

AGENCY AT A glance
 SO FAR THIS YEAR...

- 1,349 impaired drivers arrested
- 3,749 collisions investigated
- 14 fatality collisions
- 3,295 distracted driving contacts
- 2,280 seatbelt violations
- 12,460 aggressive driver contacts
- 36,252 excessive speed contacts
- 8,188 CMV inspections

SEATBELTS SAVE LIVES

Choose to buckle up. Every trip. Every time.

#IWEARMYSEATBELT

DID YOU KNOW? Between 2013 - 2022, 32% of those killed in a fatality collision were not wearing their seatbelt. That's 1,149 lives tragically lost.

* Data from the Washington Traffic Safety Commission

>> NEXT WEEK

Check in on the cadets on their coaching trip



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.



Happy Valentines

Valentine's Day became much sweeter thanks to the amazing kids and community members who made heartfelt Valentines for the Washington State Patrol! Thank you for brightening our day, and a special thank you to Congresswoman Marilyn Strickland for coordinating these special messages.

Seven promoted during WSP's February ceremony



OLYMPIA, Wash. - The Washington State Patrol (WSP) celebrated the promotion of seven employees earlier this month during a ceremony held at the Helen Sommers Building in Olympia, Wash. This month's promotees included:

- Mr. Steven Brown promoted from Assistant Division Commander of the Electronic Services Division to Division Commander of the Electronic Services Division;
- Mr. Richard Huisingsh promoted from Electronic Design Engineer to Assistant Division Commander of the Electronic Services Division;
- Trooper William Pelleberg promoted to the rank of sergeant within the Special Operations Division (SOD);
- Trooper Detective Phillip Thoma promoted to the rank of sergeant within District 1 - Tacoma;
- Mr. James Luthy promoted from Forensic Scientist 4 to Forensic Scientist 5 within the Crime Laboratory Division;
- Mr. Jeff Palm promoted from IT Customer Support - Journey to IT Customer Support - Senior/Specialist within the Information Technology Division;
- Communications Officer 3 Timothy Duefrane promoted to Communications Officer 4.

Did you miss watching the promotion ceremony live? You can still watch thanks to the live-stream recording available on your [WSP YouTube Channel](#).

DRE School #40 graduates



MESA, Ariz. - Congratulations to the 12 new Drug Recognition Experts (DRE's) who completed their training on Feb. 3, 2024. Among the graduates were six Washington State Patrol (WSP) troopers: Trooper Christopher Connelly, Trooper Jared Gearhart, Trooper Cameron Osmer, Trooper Bryan Perkins, Trooper Andrew Simmonds, and Trooper Ryan Williams. Six allied agency officers also completed the class, joining Washington's statewide DRE program.

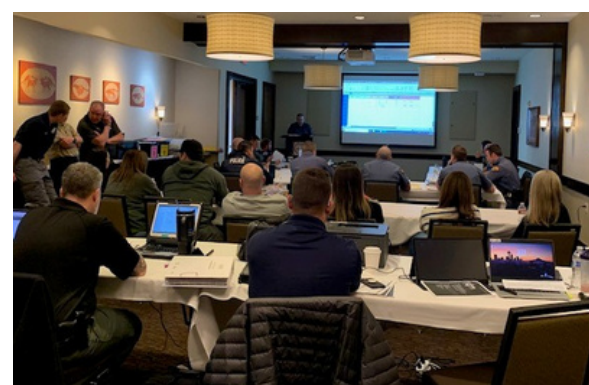
The first two phases of training, DRE Pre-School and DRE 7-Day School was held from Jan. 8 to Jan. 19 in Suquamish, Wash. These two phases include courses in physiology, vital signs, Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST), and extensive material on each of the seven categories of drugs. These phases also include two Controlled Drinking Sessions that enable the students to conduct SFST's to hone their skills.

The final and third phase of training is the DRE Field Certifications held Jan. 30 to Feb. 4 in Mesa, Ariz. During this phase, students must conduct a minimum of 12 drug influence evaluations while under the supervision of a DRE instructor, identifying subjects under the influence, and attaining an 80 percent toxicological confirmation rate.

