



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION AND FORT CARSON
6105 WETZEL AVENUE, BLDG 1435
FORT CARSON, COLORADO 80913

AFYB-CG

OCT 07 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Policy Letter #15 – Suicide Prevention

1. References.

- a. Army Regulation 600-63, Army Health Promotion, 14 April 2015.
- b. AR 600-92, Army Suicide Prevention Program, 4 October 2024.
- c. Senior Commander's Guide to Suicide Prevention, Army Resilience Directorate, November 2021.

2. Purpose. To define and publish policies and procedures for Suicide Prevention actions to take a leader-centric approach to preventing suicides across our formation and creating a healthy, positive environment that discourages harmful behaviors and reduce suicide risk.

3. Background. Suicides among Soldiers continue to rise and pose a clear threat to the cohesiveness and mission readiness of our units. Suicide is the result of complex and integrated factors and there is not a single "fix." Effective suicide prevention efforts (education, outreach, crisis intervention, training, and policy) are dependent upon the existence of a command culture that fosters trust, caring, and engaged leaders focused on prevention and early intervention (non-clinical or clinical counseling) as opposed to crisis management alone.

4. Policy. Fort Carson will prioritize four lines of effort: (1) Soldier Readiness, (2) develop engaged leaders capable of building trust and cohesion, (3) improve suicide response and analysis, (4) evaluate effectiveness of programs, initiatives, and training to enhance unity of effort.

- a. Commanders and health professionals have the authority to inquire about privately owned weapons if they have reasonable grounds to believe that a Soldier is at risk of suicide or harm to others. AR 600-92, para 2-7b(3). As Commanders promote firearms safety and education, it is important to ensure that leaders at the lowest level are well-versed in the Public Law 111-383, Section 1062, and the rules found in AR 600-92, para 2-7b(3). This law and its implementing regulation prohibit the Department of Defense from issuing any requirement or collecting or recording any information relating to the otherwise lawful acquisition, possession, ownership, carrying, or other use of

privately owned firearm, ammunition, or another weapon by a member of the U.S. Armed Forces not kept on a military installation. Proper storage of firearms and ammunition play a significant role in reducing the risk of suicide, as at-risk individuals are separated from easy access to lethal means.

b. Soldier Readiness. Soldier readiness includes building coping/life skills and protective factors and mitigate contributing factors; conducting enhanced resilience training; incorporating spiritual readiness; developing healthy relationship skills; and incorporating financial readiness into regular training.

c. Develop engaged leaders capable of building trust and cohesion.

(1) Leaders teach, train, and mentor prevention through formal leader certification, such as Ask, Care, and Escort (ACE) Base +1, ACE-Suicide Intervention (SI), and Engage training.

(2) First-line leaders and Soldiers are educated on suicide-related risk factors and warning signs and feel empowered to intervene with other unit members are in distress. Leaders have identified and tracked Soldiers with higher risk issues.

(3) Promote awareness and utilization of support programs and resources.

d. Improve suicide response and analysis.

(1) Educate and direct leaders on suicide postvention.

(2) Synchronize response efforts and requirements for Suicide Response Team (SRT) and Suspected Suicide Fatality Review and Analysis Board (S2FRAB).

e. Evaluate effectiveness of programs, initiatives, and training to enhance unity of effort.

(1) Capture all Army approved suicide prevention training and maintain records of all training.

(2) Provide support to commanders for planning suicide prevention training events to ensure safe and appropriate messaging as well as maintaining fidelity of formal curriculums.

(3) Continuously assess for gaps and overlaps; share best practices with other leaders across the installation.

f. Commanders will establish unit watch policies and procedures for service members who are deemed at risk for suicide.

AFYB-CG

SUBJECT: Policy Letter #15 – Suicide Prevention

g. The Religious Support Office will ensure that Chaplains and Religious Affairs Specialists are trained as gatekeepers.

h. The Suicide Prevention Task Force will convene monthly to share lessons learned, educate each other, and they discuss prevention efforts across the installation.

5. Suicide is a preventable tragedy. With the goals and actions established above, Fort Carson Service members will continue to take care of each other and prevent suicide in our ranks.

6. RESILIENCE is a process that requires the adoption of productive behaviors, thoughts, and actions that can be learned. Resilience prepares you to deal with life's challenges by giving you the ability to cope with adversity, adapt to change, and thrive under new conditions. Steadfast and Loyal, Stay Resilient!

7. The point of contact for this policy is the Suicide Prevention Program Coordinator is William Lana at William.w.lana.civ@army.mil or (520) 714-5862 and the 4ID Psychiatrist is CPT Jacob Eliason, MD at Jacob.f.eliason.mil@army.mil.



PATRICK J. ELLIS
Major General, USA
Commanding