

AGENCY AT A *glance*

SO FAR THIS YEAR...

- 2,661 impaired drivers arrested
- 7,562 collisions investigated
- 42 fatality collisions
- 6,601 distracted driving contacts
- 5,283 seatbelt violations
- 24,716 aggressive driver contacts
- 72,607 excessive speed contacts
- 17,644 CMV inspections

Miss graduation? You can still watch the ceremony



GRADUATES - Wednesday's ceremony is available on the WSP YouTube Channel. Log on to watch the ceremony and see our new troopers.



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Highway dedicated to Trooper Schaffer



CHEHALIS, Wash. - A six-mile section of state Route 6 was dedicated in honor of fallen Washington State Patrol (WSP) Trooper Justin Schaffer on Sunday. A ceremony held at Adna Middle/High School culminated in a procession to the sign unveiling. Thank you to everyone who came out in support of Trooper Schaffer's family, detachment, and friends.

118th TBTC Open House, Graduation



WSP welcomes 47 new troopers this past week

OLYMPIA, Wash. - The Washington State Patrol (WSP) added 47 newly commissioned troopers to its ranks Wednesday during the 118th Trooper Basic Training (TBTC) graduation ceremony held at the state Capitol Rotunda.

The graduation marks the completion of more than 1,400 hours of rigorous training, including classroom and practical exercises at the WSP Academy in Shelton. The training culminated with a coaching trip where the cadets worked the roads alongside field training officers.

The combined efforts of the 118th TBTC class resulted in 9,065 driver contacts, 3,069 calls for service, the removal of 540 impaired drivers from our roadways, and 976 collision investigations during their two-month long coaching trip.

Washington State Supreme Court Justice Sheryl Gordon McCloud swore in the new troopers as the rotunda erupted with applause and cheers from family, friends, and colleagues.

Chief John R. Batiste, a member of the 55th TBTC, thanked the new troopers and their families for their dedication to being part of the agency's future.

"It's a great day, for it has arrived," Chief John Batiste said to the graduates during Wednesday's ceremony. "To the graduates of the 118th TBTC, let me be the first to say - congratulations troopers."

Chief Batiste alongside Governor Jay Inslee congratulated each graduate, providing them with their commission cards signifying they were now officially a commissioned WSP trooper.

"Today you will officially join the ranks of outstanding men and women - those here beside me, and many others around the state," Chief Batiste said. "Over the course of 103 years, you and just over 4,000 others could call themselves Washington State troopers."

Several members of the class were recognized during Tuesday's Open House for excelling in aspects of specific skills and abilities, including:

- Top Academic Award:** Trooper Claudia S. Wagner. The award was officially re-named in honor of WSP fallen Trooper Christopher Gadd, who also received the award as a member of the 116th TBTC.
- Top Driving Award:** Trooper Cameron J. MacDonald
- Top Firearms Award:** Trooper Roberto Paniagua
- Top Physical Fitness Award:** Trooper Kay L. Lester
- Top Control Tactics Award:** Trooper Claudia S. Wagner
- Top Collision Investigation Award:** Trooper Claudia S. Wagner
- Top Communications Award:** Trooper Andre J. Bonilla
- Top Overall Cadet Award:** Trooper Heather Stokes
- Core Values Award:** Trooper Cameron J. MacDonald. The Core Values Award is determined by the anonymous vote of the members of the 118th TBTC, who chooses the classmate they feel best exemplified the training division's core values. The award is sponsored by the WSP Memorial Foundation. Wednesday's award was given in honor of Detective Eric T. Gunderson, who died in the line of duty on Sept. 26, 2021. Trooper Gunderson's wife, Kami, presented the award to Trooper MacDonald.



WSP troopers visit Pe Ell first graders



PE ELL, Wash. - Trooper Christian Freund and Trooper Dakota Russell visited Mrs. Russell's first-grade class at Pe Ell School on Monday, March 11. During their visit, Trooper Freund read aloud the book "Tooth Fairy vs. The Easter Bunny."

CRD visits classroom in Elma

ELMA, Wash. - Washington State Patrol (WSP) Fingerprint Supervisor Carl Dimock, Fingerprint Technician Lead Maddie Quistgaard, and Criminal History Support Unit Supervisor Kimberly Russell of the Criminal Records Division (CRD) Identification and Background Check Section visited Ms. Morgan Jump's 7th and 8th grade Investigative Law class at Elma Middle School on Tuesday.

Carl and Maddie taught the students how fingerprints are formed and how unique fingerprints ridges are developed. They also taught the students different pattern types and how to compare impressions.

Kimberly joined the presentation and shared information to the students about who, what, and why individuals can be fingerprinted in the State of Washington and how the Criminal Records Division operates. All students who wanted to participate in being fingerprinted were printed by the technicians and were provided a fingerprint card with their own prints to examine. The students were very engaged and enjoyed learning about fingerprints.

The CRD recognizes the importance of community outreach and will continue to do their part in teaching about the services of the Washington State Patrol and sharing ideas with the youth as they start to develop goals for their futures.



WSP sends Honor Guard to memorial service of fallen NMSP officer



ELMA, Wash. - Honor Guard members, Trooper Dean Gallanger (D5) and Ryan Michael (D6) arrived Tuesday night in Albuquerque, New Mexico for the New Mexico State Police funeral service for Trooper Hare on Wednesday morning. As honor guard brought New Mexico State Trooper Justin Hare in, the New Mexico Honor Guard did a rolling thunder salute with shotguns as he passed by. Honor Guard members from across the nation stood in a cordon of honor as the horse passed by, and again as they walked his urn and family to the venue. At the end of the church service, Trooper Hare and his family were escorted outside where honor guard did the "graveside" detail with the 21 gun and flag folding. All of the out of state agencies stood off to the side and paid our respects. NM brought their cadet class to the funeral and allowed them to attend. Once the main ceremony was done, the outside agencies were able to present the family with gifts. The WSP Honor Guard gave them a patch and a WSP honor guard coin.



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