

## Fort Devens PLR Updates January 2013

Preliminary Loss Reports (**PLR**) are For Official Use Only and are to provide leaders with awareness of Army loss as we experience it and to point out potential trends that affect our combat readiness.

### **PLR 13023**

#### **PEDESTRIAN MISHAP CLAIMS ONE SOLDIER'S LIFE**

An 82nd Sustainment Brigade, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, Soldier died from injuries sustained in a pedestrian mishap that occurred on 8 December 2012 at approximately 0300 local on Fort Bragg. The 20-year-old PVT was struck at an intersection by a passing vehicle. The civilian operator of the POV was later stopped at a sobriety checkpoint and apprehended for DUI. Officers observed damage to the vehicle which led them to determine the driver was involved in the hit-and-run. The Soldier was transported to a local medical center where he was pronounced deceased.

### **PLR 13024**

#### **POV CRASH CLAIMS ONE SOLDIER'S LIFE**

An 82nd Sustainment Brigade, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, Soldier died on 9 December 2012 at approximately 0030 local from injuries sustained in a single vehicle crash in Fayetteville. The 29-year-old SGT was operating his POV with a female passenger when he lost control of the vehicle; left the roadway, and struck a tree. He was not wearing his seatbelt and died on impact. His passenger was wearing her seatbelt and sustained injuries for which she was hospitalized.

### **PLR 13025**

#### **PARACHUTING MISHAP CLAIMS ONE SOLDIER'S LIFE**

A Headquarters, United States Army Special Forces Command (Airborne), Fort Bragg, North Carolina, SFC died on 13 December 2012 at approximately 1000 local from injuries sustained during a military free fall parachute training mishap in Eloy, Arizona. The 33-year-old jumpmaster was participating in US Army free-fall sustainment training when the mishap occurred.

### **PLR 13026**

#### **POV CRASH CLAIMS ONE SOLDIER'S LIFE**

A 3rd Cavalry Regiment, Fort Hood, Texas, Soldier on leave died on 19 December 2012 at approximately 0230 local from injuries sustained in a single vehicle crash in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The 24-year-old SPC was operating his POV on an interstate highway when he lost control of the vehicle; it left the roadway, and overturned. He was not wearing his seatbelt and was ejected. Emergency responders arrived and could not revive him. He was pronounced deceased at the scene of the crash.

### **PLR 13027**

#### **POV CRASH CLAIMS ONE SOLDIER'S LIFE**

A 59th Ordnance Brigade, Fort Lee, Virginia, US Army officer on leave died on 21 December 2012 at approximately 0600 local from injuries sustained in a vehicle crash in Shreveport, Louisiana. The 30-year-old 1LT was a passenger in his Dodge pickup when the driver, a personal friend, collided with a tractor trailer that had stalled on the shoulder, partially blocking the right lane. The officer was not wearing his seatbelt.

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## **PLR 13028**

### **POV CRASH CLAIMS ONE SOLDIER'S LIFE**

A North Carolina Army National Guard Soldier on leave died on 21 December 2012 at approximately 0830 local from injuries sustained in a single vehicle crash in Fayetteville. The 20-year-old PFC was operating his 2008 Lincoln when he crossed the center line of the highway and struck an oncoming tractor trailer head on. He was pronounced deceased at the scene of the crash. Seatbelt use was not reported.

## **PLR 13029**

### **POV CRASH CLAIMS ONE SOLDIER'S LIFE**

A 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kansas, Soldier on leave died 27 December 2012 at approximately 0230 local from injuries sustained in a single vehicle crash in Wichita. The 21-year-old SPC was operating a POV with a passenger (a Marine also on leave) when his vehicle exited the roadway, became airborne and struck a utility pole. The Marine was ejected from the vehicle while the Soldier was not. Both were pronounced dead at the scene and local authorities believe alcohol and speed were contributing factors in the crash.

## **PLR 13030**

### **POV CRASH CLAIMS ONE SOLDIER'S LIFE**

A 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, Kentucky, Soldier on leave died on 1 January 2013 at approximately 0400 local from injuries sustained in a single vehicle crash on Interstate 24 near Clarksville, Tennessee. The 23-year-old SPC was a passenger in a privately-owned vehicle that was traveling at a high rate of speed when the driver lost control. The car left the roadway and struck a tree. Toxicology has not been completed but both were wearing wrist bands, used by businesses that serve alcohol, to identify them as being of drinking age. Seatbelt use has not been reported. Both occupants of the vehicle were killed.

### **Leader Engagement Tip**

**\*\*PRELIMINARY LOSS REPORT 13029\*\***

- Alcohol and Speed go hand in hand with tragedy. According to the linked news article, the Marine was getting married and his fiancée was getting ready to have a baby boy.
- Tragedy doesn't just befall those that are killed but also affects many others like; friends, relatives, and other family members.
- Communicating these concerns with Soldiers prior to or during off-duty activities is but a first step to mentoring them into making better decisions.

**\*\*PRELIMINARY LOSS REPORT 13030\*\***

- \* Of the five fatal accidents involving Soldiers over the recent holiday period:
  - o Three were not wearing seatbelts
  - o Three were passengers in others' vehicles where alcohol may have been involved
  - o Four occurred between 0230 and 0600

*These PLR's does not identify specific root causes of these incidents as the investigations are ongoing. Our Army depends on you to use these PLRs to help Soldiers understand the impact of decisions made on and off duty.*