

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

- 6,915** impaired drivers arrested
- 19,782** collisions investigated
- 160** fatality collisions
- 17,940** distracted drivers
- 18,205** seatbelt violations
- 77,008** aggressive driver contacts
- 214,593** excessive speed contacts
- 25,457** CMV inspections

**LET'S ALL SURVIVE AND THRIVE THIS SUMMER**



**GOING ON NOW:** Our agency's Surviving Summer: 90 Dangerous Days Campaign is going on now. [Learn more.](#)

**DO YOU HAVE STORIES YOU WANT TO SHARE?**

**SEND THEM IN** - We strive to highlight the amazing work across the agency. If you have something happening in your division or district you would like to see highlighted in a future edition of *The Milepost*, please e-mail [pio@wsp.wa.gov](mailto:pio@wsp.wa.gov).



**19th CVEO Basic Training class begins**



**SHELTON, Wash.** - We are proud to welcome the Washington State Patrol's (WSP's) nine new recruits of the 19th Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer (CVEO) training class. The recruits started their first day of training at the WSP Academy in Shelton. Welcome to the WSP family, and we look forward to seeing you progress in your training.

**Honoring fallen firefighters at annual memorial**



**NORTH BEND, Wash.** - Seven fallen firefighters were honored Sunday afternoon during the annual Washington State Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service at the Washington State Fire Training Academy (FTA). The ceremony honored the following firefighters for paying the ultimate sacrifice:

- Seattle Fire Department Firefighter Matthew Thomas Runte
- Clark County Fire District 6 Firefighter/Paramedic Joe Killian
- Whatcom County Fire District 7 Assistant Chief Dean Crosswhite
- Spokane Valley Fire Department Firefighter Dan Patterson
- South Pierce Fire and Rescue Assistant Chief Larry Spohn
- Central Pierce Fire and Rescue Firefighter/Paramedic John Garner
- Seattle Fire Department Firefighter Michele J. Williams

The formal event included a procession, bell ceremony, plaque presentation to the families, and the hanging of embroidered ribbons hung on the memorial pike pole.

**New toxicology lab opening in Federal Way**

**FEDERAL WAY, Wash.** - The Washington State Patrol (WSP) Toxicology Laboratory Division (TLD) performs drug and alcohol testing for coroners, medical examiners, law enforcement agencies, prosecuting attorneys and the State Liquor and Cannabis Board across all 39 Washington counties. Currently, the 44 member team is based in Seattle and receives approximately 16,000 cases annually - with approximately 65% of casework related to driving under the influence (DUI) casework and 35% related to death investigation casework. Over the past 10 years, the volume of submissions has significantly increased and testing has become more complex in part due to poly drug use and an emerging drug market. This year the Toxicology Division will be expanding to a secondary location in Federal Way, providing additional resources and space to match the increased demand for testing. Scientists are currently working to validate and verify scientific instrumentation at the new location, which will prepare the site for evidentiary testing later this year. Once the new location is on-line, half of the team will relocate to Federal Way with the other half remaining in Seattle and there will be opportunity to hire on an additional seven forensic scientists. The expansion of the division will increase the capacity for forensic toxicology testing across the state with two locations providing comprehensive forensic toxicology services to our customers.



As TLD works to ready the new facility, all submissions continue to be received by the team in Seattle. When it comes to submitting evidence, the biggest piece of advice Forensic Scientists pass along is simple: provide as much information as possible. For those within the agency submitting blood evidence, pay special attention to the case history and drugs suspected/admitted section of the Request for Analysis Form. Any details can help the scientists ensure they are conducting the relevant tests, ultimately improving efficiencies and resulting in quicker turnaround times.



# 118th TBTC Check-in: Week Seven



**SHELTON, Wash.** - This week our cadets of the 118th Trooper Basic Training Class (TBTC) deployed and experienced the effects of OC-10. After being exposed to the spray, the cadets completed an obstacle course involving providing verbal commands, hitting a punching bag, finding their car keys, shooting at a target, getting inside their vehicle, and calling communications to start aid. The exposure helps the cadets learn how different individuals react, as well as how to maintain composure and persevere in case of their own exposure on the road.

# District 5 adds new motors troopers



**VANCOUVER, Wash.** - District 5's motorcycle enforcement footprint has expanded thanks to the addition of three newly graduated motors trooper and one transfer from Spokane. Trooper Mastrolia, Trooper Prentice, Trooper Taylor V, and Trooper Hayden are the four newest of now seven motorcycle troopers working Interstate 5 corridor between Lewis County and Clark County. The motors troopers focus on speed and other dangerous driving behaviors in an effort to lower serious injury and fatality collisions on the interstate.

# WSP assists with Vice Presidential escort

**SEATTLE, Wash.** - Washington State Patrol (WSP) troopers along with allied agencies braved the scorching temperatures to ensure the Vice President's safe travel during her recent Seattle visit. Our thoughts are with the Bellevue Police Department officer who was injured while assisting in the motorcade.



