distractions (cell phones, electronic devices, eating, multi-tasking)
- Be Mentally Present in the vehicle (focus on driving the vehicle, helping navigate)
- Know the Warning signs of fatigue (nodding off, reacting slowly, lack of adequate rest)

Leader Tasks:

- Know your Soldiers and travel plans (evening, weekend, holidays)
- Take the time to brief your Soldiers on:
 - Driving defensively – using good risk management
 - Distracted driving – eliminating hazards in the vehicle while driving
 - Obey posted speed limits – The Law!
 - Wearing seatbelts – Arrive Alive!
 - Fatigued driving – getting adequate rest
 - Local traffic hazards – awareness of high hazard areas

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