



FLYING WHEEL

VOLUME 61 • NUMBER 4

FALL 2023



*Historical marker placed at Camp Perry, pages 4-5
Check out the back cover for a 360-degree viewing experience of the historical marker!*

COLONEL'S LETTER



For nine decades, we have been providing Service with a Purpose to the citizens of Ohio at a very high level. This year, we have been celebrating the 90th anniversary for the Ohio State Highway Patrol, as well as the 90th anniversary for the Ohio Investigative Unit.

Over the course of this year, and having previously added "Family" to our Core Values, we made family a priority in how we recognized our 90th anniversary year. Many of you will fondly remember how in the past, our Patrol family spent valuable time together.

It was in that spirit, all of the events that took place this year as part of celebrating our 90th anniversary were intentional to make sure that we, as a Patrol family, spent time together.

Whether you attended a post open house, or a district family event, that time was important. What we did over this year with our families, including bringing our children together at these events, was invaluable.

It is my hope this is something we continue into the future. I have not been shy about saying the Highway Patrol is a family, and family takes care of family. That means support during the good times, and the times that are not so good. I think that is something we do very well.

Stressing the importance of our family is very important and is something we are going to continue to do.

Adaptability is another of our Core Values – and I think that is also something we do very well.

We have emerged from the pandemic disruptions a better, and stronger, agency that is more prepared to handle whatever comes our way.

The next Flying Wheel issue will highlight many of our operational successes from 2023, but I want to give you a glimpse of what a difference you made this year.

Eight of our nine districts conducted service initiatives that focused on violent crime reduction, traffic safety awareness, OVI enforcement and addiction outreach.

We adjusted our approach to impaired driving enforcement and ended the year with 20 counties actively participating in a pilot program to offer treatment and referral services to individuals arrested for impaired driving.

Troopers and OIU agents conducted 13 service initiatives across multiple cities, including Toledo, Sandusky, Canton, Cleveland, Elyria, Youngstown, Dayton, Springfield, Columbus, Cambridge, Georgetown and Chillicothe.

And, our Aviation Section continued their work of reducing violent crime in targeted areas through an increased focus on proactive patrol flights. From finding a lost autistic child to mitigating the risk associated with a violent pursuit, the Aviation Section provided highly-effective aerial assets to public safety entities across the state, recorded statistical increases in many vital categories and strengthened partnerships with local agencies to never seen before levels.

Collaboration led to our achievements across the Division last year. I am a firm believer that when we work together, it turns out better.

As we move forward into 2024 and beyond, we are going to continue to work together, and to take care of each other to get the job done.

God bless our fallen. God bless the families. And, God bless the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Colonel Charles A. Jones". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Colonel Charles A. Jones
Superintendent

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Want daily updates on the Patrol & OIU? Follow us!



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Ohio State Highway Patrol



Now featuring QR codes! Look for images made of black or white squares, like the one shown here, throughout the magazine. Scan the image with your smartphone, and simply tap the link that pops up to directly view videos or additional content related to the articles featured in *Flying Wheel*.



HISTORICAL CELEBRATIONS – HISTORICAL MARKER PLACED AT CAMP PERRY

In the northeast corner of Niagara and Trippe roads, on the grounds of Camp Perry Military Reservation near Port Clinton, now stands a historical marker with significant meaning to the Ohio State Highway Patrol. That spot is the exact location where 60 men became patrolmen in the first graduating class of the Patrol on November 15, 1933.

On November 1, the Ohio State Highway Patrol, the Ohio National Guard and the Ohio History Connection officially introduced the historical marker during a ceremony held on the grounds of Camp Perry. On stage was the replica of the front and back side of the marker, draped in a black cover, and two motorcycles, a Patrol Harley-Davidson motorcycle from 1938 and the current style BMW motorcycle.

“This is where it all started for us,” said Colonel Charles A. Jones, Patrol superintendent. “The first class graduated just down the road – literally, it is approximately 400 yards from here as the crow flies. From that spot, on that cold November day – in the snow – on their motorcycles – there is a through-line that starts right here at Camp Perry and runs all the way through 90 years of our history.”

