

Firearm Leadership to Reduce the Risk of Suicide and Harm

ACTIONS FOR FIREARM LEADERSHIP

- Discuss Personal Firearm Storage
 - ❑ Encourage your people to store personally owned firearms unloaded and locked in a case or gun safe when not in use.
- Be Present and Support Your Personnel
 - ❑ Reach out to service members who are experiencing stress.
 - ❑ Follow-up regularly
- Discourage Alcohol Use When Using Firearms
 - ❑ Practice zero tolerance mixing alcohol with handling weapons.
 - ❑ Clearly communicate: “Don’t mix alcohol with your firearms.”

PROMOTE FAMILY SAFETY

- For some, family safety means keeping a gun loaded and unlocked.
- Emphasize how a loaded and unlocked gun can greatly increase the risk of an accidental or an impulsive shooting death.
- Remind your people to keep firearms out of the reach of children.
- Teach children “guns are not toys” and should only be handled when supervised by trained adults.

ALTERNATIVES TO FIREARMS FOR SELF AND FAMILY PROTECTION

- Remind personnel of options for personal and home safety that are safer than unlocked weapons. These include:
 - ❑ Guard Dogs
 - ❑ Alarm Systems
 - ❑ Pepper Spray
 - ❑ Stun Guns and Tasers
 - ❑ Pocket and Tactical Knives