



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY INFANTRY CENTER
FORT BENNING, GEORGIA 31905-5000

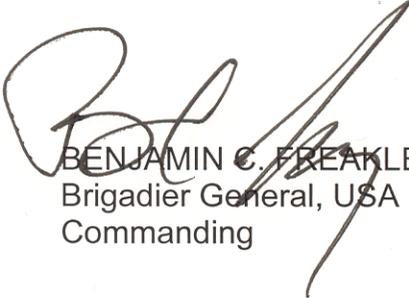
ATZB-PAD (600)

12 JAN 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Fort Benning Suicide Prevention Policy

1. Suicide in the unit is devastating. Preventing suicide is a challenge for every leader, commander, Soldier, and Army civilian.
2. Sometimes life's circumstances, substance abuse, financial problems, troubled relationships and depression may be warning signs that a person may be overwhelmed. Our goal will be to help every individual recognize the warning signs in both themselves and others. It is not a sign of weakness to get help. Leaders will motivate our troops and civilians to seek mental health, substance abuse or family counseling.
3. All training venues will be used to disseminate suicide prevention information. Suicide prevention training will be a primary topic for Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development, sergeants' time, scheduled unit training and unit cohesion training. Leaders will actively promote Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST), which focuses on both suicide prevention and intervention. Leaders will actively promote Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST), which focuses on both suicide prevention and intervention. The minimum requirements for units with trainees (ITB/BCTB/30th AG) is **100 percent of UMT's, 50 percent of drill sergeants and ten percent of cadre** or command personnel. **For all other units, one ASIST trained personnel is required.** In addition, attendance is encouraged for all first line supervisors. Senior leadership will ensure the registration of privately owned weapons. Furthermore, suicide prevention campaigns such as National Depression Screening Day serve as methods for providing information and assistance to our Soldiers and civilians.
4. Become personally involved in our efforts to prevent suicide.
5. POC: Ms. Yvonne Wilbanks, Chief, Army Substance Abuse Program, Suicide Prevention Manager, Wilbanksy@benning.army.mil, 545-4415/1138.


BENJAMIN C. FREAKLEY
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding

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Admin List