



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF SAFETY
WASHINGTON, DC 20330



15 May 2026

MEMORANDUM FOR DEPARTMENT OF AIR FORCE PERSONNEL

FROM: AF/SE
1400 Air Force Pentagon
Washington DC 20330-1400

SUBJECT: Stay Safe, Vigilant, and Ready: 101 Critical Days of Summer Safety Message

1. This summer, as we celebrate the 250th anniversary of our great Nation, we must remain alert of the risks associated with on and off duty activities. Employing risk management and sound decision making are critical steps in reducing the potential for injury to you, your family, and our teammates
2. Historically, the period between Memorial Day and Labor Day, known as the "101 Critical Days of Summer," brings a rise in preventable accidents. Tragically, last summer we lost 16 teammates to preventable mishaps, primarily motor vehicle accidents influenced by reckless driving, alcohol consumption, speeding, and fatigue. These losses underscore the importance of individual responsibility and directly impact our units, our families, and mission readiness.
3. Air and Space power secure our way of life, and that future depends on you. Commanders and supervisors play a crucial role in cultivating a risk-informed environment. Through regular touch points, emphasizing risk management practices, and fostering a culture that prioritizes well-being and resilience, leaders ensure our force remains ready to answer our Nations call.
4. Be a good wingman! Look out for each other, embrace responsible choices, and cultivate a risk-aware culture. You and your family are our most precious resources, we want everyone to enjoy a safe and memorable summer. I want to thank you for what you do and the commitment you make every day to our Nation and the Department of the Air Force.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Otis C. Jones".

OTIS C. JONES
Brigadier General, USAF
Chief of Safety