



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS, NATIONAL TRAINING CENTER AND FORT IRWIN  
FORT IRWIN, CALIFORNIA 92310

PLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

AFZJ-CG

MAY 31 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: NTC Policy Letter 17, Protective Equipment

1. PURPOSE: To establish requirements for Personal Protective Equipment during activities such as bicycling, skate boarding, roller skating, in line skating, scooters, motorcycles, dirt bikes, all terrain vehicles (ATV), Privately Owned Vehicles (POV) and other similar activities. This policy is designed to promote the general welfare, morale and safety of personnel on the installation while engaged in such activities. I expect all leaders to implement this safety policy.

2. APPLICABILITY: This policy applies to all military personnel, at any time, on or off a Department of Defense (DOD) installation and all individuals who are on the National Training Center and Fort Irwin.

3. REFERENCES:

- a. NTC Regulation 190-5, Motor Vehicle Traffic and Vehicle Registration, 1 June 2002
- b. California Vehicle Code section 21212(a)
- c. California Vehicle Code section 27360
- d. Army Regulation 385-10, The Army Safety Program, Rapid Action Revision (RAR), 4 October 2011
- e. Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 6055.4, Traffic Safety Program Incorporating Change 2, January 23, 2013

4. POLICY: NTC Regulation 190-5, paragraph 2-5 and the California Vehicle Code provide specific instructions for safety helmet use.

a. Restraint systems/Seatbelts: Restraint systems (seat belts) will be worn by all operators and passengers of U.S. Government vehicles on or off the installation. Restraint systems will be worn by all civilian personnel (family members, guests, and visitors) driving or riding in a POV on the installation. Restraint systems will be worn by all military Service members and Reserve Component members on active Federal Service driving or riding in a POV whether on or off the installation.

b. Under California law, children younger than eight years of age or who are less than 4 feet 9 inches tall must be properly secured in appropriate child passenger restraint system (car seat or booster seat) meeting applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards.

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c. Personnel that participate in skate boarding, roller skating, in line skating\rollerblading, scooter riding and/or other similar activities are required to wear proper protective gear including Department of Transportation (DOT) approved helmet, elbow, and kneepads. It is highly recommended to use full fingered gloves and/or wrist guards/pads and athletic footwear (no open toed shoes i.e. flip flops/sandals).

d. Personnel that participate in bicycle riding are required to wear a DOT helmet properly fastened under the chin. A white head light, red tail light and reflectors are required for bicycles that are ridden in hours of darkness. It is highly recommended that retro-reflective garments be worn in hours of darkness.

e. Personnel that operate motorcycles, dirt bikes and/or all terrain vehicles (ATV) shall wear:

(1) A helmet that meets or exceeds the federal DOT Motor Vehicle Safety Standard and is properly fastened under the chin

(2) Eye protection the meets or exceeds the American National Standard Institution (ANSI) Z87.1 standards e.g. goggles, wraparound glasses or a full face shield that is properly attached to the helmet

(3) Proper foot wear which includes sturdy over-the-ankle footwear that affords protection for the feet and ankles (durable leather or ballistic-type cloth athletic boots/shoes that cover the ankles may be worn)

(4). Protective clothing e.g. a long sleeve shirt or riding jacket and full length pants, full fingered gloves or mittens made from leather or other abrasive-resistant material. Motorcycle jackets and pants constructed of abrasion-resistant materials such as leather, Kevlar®, or Cordura® and containing impact-absorbing padding are strongly encouraged. Riders are also encouraged to select PPE that incorporates fluorescent colors and retro-reflective material

(5) Dirt Bike and ATV riders are encouraged to wear elbow and knee pads, shin guards, neck and chest protectors

## 5. LEADER RESPONSIBILITIES:

a. Commanders at all levels are responsible for the complete implementation of this policy and will ensure all Soldiers in their command are in compliance. Units are to include this policy in their unit safety program and promptly display it on unit safety boards.

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6. SUPERSESSION: This Policy Letter supersedes all previous NTC Policy Letters subject as above.
7. The proponent for this letter is the Garrison Safety Office at 380-1347.



THEODORE D. MARTIN  
Brigadier General, USA  
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION: A