

CSADD emphasizes safety for upcoming Labor Day weekend

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Today members of the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Coalition for Sailors Against Destructive Decisions (CSADD) will be at the Nimitz and Makalapa gates for a Labor Day weekend “gate awareness” project from 6 to 8 a.m. and 3 to 4 p.m.

CSADD members will hold signs in an effort to prevent destructive decisions by service members. Some of their signs say, “Don’t Be That Guy: Drink Responsibly,” and “Keep What You’ve Earned.”

Members of the CSADD group have also recently unveiled new jerseys they will be wearing to identify themselves as members of the organization.

CSADD is sending out the word to service members that they should stay safe while enjoying a happy, upcoming Labor Day weekend.

“As our nation pays tribute to American workers during this Labor Day weekend, we thank all branches of service for your dedicated service and hard work every day of the year,” said Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Abrel Smith, CSADD president.

“While many of you enjoy a well-earned break to celebrate the last holiday of the summer season, we urge you to plan your activities with care and to make smart decisions that will keep you, your family and your fellow service members safe,” Smith said.

“Safety is a concern for all of us. Sadly, too many service members have died in off-duty mishaps this year, many of which may have been preventable. The result of reckless behavior, such as excessive speed, irresponsible alcohol use, failure to use proper safety gear, or inattention is equally alarming,” Smith emphasized. Smith delivered his holiday safety message yesterday at a CSADD “safety stand down” event held at Sharkey Theater, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The event included the introduction of a new campaign that has been set in place to raise awareness and combat post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). CSADD members attended the event and handed out free T-shirts, tote bags and educational information about PTSD awareness.



Photo courtesy of CSADD

The event also included the show "A Shot of Reality," which combines interactive comedy, audience role-playing, facts and education to give the audience information about the dangers of alcohol. The show is designed as an honest, engaging, humorous and sober new look at alcohol awareness on a military installation.

In addition, Smith said CSADD is also encouraging everyone to beware of a new form of the drug, crystallized meth that, on the mainland, is currently being targeted at children. He said the new form of pink meth looks and smells like candy.

He advised parents to not allow their children to accept candy from strangers or from friends who may not know where it came from.

Local chapters of CSADD are part of a Navy-wide, peer-mentoring program for all aspects of life in which Sailors face pressures or temptations to make unwise decisions.