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# WSP troopers kept busy during 2023 Tri-City Water Follies Festival



**TRI-CITIES, Wash.** - The 2023 Tri-City Water Follies Festival at the end of July kept Washington State Patrol (WSP) troopers from across the state busy in their efforts to ensure everyone was able to travel to and from the event safely. Emphasis patrols focused on July 27 to July 31, saturating the roadway with extra troopers focusing on stopping unsafe driving behaviors. Their efforts were effective. There were no serious injury or fatality collisions during the event. The weekend ended with 649 initiated contacts by WSP personnel, as well as 40 traffic stops thanks to the assistance of the WSP Aviation Division flying overhead. Motors troopers from outside districts also came to assist and made quite an impact on the community. Troopers were able to remove 13 impaired drivers from the roadways - four of which were spotted by District 5 Target Zero Team (TZT) Trooper Corner who drove over to the Tri-Cities to assist. Great job to all who worked together, reached out beyond district borders and supported one another in our agency mission of creating safe roadways for everyone!

## AUGUST TRAINING: WSP SWAT at JBLM

**LAKEWOOD, Wash.** - Members of your Washington State Patrol (WSP) Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team spent their monthly training time at Joint Base Fort Lewis McCord, working on room clearing, woodland operations, as well as working together with outside agency teams such as the Thurston County SWAT - a multi-jurisdictional team comprised of several agencies throughout the county. Working together is key in preparation for responding to critical incidents.



## Community Outreach: Summertime fun



**MAKING CONNECTIONS** - Our Washington State Patrol (WSP) personnel across the state have done an outstanding job reaching out to their respective communities and getting involved! A few examples of this great work are from District 5's recent National Night Out, Morton Logger's Jubilee, and the Napavine Funtime Festival Parade and Car Show. Additionally, troopers in District 8 have participated in Sequim's Unity of Effort event and the Saints Car Show in downtown Port Orchard.

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# YOUR WSP Milepost

## WSP assists with statewide Explorer Academy

**FUTURE LEO** - Washington State Patrol (WSP) Trooper I. Vargo assisted in teaching a week-long Explorer Academy last week. The program is focused on youth ages 14 through 21 years old interested in a future career in law enforcement. The 6-day long academy included assistance from agencies across the state to give these future law enforcement officers a glimpse of what opportunities they can work toward.



## WSP assists with statewide Explorer Academy

**OLYMPIA, Wash.** - The Washington State Patrol (WSP) Risk Management Division (RMD) has developed a new user-friendly way to access agency policies. In addition to the Word and PDF versions of the WSP Regulation Manual available on iWSP, employees can access policies in a new Policy Library.

The Policy Library is an interactive Regulation Manual that displays: current policies; when each policy was last reviewed and updated by the agency; and which district/division/office owns the policy. It also includes a special search feature that will only search within the policies rather than all of iWSP. When the user accesses a specific policy, it will open to a Word version of the selected policy, which can be used to propose edits or updates to the business owner of the policy, train new staff, or fulfill public disclosure requests for specific policies.

The entire WSP Regulation Manual remains available in Word and PDF format, with embedded links to mid-year updates (i.e., General Orders/Chief's Directives). Beginning in 2024, WSP will not print hardcopies of the WSP Regulation Manual. To prepare for this paperless transition, RMD developed the Policy Library and asked commanders what additional adaptations were needed to ensure uninterrupted operations. In response to feedback received, RMD:

- Added red banding or yellow banding in the online versions of the Regulation Manual for all sections historically printed with red or yellow pages;
- Published prior years' Regulation Manuals online; and
- Added language to the all Daily Bulletin announcements of General Orders/Chief's Directives reminding employees that if they rely on a locally downloaded version of the Regulation Manual, they should re-download the updated version.

Feedback about these advancements, especially the Policy Library, has been excellent to date. Questions or suggestions about the new Policy Library may be directed to john.wilson@wsp.wa.gov.

### Policy Library

- + Chapter 1 - Arrest
- + Chapter 2 - Use of Force and Deadly Force Policies
- + Chapter 3 - Weapons/Firearms
- + Chapter 4 - Vehicular Pursuits
- + Chapter 5 - Employee Health and Safety
- + Chapter 6 - Dissemination of Information
- Chapter 7 - Employee Rights/Personnel Files/Polygraphs

✓	📄	Name	Policy Name	Last Reviewed	Last Revised	Policy Owner
*Section : 00 Rights (3)						
		7.00.010	Employee Rights	10/3/2022	1/1/2023	Office of Professional Standards
		7.00.020	Investigations and Questioning	10/3/2022	1/1/2023	Office of Professional Standards
		7.00.030	Grievance Procedure	10/3/2022		Office of Professional Standards
*Section : 01 Files (3)						
		7.01.010	Official Personnel Files	10/5/2022	8/31/2016	Human Resource Division
		7.01.020	District Information Files	9/23/2022		Field Operations Bureau HQ
		7.01.030	Supervisory Desk Files	9/23/2022	3/7/2022	Human Resource Division
*Section : 02 Polygraph Examinations (1)						
		7.02.010	Polygraph Examination	10/5/2022		Human Resource Division

- + Chapter 8 - Rules of Conduct
- + Chapter 9 - Department Authority and Organization
- + Chapter 10 - Department Management

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BUCKLE UP. EVERY TRIP. EVERY TIME.

# SEATBELTS SAVE LIVES

The WSP investigated 314 fatality collisions in 2022. Nearly 1/3 of those tragedies involved unbelted occupants.