

# Washington State Patrol Media Release

*Chief John R. Batiste*

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**\*\*\*For Immediate Release\*\*\***

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## **Troopers Save Suicidal Man**

On October 3, 2009 Troopers Brian Ashley, Robert Moore and Neil Weaver responded to a report of a possible suicidal subject who was in a vehicle on I-5 somewhere between Castle Rock and Napavine. Communications had received a tip about an emotionally distraught man who had taken a large dose of medication.

Trooper's Moore and Weaver waited on I-5 near Napavine for the vehicle, a pick-up with Alaska license plates. On a hunch Trooper Ashley drove to Rush Road where he located the vehicle parked in the Burger King parking lot.

An aid car was summoned and troopers Moore and Weaver drove to the Burger King to assist. It was apparent that the man had overdosed on medication. He told the troopers he had taken a lot of sleeping pills because he was trying to get away from the dreams. The man was lethargic and could not stay awake. Trooper Moore tried to keep the man engaged in conversation while waiting for the aid car. Several times the man became unresponsive. Trooper Moore performed several sternum rubs in an attempt to keep the man awake.

Trooper Weaver, a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) is familiar with consequences of overdosing on the medications this subject was using. Trooper Weaver stated that if Trooper Ashley had not found the truck and had Trooper Moore not taken took action, the man probably would have lapsed into a coma and possibly died.

These troopers saved this man's life. Their quick response to a call for service and their actions upon finding the vehicle were exemplary. The troopers have been recommended for an awarded of commendation for their actions.

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