

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

- 10,792** impaired drivers arrested
- 34,401** collisions investigated
- 285** fatality collisions
- 27,485** distracted drivers
- 27,592** seatbelt violations
- 119,016** aggressive driver contacts
- 332,751** excessive speed contacts
- 39,648** CMV inspections

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.



...MUST BE IMPORTANT. BUCKLE UP. EVERY TRIP. EVERY TIME.



Wishing you and yours a wonderful and safe holiday. A sincere thank you to those who are sacrificing your time with those you cherish most to keep others safe.

Trooper Atkinson back in French Blue

YAKIMA, Wash. - Congratulations to Washington State Patrol (WSP) Trooper Dean Atkinson who was honored with the Mike Buckingham Award during the District 3 Chief Tours this week. The Mike Buckingham Award celebrates those who survive a critical incident in which they sustained significant physical injuries while in the course of their duties. Trooper Atkinson **survived a shot to the face and hand** in Walla Walla on Sept. 22, 2022. Despite his injuries, Trooper Atkinson was able to **drive himself to a local hospital** to receive life-saving care. Trooper Atkinson is back in uniform catching up on training to soon return to full duties and continue to serve his Walla Walla community.



Night of 1,000 Stars events statewide



STATEWIDE - Washington State Patrol (WSP) troopers are working alongside law enforcement agencies across the state during Target Zero's Night of 1,000 Stars event. The night, specific to each county, focuses the efforts of troopers, officers, and deputies within a specific area to intercept impaired drivers before they cause a collision that could cost a life. The events are kicked off with a briefing that often is attended by the family members of an individual who was killed in an impaired driving collision. Thank you to all the troopers who have participated in these events across the state this month. In District 5, participating agencies were able to remove 10 impaired drivers from their roadways - seven of which were processed utilizing the agency's Mobile Impairment Driving Unit. In District 8, Bremerton area patrols conducted 65 traffic stops resulting in the removal of six impaired drivers from the roadways. See more images from the events on page two.

SANTA SIGHTING



TACOMA, Wash. - Santa was preparing for the upcoming weekend when he came across a detachment of District 1 Eastside troopers. He was more than willing to take a photo before getting back to his second check of the naughty and nice list.

Night of 1,000 Stars

DISTRICT 5



DISTRICT 8



D1 teams up with allied agencies for HVE patrol

FIFE, Wash. - Our Washington State Patrol (WSP) troopers in District 1 partnered with the Pierce County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) and Fife Police Department (FPD) for a two-day High Visibility Emphasis (HVE) Patrol on Dec. 14 and Dec. 15. The focus of the patrol was the five-mile radius surrounding Interstate 5 at the Port of Tacoma, which is one of the areas within the district that sees a high volume of collisions.

Other WSP divisions also assisted in the emphasis, including commercial vehicle enforcement officers and our agency's aviation team.

During the emphasis a PCSO deputy was attempting to stop a vehicle for suspected DUI. The driver fled and a short pursuit ensued. The impaired driver ended up striking a pole, ending the pursuit. The driver was taken into custody for suspicion of DUI and eluding.

PIERCE COUNTY HIGH VISIBILITY

EMPHASIS PATROLS

Our focus was the five-mile radius of I-5 at Port of Tacoma. In just two days, we made:

- 244 TOTAL CONTACTS
- 11 SEATBELT CONTACTS
- 104 SPEED CONTACTS
- 4 DUI ARRESTS
- 1 FELONY ARREST
- 8 MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS
- 1 STOLEN VEHICLE RECOVERY
- 25 CMV INSPECTIONS

PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

FIFE POLICE DEPARTMENT
PIERCE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
WASHINGTON STATE PATROL

WSP Bomb Squad respond to pipe bomb in Tumwater



TUMWATER, Wash. - The Washington State Patrol (WSP) Bomb Squad was requested to respond to a WSDOT crew working in the area of northbound Interstate 5 at Tumwater Boulevard on Monday morning.

The WSDOT crew was clearing an encampment when they discovered what appeared to be a pipe bomb. Members of the bomb squad responded and were able to confirm the device was an IED and utilized a countercharge to render it unworkable.

District 7 hosts food drive in Marysville



MARYSVILLE, Wash. - Washington State Patrol (WSP) District 7 hosted a food drive at the Marysville Fred Meyer on Sunday, Dec. 10. The community helped donate 69 pounds of food, which will ultimately help around 100 households in the community. The donations were given to the Marysville Community Food Bank. Great job to everyone involved for working together for such an amazing cause!

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