

So, that morning, I signed in service, and not too much longer after that, we got a call from radio saying we needed to assist with another trooper in a neighboring county. So I had to meet him at the county line. So I went up there and – I didn't know what it was yet. I just signed up for it and went.

And then I looked at our computer, and it showed what the call was about, and I looked at it and it said it was blood from Seattle that was gonna be transported from the blood bank to the naval base for a woman who had a baby, and she had complications, and if she didn't get it with a certain amount of timeframe, she wasn't gonna make it. So a little bit of a time crunch there, and we were basically relaying it down the interstate between troopers at different county lines.

So I was the middle trooper. He was a little late, but it wasn't his fault. Something happened in there so there was a little bit of a delay, so I'm sitting there at the line, kinda hopping around in my car, going, "Come on, come on, we only have so much time and we need to do this," which we still had plenty of time, but in those situations, you know, it's all amped up. You're excited. You wanna help. You wanna make that difference, and he showed up, he comes running up, "Hey, here it is. Gotta go. Go, troop."

All you're thinking about is this lady and I've got her blood here in my car, and I want to get it to her and outta my car and – where she can be okay. It wasn't foggy so much on the interstate, but as I went down the highway to get to the next county, it got thicker and thicker the further you went, and you're traveling as fast as you can. Traffic's light so there's nothing in the way except, you know, deer or whatever else can hop outta the fog, but keeping safety in mind, you also wanna get that to her 'cause it's important and you don't wanna be that person that didn't do their part to hopefully get it there in time.

And so we did a relay down the interstate and got it to her in time, and that's that.

I wasn't expecting that, honestly. I'm still new as a troop, but I didn't think we did stuff like that, honestly, and I thought it was actually really cool to be involved in something like that, to be in part of somebody's life that that's important – I mean, life or death situation right there. We have crashes; we have DUIs; we have fatalities. We have all those kinda things, but this was something that I can make a difference – if I do my best and my fellow troopers and my team do their best, we can make a difference for this woman. It's in our hands now. So that was – it was a little overwhelming and exciting at the same time. I mean, you never know what you're gonna do when you come in to work. It's never routine. You don't know what you're gonna do. There's nothing routine about being a trooper.

I felt like I did a good job. I felt like I did what I could do. I mean, that's the fastest I've gone from one county line to the other in a safe and efficient manner, and once I handed it off, I was like, "Well, I don't care what else happens today. I know I did a good thing." I mean, it really didn't matter. Traffic stops are traffic stops; crashes are crashes; but that's something that always will stand out.

I did good that day.

I'm Trooper Chelsea Krotzer with the Washington State Patrol.