

AGENCY AT A *glance*  
 SO FAR THIS YEAR...

- 2,507** impaired drivers arrested
- 6,870** collisions investigated
- 46** fatality collisions
- 5,923** distracted drivers
- 4,698** seatbelt violations
- 25,888** aggressive driver contacts
- 75,352** excessive speed contacts
- 9,417** CMV inspections

*Remembering*  
**OUR FALLEN**

**TROOPER JUSTIN R. SCHAFER**



Commissioned: 2014 - EOW: March 24, 2020  
 Trooper Schaffer grew up in Colorado before his family relocated to Chehalis. The son of a law enforcement officer, Trooper Schaffer joined the WSP where he became a certified Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) and part of a K9 team alongside his partner, Frankie.

**TROOPER CONARD TOLSON**



Commissioned: 1928- EOW: March 24, 1929  
 Trooper Tolson grew up as one of nine children. The U.S. Army veteran served along with his wife and daughter as missionaries in China before moving to Washington State and becoming a member of the Washington State Highway Patrol.

**Congratulations to new DREs**



**OLYMPIA, Wash.** - Congratulations to the 12 new Drug Recognition Experts (DREs) who completed their training on March 18, 2023. Among the graduates were five troopers including **Trooper G. Krebs, Trooper L. Sullivan, Trooper B. Dahl, Trooper L. Traver, and Trooper B. Clark**. Seven officers from allied agencies also were part of the DRE School 38 class.

DRE School involves three phases of training. The first two phases, known as DRE Pre-School and DRE 7-Day School, were held from Jan. 23 to Feb. 3 in Vancouver, Wash. The two phases included courses in physiology, vital signs, Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST), and extensive materials on each of the seven drug categories. The phases also included two Controlled Drinking Sessions that allowed students to conduct SFSTs and hone their skills. A special thanks to the Vancouver Police Department Officer Sean Donaldson, the DRE instructor who coordinated volunteers for the sessions.

The third phase, DRE Field Certifications, was completed at the Mesa Police Department (MPD) in Mesa, Ariz., over a 3-day period in coordination with MPD Officer and DRE State Coordinator George Chwe. A special thank you to Officer Chwe, the MPD detention staff, and all the MPD staff for their hospitality.

DRE Field Certifications was held March 14-19. The students conducted a minimum of 12 drug influence evaluations while under the supervision of a DRE instructor where they were tasked with identifying individuals under the influence and attain an 80 percent toxicological confirmation rate.

The students were given the opportunity to evaluate volunteers who were under the influence of multiple drug categories while under the supervision of DRE instructors. The DRE students in two-person teams evaluated each of the volunteers with a primary evaluator and scribe evaluator, completing a total of 73 evaluations, resulting in 145 total reports for the DRE instructors to review.

The program's training involved 16 total DRE instructors from various agencies around the state. A huge thank you to all of the instructors and their agencies. The training would not have been possible without their assistance or dedication to removing impaired drivers from our roadways.



**Move Over, Slow down campaign continues**



**SEATTLE, Wash.** - The Washington State Patrol's statewide "Move Over, Slow Down" campaign continued - this past week with support throughout District 2.

The emphasis will continue in District 7 from March 26 to April 1, in District 8 on April 7, District 3 on April 16, District 4 from April 16-22, and finish in District 6 on April 27.



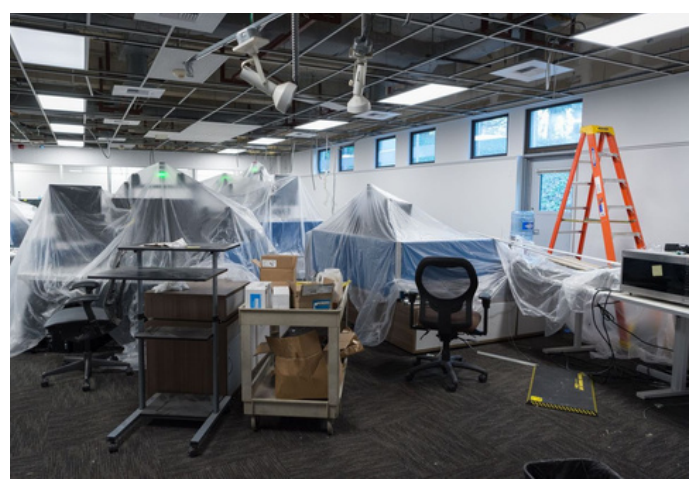
TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE EMPHASIS AND THOSE PARTNERING IN THE EFFORTS, [VISIT HERE](#).

*District 2 - Seattle*

**PMD team continues upgrades to District 2 Communications Center**

**BELLEVUE, Wash.** - The Washington State Patrol (WSP) Property Management Division (PMD) team has been working hard upgrading the District 2 Communications Center in Bellevue. The remodel will provide a much needed update to the facility for our agency's hardworking communications officers.

The communications officers have been working out of the communications centers in Tacoma (District 1) and Marysville (District 7) while the work is being completed. Thank you to the patience of the District 2 communications officers during the temporary relocation, as well as to the District 7 and District 1 communications officers for their flexibility in sharing their workspace during the process. We also appreciate the hard work of the PMD team as they continue the process in making the needed improvements to the workspace.



**INSIDEOUT Blog**



**GET TO KNOW:**  
**Assistant State Fire Marshal - Melissa Gannie**

**HIGHLIGHT:** Get to know Assistant State Fire Marshal Melissa Gannie as part of the State Fire Marshal's Women's History Month series.

[Learn more here.](#)

**Gathering to honor Patrolman Ludden, Trooper Frink**



**BELLEVEUE, Wash.** - The Washington State Patrol (WSP) gathered with family, friends, and colleagues in honor of the recent 85th anniversary of Patrolman Ludden's death, as well as the 30th anniversary of Trooper Frink's death in the line of duty. The event was attended by WSP Chief John Batiste and members of the command staff, as well as the agency's honor guard.

**Caring for our communities: Schools**



**STATEWIDE** - Troopers in Districts 1, 3, 7, and 8 visited with students across the state this past week. District 1 Trooper R. Reyer, Trooper S. McKenzie, and CVD Trooper B. Schramm joined allied agency partners to speak with children at Grant Elementary School in Tacoma. El Protector Trooper D. Mosqueda in District 3 spoke to high schoolers about Teen Target Zero and traffic safety at Kamiakin High School. In District 7, Sgt. R. Oliphant and Trooper K. Harding joined the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office at Darrington Elementary School during lunch hour. Trooper J. Pronovost and Trooper L. Kinne of District 8 visited Olalla Elementary School, also during lunch, where those with the best February attendance were being recognized.



**VIRTUAL CAR SHOW**

**VIRTUAL CAR SHOW** - Do you have images of your state-issued vehicle you want included in a future edition of *The Milepost*? Send entries to [pio@wsp.wa.gov](mailto:pio@wsp.wa.gov). Above is District 8 Trooper J. Magersdaet's patrol vehicle on a snowy day in Grays Harbor.

*honesty - integrity - accountability - attention to detail - work ethic*