

AGENCY AT A glance
 SO FAR THIS YEAR...

- 1,565 impaired drivers arrested
- 4,463 collisions investigated
- 19 fatality collisions
- 3,807 distracted driving contacts
- 2,726 seatbelt violations
- 14,440 aggressive driver contacts
- 42,063 excessive speed contacts
- 9,733 CMV inspections

Congratulations K9 teams!

BELLEVUE, Wash. - The Washington State Patrol (WSP) Canine Training Unit instructed two explosive detection canine classes in 2023, with 10 canine teams passing their certification. Five of those 10 teams were recognized on Wednesday, Feb. 21 for successfully completing both the WSP's Explosive Detection Canine Handler Course and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Handler Course.

Each of the two courses are 10 weeks long, totaling 400 hours of training to become a certified team. The TSA training course was held in San Antonio, Texas, at Lackland Air Force Base, while the WSP handler course was held at the agency's academy in Shelton.

The training courses consist of many different search areas so the dogs are exposed to as many different environments and scenarios as possible. It takes both time and patience for the handler to learn each dog's personality, drive, and character traits to become a proficient team.

Once the canine teams graduate, they are assigned to a region within the agency's Homeland Security Division (HSD), in direct support of the security mission of the Washington State Ferry Systems.

To learn about each of the graduating teams, please see page three.



AC McCoy retires from WSP



OLYMPIA, Wash. - The Washington State Patrol (WSP) celebrated the retirement of Assistant Chief Scott McCoy on Friday, who after more than 28 years of service will be moving onto the next exciting new step. The well attended event took place on the ground floor of the Helen Sommers Building, where AC McCoy was recognized. Thank you, AC McCoy for your dedication and service to our agency.

KING COUNTY

WSP trooper shot on duty

KENT, Wash. - A Washington State Patrol (WSP) trooper was shot and sustained serious injuries while performing his duties last week.

On the evening of Friday, Feb. 16, one of our troopers were shot multiple times while working in the area of Kent. The 21-year veteran assigned out of the Enumclaw detachment was transported to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, where was treated for serious injuries. Thankfully, our trooper is expected to recover and is receiving the best care, and continues to be surrounded by family, friends, and colleagues.

We as an agency are grateful for the response of those first on scene, including fellow troopers, fire and aid crews, and Kent Police Department officers. Their quick and heroic actions kept this from becoming a larger tragedy.

The Kent Police Department is conducting an independent investigation. The suspect involved in this incident has now been charged by the King County Prosecutor's Office.

We as an agency are thankful for the outpouring of support from the public, as well as the internal support extended to our injured trooper, their family, and their affected detachment.

For those within our agency in need of resources, do know our agency hosts a variety of options, including:

- Peer Support
- Chaplaincy Program
- Wellness Team
- Dr. Zachary Gerdes
- [Safe Call Now](#)
- [Code 4 Northwest](#)

WSP Chief John R. Batiste released a public statement on Thursday, including "The outpouring of support we have received for our wounded trooper, his family, and the 'family' of the patrol is truly and deeply felt and appreciated." To read the entire statement, [please visit here](#).



Energy Symposium this week in Lacey

LACEY, Wash. - The Washington State Fire Marshal's Office, as part of the Washington State Energy Workgroup, is hosting the Washington State Energy Symposium this week through Saturday at the Lacey Campus of South Puget Sound Community College. The event runs daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Featuring presentations from national subject matter experts on everything energy, the event offers those in attendance a comprehensive understanding of the technologies involved in emerging use of electricity, alternative energy, lithium-on-rechargeable batteries, and more. The event is expected to have over 225 local, state, tribal and federal responder officials attending with exhibits of the E-Mach Mustang, electric transit bus, and a large tractor for tractor-trailer operations on-site for inspection.

"We are hoping attendees will have a good learning experience as well as add to the important discussions about proper use, response and negative incident prevention," said Scott Lancaster the Deputy State Fire Marshal for Hazardous Materials. (Note: The State Fire Marshal's office is a bureau of the Washington State Patrol.) "We are gathering the right people to both ask and answer critical questions about utility, efficiency and safety in a power source technology world that is always changing."

Learn more about the symposium [here](#).



DO YOU HAVE STORIES YOU WANT TO SHARE?

