

**STATE OF OHIO
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT
2825 West Dublin Granville Road
Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789**

NGOH-TAG

31 August 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Ohio National Guard Traffic Safety Policy (Policy #12-006)

1. Our safety goal is zero fatalities. To reduce the risk of death or injury from accidents and enhance readiness, the following policies will apply to the operation of vehicles on all properties owned or operated by the Ohio National Guard. The policies also apply to use of Government-Owned Vehicles (GOVs) and Government-Owned communications devices by employees of the United States as defined at 28 USC 2671. These safety guidelines are published under Section 5913.10, Ohio Revised Code.
2. All employees operating Privately Owned Vehicles (POVs), to include motorcycles, on all Ohio Army and Air National Guard installations shall comply with all traffic rules imposed by state or local traffic laws, including the prohibition on wearing earphones/earplugs at Section 4511.84, Revised Code. Motorcyclists will wear helmets and other personal protective equipment as required by applicable Army and Air Force regulations and instructions and to Technician Personnel Regulations (TPR) 930.1. As an example, seat belts will be worn while operating a motor vehicle or while occupying the front seat of a vehicle. Commanders may cooperate with local law enforcement agencies to enhance awareness and compliance with traffic requirements, including participation in Alcohol Safety Action Projects; but unless authorized by me, will not impose additional traffic rules on the use of POVs, including motorcycles, extending beyond the rules imposed herein or by state or other traffic laws.
3. All employees operating GOVs on all Ohio Army and Air National Guard installations shall comply with all state and local traffic laws. Additionally, employees operating GOVs are prohibited from smoking or using hand-held wireless phones while operating a DoD motor vehicle (DoD 4500.36-R, *Management, Acquisition, and Use of Motor Vehicles*, March 16, 2007). Nor may employees text while driving any vehicle in Ohio; or text at any time while driving from a government blackberry; or text at any time about government business while driving per Executive Order No. 13513, *Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging While Driving* (October 1, 2009) and Section 4511.204, Revised Code (effective today).
4. This policy is punitive. Violators subject to the Ohio Code of Military Justice may be punished under that code as well as administratively. Violators subject to TPR may be

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disciplined under those regulations. This policy, to the extent it imposes requirements exceeding State law, also affects State employees but has no effect upon visitors to Ohio National Guard facilities.

5. National Guard security personnel will make no attempt to detain any individual unless that individual is so impaired that continued operation of a motor vehicle would pose substantial risk of serious harm to themselves or others. In this limited circumstance, the individual may be detained temporarily only and must be turned over to state or local law enforcement as quickly as possible.



DEBORAH A. ASHENHURST
Major General
The Adjutant General

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