“During those 90 years, the Patrol has grown organizationally and added new ways to keep Ohio safe,” Colonel Jones said. “From the introduction of aviation assets into our operations, to the formation of a state-of-the-art crime lab.” Colonel Jones also added that the Patrol has grown in numbers from 60 patrolmen to 1,300 sworn officers, working out of 59 Patrol posts, and a General Headquarters infrastructure, supporting our troopers and professional staff in the field.

“Through the years, we diversified, adding women and minorities into our ranks, and promoted diversity and inclusion throughout our workforce,” Colonel Jones said. “We have met the challenges of civil disturbances, prison riots, homeland security, calls for social justice and a pandemic. We have merged traffic safety and criminal patrol through a detailed data and analytics strategy to specifically address the threats Ohioans care about the most. And, as I stand before you this afternoon, nearly 90 years after Colonel Lynn Black and those 60 patrolmen walked these grounds, our core mission revolves around those same types of critical safety and security



areas where every day, across Ohio, state troopers, Ohio Investigative Unit agents, police officers and professional staff directly and positively impact local communities.”

Ohio History Connection Executive Director and CEO Megan Wood explained that this historical marker was made possible through the vision, dedication and hard work of many people who knew there was an important Ohio story to be told and remembered.

“The marker that we are unveiling today, honoring the 90th anniversary of the Ohio State Highway Patrol’s first graduating class, now joins the ranks of state markers in telling the story of Ohio,” said Executive Director Wood. “The marker that we are dedicating today was made possible through the vision and dedication and hard work of many people. There was a team that came together around this important Ohio story, and dreamed of a way to memorialize this story.”

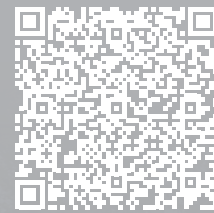
The project took a considerable amount of work and research to materialize. A team consisting of the Patrol’s Public Affairs Unit and the Ohio National Guard worked tirelessly using photographs, GPS mapping technology and existing structures to determine the exact location where the graduation of the first class took place.

“Camp Perry has been an integral part of the Ohio National Guard throughout our history,” said Assistant Adjutant General Brigadier General Matthew Woodruff, Ohio Army National Guard. “This place now gets codified as a part of the state patrol’s history as we unveil this marker.”

Brigadier General Woodruff explained how their partnership with the Patrol takes them to higher levels when the National Guard is called upon by the Governor.

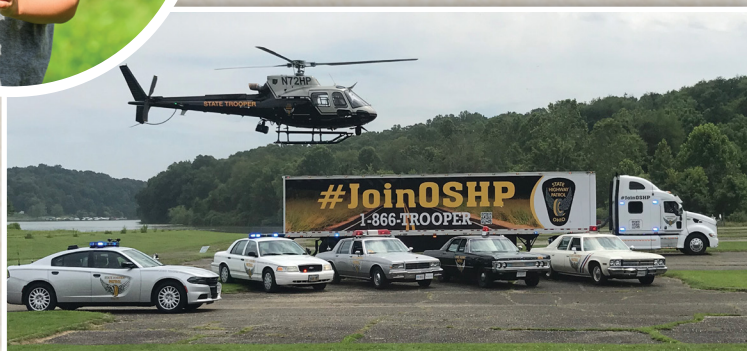
Colonel Jones thanked Brigadier General Matthew Woodruff for the assistance from the National Guard, explaining that they had made every effort to ensure the exact location of the graduation. Once the location was identified, the verbiage for the historical marker was written.

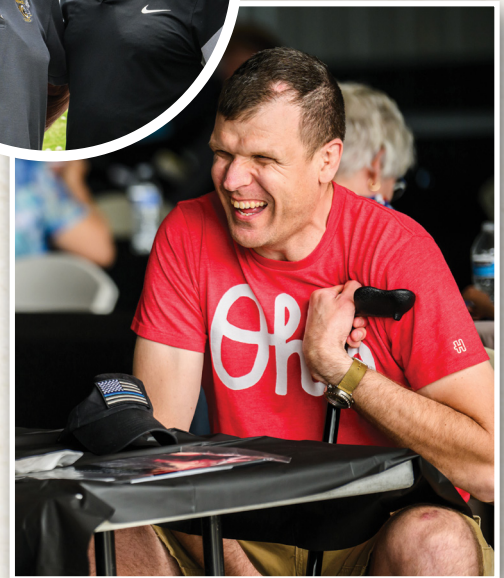
Colonel Jones, Brigadier General Woodruff and Ohio Department of Public Safety Director Andy Wilson joined Executive Director Wood on stage to officially unveil the marker. The marker is adorned with the photograph of the Patrol’s first class and information about Ohio House Bill 270 in 1933, as well as the Core Values of the Patrol.



