

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

Captain Monica Alexander
Government and Media Relations

Date: January 11, 2019

Contact: Trooper Kevin Fortino

Phone: 360-890-6233

Email: Kevin.Fortino@wsp.wa.gov

Twitter: @WaStatePatrol

Homeland Security Division: Bainbridge Island emphasis

Bainbridge Island – On January 10, 2019 troopers from the Washington State Patrol Homeland Security Division conducted an emphasis patrol at the Bainbridge Island Ferry Terminal. The purpose of the emphasis was to bring resources together to provide enhanced security and ensure the continued safe travel out of Bainbridge Island. Vessel and Terminal Security Troopers, K9 handlers, Commercial Vehicle Division Troopers and the United States Coast Guard took part in the emphasis.

The four hour emphasis resulted in over 900 vehicles and motorcycles screened by our explosive detection K9's prior to the vehicles boarding the WSF vessels. There were over 3800 passengers escorted over 5 vessel sailings to Seattle. Commercial Vehicle Division troopers assisted in completing inspections that resulted in 5 violations handled by troopers.

While there was no incident or threat that sparked the emphasis, there is great value from a safety standpoint of concentrating resources in a specific place in order to ensure safe travel throughout the country's largest ferry system. While the emphasis was being conducted, troopers continued to monitor traffic, screen vehicles and provide boat escorts throughout the WSF system and other ferry terminals of responsibility.

The Washington State Patrol Homeland Security Division would like to thank our partners at the Washington State Ferries and the United States Coast Guard for their continued partnership and assistance in ensuring everyone's safe travel throughout the Puget Sound region.



###