Field certifications were completed at Mesa Police Department over a 3-day period in coordination with MPD Officer and Arizona DRE State Coordinator George Chwe. Special thanks to Officer Chwe, the MPD detention staff, and all the MPD staff for their hospitality.

The students had 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 a scribe evaluator, completing 72 evaluations which resulted in 144 total reports for DRE instructors to review.

This training included a total of 14 DRE instructors from various agencies around the state to include the state coordinator. A huge thanks to all of the instructors and their agencies! This training would not be possible without their assistance or their dedication in removing impaired drivers from the roads.



YOUR WSP Milepost

VOL. II, ISSUE VI

FEB. 16, 2024

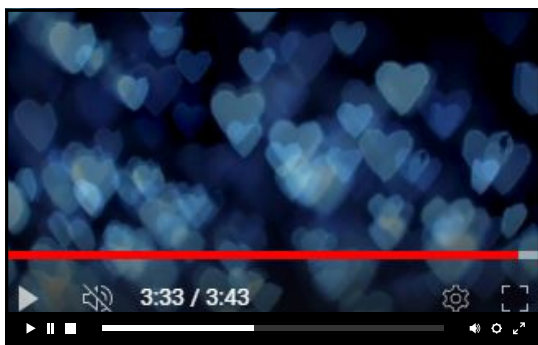
FEBRUARY

WELLNESS CORNER

Monthly tips from your Washington State Patrol Wellness Team on ways to maintain or improve your personal health and wellness

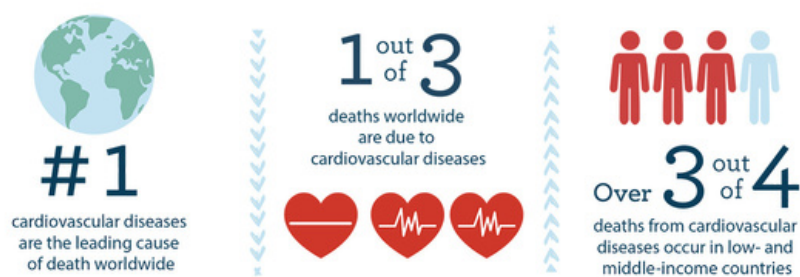
Heart Health: Our WSP family stories

SHARING THEIR EXPERIENCE



Hear from two of our own Washington State Patrol (WSP) employees on the importance of heart health through this month's [Wellness Team Video](#).

Cardiovascular diseases are a group of blood and heart disorders that can lead to heart attack and stroke.



Learn more about heart health, and how it specifically affects our commissioned personnel in this International Association of Chiefs of Police [blog entry](#).

FITNESS TIPS



A healthy heart is a happy heart! Fitness plays a key role in keeping your heart healthy. Looking for tips? Learn some from the [IACP](#).

Heart Attack

Signs and symptoms in women and men

- Chest pain or discomfort
- Shortness of breath
- Pain or discomfort in the jaw, neck, back, arm, or shoulder
- Feeling nauseous, light-headed or unusually tired



FEELING SALTY?

TIPS FOR HAPPINESS & PREVENTING BURNOUT



JOIN US FOR AN ENLIGHTENING AND FUN AFTERNOON THAT PROMISES TO TRANSFORM OUR PERSPECTIVE AND HELP US DEAL WITH THE UNIQUE PRESSURES WE LIVE WITH EVERY DAY. WSP IS THRILLED TO ANNOUNCE THAT AMANDA GORE, A LUMINARY IN HER FIELD AND A BEACON OF KNOWLEDGE AND MOTIVATION, WILL BE GIVING US SPECIFIC SKILLS FOR BURNOUT PREVENTION, HAPPINESS, AND IMPROVING RELATIONSHIPS.

February 23, 2024

01:30 PM - 03:30 PM

LOCATION: WASHINGTON STATE CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER
19010 1ST AVE S, BURIEN, WA & WILL BE LIVE STREAMED

BRING YOUR SIGNIFICANT OTHER AND LEARN TOGETHER



SCAN TO MEET AMANDA & RESERVE YOUR SEAT



SPONSORED BY THE WELLNESS TEAM OF THE WASHINGTON STATE PATROL

FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT: CHASE.VANCLEAVE@WSP.WA.GOV

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