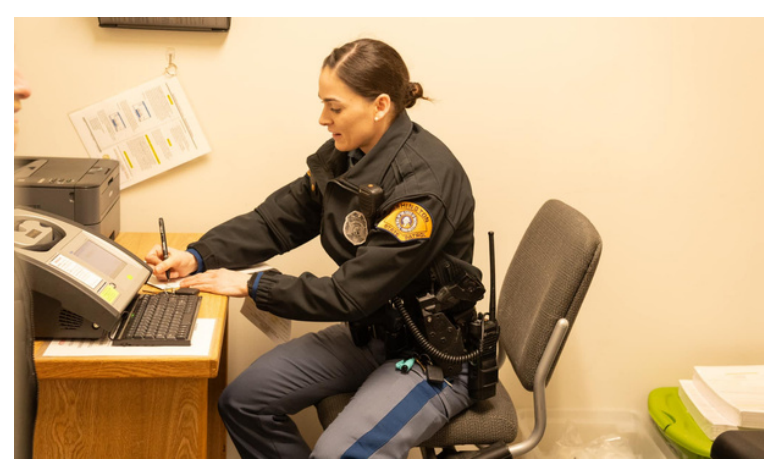
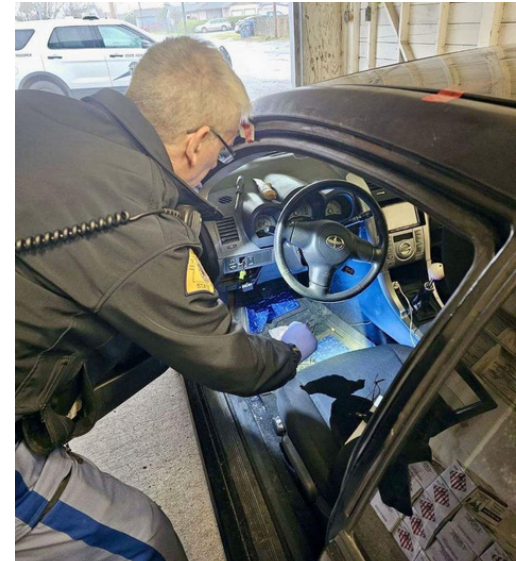
SEND THEM IN - We strive to highlight the amazing work across the agency. If you have something happening in your division or district you would like to see highlighted in a future edition of *The Milepost*, please e-mail pio@wsp.wa.gov.

Heavy truck reconstruction class



BELLEVUE, Wash. - Washington State Patrol (WSP) Detective Sergeant Jason Kraus, Detective Evan Clark and Detective Michael Pry (a member of the CID MAIT Detachment) is teaching four - one day classes on heavy truck collision reconstruction to CVD/MCSD around the state. One of the classes taught earlier this month was at the District 2 Bellevue headquarters. The class is to ensure proper evidence gathering and evidence securement happens on scene. CVD/MCSD requested the team host the class to help their team grow in their understanding of collision investigations.

Coaching trip check-in: 118th TBTC



STATEWIDE - The 118th Trooper Basic Training Class (TBTC) cadets have been on their coaching trip for more than a month now. They've been able to put what they learned in the classroom to practice, including removing impaired drivers from our roadways, responding to and investigating collisions, and assisting motorists along our roadways.

Alongside each cadet is a Field Training Officer (FTO) who provides guidance and further on-the-job training, familiarizing the trooper cadet with departmental forms and the detachment's geographical area of coverage. They learn about traffic patterns, common collision areas, and assess the cadet's performance with daily observation reports. There are more than seven weeks before they're sworn in as troopers during their graduation ceremony. After graduation, they'll report to their assigned districts and begin a year-long probationary period.

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

K9 GRADUATION: Good dogs

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The graduating teams could not be successful without the support of the agency's canine training instructors, including Trooper Josh McKorkle, Trooper Shaun Casavant, Trooper Dominic Ledesma, and Trooper Samantha Metcalf. The teams recognized during the ceremony included:

- **Trooper Shaun Casavant and Canine Winter:** Winter is a six-year-old Belgian Malinois who came to the WSP from Boeing. Winter is on her third handler after her first retired and second promoted. The duo certified in May 2023.
 - **Trooper Ronnie Moss and Canine Shadow:** Shadow is a three-year-old American Bulldog. Shadow was rescued by The Pit Bull Pen in Benton City, Wash. He is a friendly and well-mannered dog. Shadow immediately proved his worth within the first two weeks of working with his handler by alerting to a firearm in a vehicle in the ferry line. The team certified in December 2023.
 - **Trooper Scott Legler and Canine Mimi:** Mimi is a two-year-old Belgian Malinois purchased from Pacific Coast K9. The best way to describe Mimi is crazy intensity in a little package and extremely smart. The team certified in December 2023.
 - **Trooper Nick Hagg and Canine Sammy:** Sammy is a 2-year-old lab, purchased from Pacific Coast K9. Sammy is a typical happy-go-lucky lab with endless energy. The team certified in December 2023.
 - **Trooper Dominic Ledesma and Canine Nacho:** Nacho is a one-year-old Belgian Malinois purchased from Pacific Coast K9. Nacho came from Hungary, and caught onto the job extremely quickly. The team certified in February 2024.
- Five other handlers were unable to attend the ceremony, but were recognized for success of their training. The teams include:
- Trooper Sydney Delacruz and K9 Moose - December 2023 certification
 - Trooper Erik Anderegg and Canine Dax - June 2023 certification
 - Trooper Scott Keffler and Canine Murphy - May 2023 certification
 - Trooper Rich Howson and Canine Gordy - May 2023 certification
 - Trooper Jason Betts and Canine Oakley - May 2023 certification.

Check out a reel from the graduation on the WSP's [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)



Register for the
42nd Annual

WSP MEMORIAL FOUNDATION
DINNER & AUCTION
APRIL 13, 2024
TULALIP CASINO & RESORT,
MARYSVILLE



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auctria.events/wspmf2024dinner



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