Scan the QR code above with the camera on your smartphone to view the Historical Marker Dedication Ceremony.

The historical marker program began in 1953. There are more than 1,750 historical markers around the state and they each tell a unique piece of Ohio’s history.









HISTORICAL CELEBRATIONS – OSHP HONORED BY DIRECTOR WILSON AND GOVERNOR DEWINE



Ohio Department of Public Safety Director Andy Wilson, Colonel Charles A. Jones and Governor Mike DeWine during the 90th ceremony.

On November 15, Governor Mike DeWine presented a proclamation to Colonel Charles A. Jones, honoring the Ohio State Highway Patrol's 90 years of service to the people of Ohio. The presentation was part of a celebration held at the Patrol Training Academy to honor both the Patrol and Ohio Investigative Unit's remarkable 90 years.

Governor DeWine explained how, 90 years ago, the first 60 patrolmen were sworn in after six weeks of training at Camp Perry. Prior to that day, Colonel Lynn Black, the Patrol's first superintendent, put out a statement to the newspapers saying, "Heavy volume of travel over the highways makes necessary some sort of legal agency to act in a regulatory capacity." He promised that the new troopers would be, "familiar in duties and regulations, dignified in conduct, neat in appearance, attentive in manner and by all means courteous in approach."

"From that first class, to the 172nd that will graduate on Friday, the Patrol has lived up to Colonel Black's promise and they have far exceeded," said Governor DeWine. "You all should be very, very proud. Through the years, the Patrol has met many challenges. Many that I have had the opportunity to see up close, including a prison riot, civil disturbances, homeland security threats and a pandemic."

Governor DeWine said his first interaction with the Patrol was when he was working the night shift as an assistant Greene County prosecutor. This was the first chance he had to work directly with troopers and see what the men and women of the Patrol do. He went through the years, from working on DUI legislation as a state senator, to watching troopers handle a tragic bus crash in Licking County the day before the celebration.



Retired Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Teaford and Lieutenant Colonel Chuck Linek share a laugh at the 90th event.

“I have always been proud of the Highway Patrol,” he said, “But never more so than yesterday as I watched the men and women of the Highway Patrol work. I saw them upholding their now 90-year legacy, bringing order out of chaos, helping their fellow Ohioans on what was undoubtedly the worst day for those fellow Ohioans in their life. They did yesterday and they continue to do, and do every day, an amazing job of upholding the honor, the tradition of this great organization.”

Ohio Department of Public Safety Director Andy Wilson also expressed his appreciation for the Patrol by telling those gathered that he loves the people of the Patrol and the agency’s history and professionalism.

“Happy birthday Patrol,” Director Wilson said. “As I stand before you on your 90th birthday, I can honestly, with all of my heart, tell you that my experience over the last 10.5 months, serving as your director of Public Safety, has been the highlight of my professional career.”

As Colonel Jones stepped to the podium and addressed the retirees and Patrol employees, he graciously accepted a proclamation on behalf of those before him. He then read the birthday message, which was recited at every Patrol facility on November 15 by the highest-ranking commander.

The message read: Throughout this year, we have celebrated our history and tied our beginnings to the evolution of where we are today as a Division.

From November 15, 1933, on the shores of Lake Erie in Ottawa County – in the snow – on their motorcycles – there is a through-line that starts at Camp Perry with the graduation of our first class and runs all the way through 90 years of our history.

And now today, 90 years after Colonel Lynn Black, our first superintendent, and those 60 patrolmen walked those grounds at Camp Perry, and where an Ohio historical marker now commemorates the Ohio State Highway Patrol’s origin, our core mission revolves around those same types of critical safety and security areas where every day, across Ohio, state troopers, Ohio Investigative Unit agents, police officers and professional staff directly and positively impact local communities.

I am very proud of our 90th anniversary year, and I hope each of you are as well. Now, it is time to look forward and seize upon new opportunities. Like those first 60 patrolmen who rode off on their motorcycles to outposts across Ohio 90 years ago today, we remain an organization that takes care of people.

