Washington State Patrol Trooper Looks Beyond the Stop

Snohomish County – As a Washington State Patrol (WSP) trooper, you never know how your day is going to go. We start our shifts with the mindset that we are going to protect the lives of those that travel the roadways.

Today, Trooper Brian Zillmer did just that when he stopped a vehicle for speeding on I-5 in Snohomish County. It wasn’t a typical traffic stop though; Trooper Zillmer noticed a small child not properly restrained in the back seat of the car. The child, a seven year old boy was clearly shorter than the 4 foot 9 inch rule that is stated in the child restraint law (RCW 46.61.687). Trooper Zillmer was able to determine, through an interview with the mother, that she wasn’t able to afford a car seat and was trying her best to make ends meet.

Trooper Zillmer, a 20 year veteran of the WSP, has a vast knowledge of various resources throughout Snohomish County. He was able to contact Snohomish County Target Zero Task Force who is partnered with Safe Kids Snohomish County and through an extensive interview of their own, they were able to provide the mother of the child with a brand new booster seat!

Trooper Zillmer met up with the mother shortly after the traffic stop to give her the new booster seat. During the exchange, the young boy told Trooper Zillmer that he wants to be a police officer when he grows up.

Today, Trooper Zillmer’s commendable actions went above and beyond. He clearly demonstrated “Service with Humility” which is the WSP’s motto.

*pictured - Trooper Brian Zillmer and Target Zero Task Force Manager, Stacey McShane

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