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SUBJ/101 CRITICAL DAYS OF SUMMER SAFETY MESSAGE//

RMKS/1. The Navy and Marine Corps are committed to a Culture of Safety year-round, but we place extra emphasis on safety during high-risk timeframes such as the 101 Critical Days of Summer, which runs from the beginning of Memorial Day weekend through the end of Labor Day weekend (24 May - 2 September). Historically, we lose more Sailors and Marines during this time of year than any other period. Over the 2023 101 Critical Days of Summer, we lost 27 Sailors and Marines in off-duty private auto and motorcycle mishaps.

2. As the weather gets warmer, and the days grow longer, we will likely spend more time swimming, boating, riding motorcycles, and celebrating the season with fireworks and barbecues with family and friends. We often take part in these potentially dangerous activities without stopping to think how to mitigate their risks, ultimately increasing the likelihood of injury or death.

3. We urge commanders, supervisors, and all Navy and Marine Corps personnel to take care of themselves, their families, and continue to look out for each other, both physically and mentally. It should be our personal charge to ensure we are ready to win today, prepare for tomorrow, and sustain our warfighting readiness.

4. Our operational tempo remains high, as do the related stressors. It is important to take the time this summer to enjoy family and friends, engage in your favorite activities and recharge your batteries - wisely and safely. Assess and manage the risks in all you do and apply risk management principles and self-discipline. We encourage all commanders, Sailors, and Marines to leverage the resources available via the Naval Safety Command website at: <https://navalsafetycommand.navy.mil/>.

5. Thank you and your families for your service to our naval team and our Nation. We are proud to serve alongside all of you.

6. Released by the Honorable Carlos Del Toro, Secretary of the Navy, General Eric Smith, Commandant of the Marine Corps, and Admiral Lisa Franchetti, Chief of Naval Operations.

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