

AGENCY AT A *glance*

SO FAR THIS YEAR...

- 3,272 impaired drivers arrested
- 9,186 collisions investigated
- 52 fatality collisions
- 8,991 distracted driving contacts
- 7,530 seatbelt violations
- 33,098 aggressive driver contacts
- 95,368 excessive speed contacts
- 22,095 CMV inspections

TRAFFIC SAFETY

APRIL FOCUS: Distracted driving dangers

The WSP contacted over **28,000** distracted drivers in 2023

That's more than the five-year high of over **25,000** distracted driver contacts made in 2019

**11%** of last year's fatal crashes INVOLVED DISTRACTED DRIVERS

WSP personnel celebrate National 2024 Telecommunicators Week

Thanking those who are answering the call

**STATEWIDE** - The second week of April is dedicated to honor and recognize Communications Officers (911 call-takers and dispatchers) for their hard work and dedication to the community.

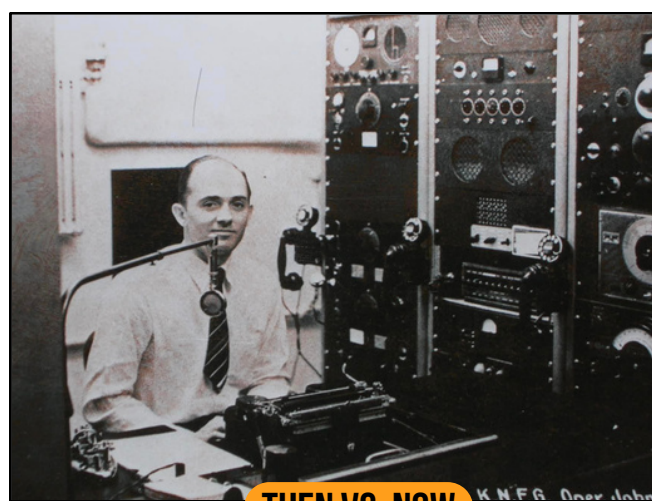
Our Washington State Patrol Communications Officers work around the clock ensuring every call is answered and every person gets the help they need when they need it most. Last year they answered 332,276 911 calls.

Message from the Chief

"As National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week comes to a close, if you haven't already done so, please take a moment to thank our incredible Communications Officers around the state for their unwavering dedication and efforts in the incredibly tough work that they do. They are the greatest lifeline, the ones who keep us safe, and often the voice of calm and assistance during a person's most difficult moments in life.

I can't thank each and every one of our Communications Officers enough for remaining steadfast in providing the best of service to our Troopers, CVEOs, and the public we serve. They are all truly extraordinary and doing outstanding work every single day. This has been a much-deserved week to celebrate them, and we thank them."

-Chief John R. Batiste



THEN VS. NOW



D1 High Visibility Emphasis on now



**TACOMA, Wash.** - District 1 is holding a multi-day High Visibility Emphasis (HVE) patrol in the Lakewood and Tacoma area. The patrol started Thursday morning, and will continue into the weekend. By Thursday morning, troopers had already contacted a driver for traveling 104 mph in a posted 60 mph zone. Great job working with allied agencies to help encourage and enforce safe driving behaviors!

Washington State Spring Fair in full swing

**PUYALLUP, Wash.** - State and area law enforcement agencies are teaming up at the Spring Fair at the Washington State Fairgrounds in Puyallup.

Last weekend, the focus was on diversity in law enforcement. Representatives from the Washington State Patrol (WSP) as well as local police departments and sheriff's offices were on hand to answer questions about careers in law enforcement as well as community relationships between law enforcement and the diverse communities they serve.

The WSP's own El Protector Program was among the multitude of officers in attendance, providing displays and activities. The El Protector Program is a bilingual and bicultural program providing public education through dialogue with the Hispanic/Latino community.

Members of the WSP's Office of Culture and Engagement were also in attendance to interact with the public and answer questions about the agency.

This weekend participating agencies will highlight women in law enforcement and guests to the exhibit will have the opportunity to meet women playing prominent roles in state and local service.



DON'T MISS IT! WELLNESS COURSE MONDAY, APRIL 22

Instructor Dora Gyarmati, born and raised in Hungary to a law enforcement family, is committed to support those who serve

Dora is bringing a series of **monthly wellness courses** to the WSP. The first class will introduce her program, as well as provide tips on stress management.



**WHEN:** 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Mon., April 22  
**WHERE:** In person at the District 2 Bellevue office or online [via this Zoom link](#).

Learn more about Dora on this short video [by clicking here](#).



# Crime Scene Response Team train OII



**OLYMPIA, Wash.** - The Washington State Patrol's Crime Scene Response Team (CSRT) is in the middle of providing a two-week long Basic Crime Scene Investigation course to members of the new Office of Independent Investigations. The team is teaching the basics in crime scene search techniques, documentation through photography and 3D laser scanning, and will also teach specific techniques like latent print processing, collection of trace evidence, collection of impression evidence, and DNA evidence. The basic training course will be complete by the end of the month. (Left): Members of the Office of Independent Investigations receiving training in latent print processing and lifting. They are working through practical exercises getting familiar with how to process different items with print powder and using tape to lift onto latent print cards. (Top Right): Forensic Scientist Molly Della Pella instructing OII investigators on DNA evidence. (Bottom right): Forensic Scientist Carly Smith instructing OII Investigators on latent print lifting techniques.

# CSRT provides training to Lacey PD



**LACEY, Wash.** - The Washington State Patrol's Crime Scene Response Team (CSRT) is also putting on crime scene photography training for the Lacey Police Department (LPD). The agency recently purchased new cameras that are similar to the ones used by CSRT and requested training, which occurred over three days earlier this week. Photographed above are members of LPD practicing outdoor photography techniques taught by Forensic Scientists Stephen Greenwood and Courtney Paduch.

# Taste of WSP event held at HSB during SAF

**OLYMPIA, Wash.** - The Washington State Patrol's Office of Culture and Engagement (OCE) hosted a Taste of the WSP event encouraging folks to bring different dishes that represented their culture. The event was timed with SAF, providing the opportunity for folks across the state to participate.



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