Today’s special occasion to celebrate our Division’s 90th birthday provides an opportunity to reflect on the 90 years of progress that has been made across many fronts, and acknowledge our active and retired employees for their contributions over nine decades of Service with a Purpose.

We can continue to honor the same core principles of those first 60 patrolmen by carrying on the 90-year commitment to get people in need the invaluable assistance that can give them hope for a brighter future.

Colonel Charles Jones

Superintendent, Ohio State Highway Patrol

HISTORICAL CELEBRATIONS – OHIO INVESTIGATIVE UNIT HONORED FOR 90 YEARS OF SERVICE

On November 15, Governor Mike DeWine presented Ohio Investigative Unit Senior Enforcement Commander Erik Lockhart with a Governor's Proclamation in honor of the agency's 90 years of service. The proclamation was presented during a celebration for both the Ohio State Highway Patrol and OIU.

Before making the presentation, Governor DeWine expressed his gratitude for OIU and its agents. He explained that OIU has come a long way since the repeal of prohibition in 1933 and its sole purpose of regulating the manufacture, sale and distribution of alcoholic beverages.

"As time has gone by, many name changes have occurred, but the Ohio Investigative Unit has continued to evolve into an agency that handles so many things," said Governor DeWine. "Not only alcohol-related crime, but also crime related to illegal firearms, drugs, gambling, tobacco, violent crime, human trafficking and on and on."

Commander Lockhart went on to explain that after the agency was created, OIU took on more duties, including food stamp fraud and tobacco enforcement. He pointed out that OIU is also an integral component in violent crime reduction occurring in and around liquor permit establishments. Agents have removed illegal firearms from the streets, helping keep locations, employees and patrons safe. As of November 2023, agents recovered 271 illegal firearms while conducting their duties. Those illegal firearms are now unable to be used to harm others or commit crimes.

"What our agents do on a daily basis is dangerous," said Commander Lockhart. "I think I speak for every member of the Ohio Investigative Unit over the last 90 years when I say we do not do this job for the recognition, but instead, for the



Senior Enforcement Commander Erik Lockhart and retired Agent James G. Eliason, Athens District, share friendly conversation during OIU's anniversary celebration.



SEC Erik Lockhart during OIU's 90th anniversary celebration in December.

betterment of the great state of Ohio and the safety of our citizens."

He explained that there is no greater example of the dedication to uphold Ohio's laws than Agent James Burns, who is OIU's only agent to ever die in the line of duty. He was shot and killed while attempting to arrest a suspect during an investigation in Xenia on November 7, 1964. Agent Burns is also the only enforcement agent to appear on the National Peace Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. He noted that without Agent Burns, OIU would not be where they are today, and that the agency will never forget his, or his family's, sacrifice.

"As proud as I am to look back on the accomplishments OIU has made in its first 90 years, I am even more proud to think of where it will be in another 90 years," said Commander Lockhart.

"Thank you to all who have made an impact on this agency, and to all who will do so in the future."

Before presenting the proclamation, Governor DeWine said he was very proud of the work agents do.

"You do work others cannot do," Governor DeWine said. "You do work others will not do. And the work you do matters so very, very much to every citizen of Ohio."



Scan the QR code to the left with the camera on your smartphone to view the OIU 90th anniversary historical video.

PATROL'S PIPES AND DRUMS

The sounds of the bagpipes and booming of the drums reverberate through Leadership Hall at the Patrol's Training Academy. "Amazing Grace" causes chills for everyone in attendance.

But, the melodic sounds by the Patrol's Pipes and Drums did not come easily. It took a lot of patience and practice by a small contingent of troopers, and a donation by the Patrol's Auxiliary to make the Pipes and Drums come to life.

It started with Sergeant John F. McGlashan, Sandusky Post, who reached out to Lieutenant Rudolph L. Zupanc, Columbus Communications Center, and retired Electronic Technician 3 Tom Anderson, about the idea of having a bagpiper join the Drum and Bugle Corps. In the beginning, however, Sergeant McGlashan played mostly solos, because he could only play one tune with the band. Sergeant Stephen A. Murphy also joined as a bagpiper.

Lieutenant Zupanc, who began learning the tenor drum in 2015, and sergeants McGlashan and Murphy began to lead the new Pipes and Drums. As time went on, more people became interested in learning or joining them.

The job of creating traditional pipes and drums uniforms had one stipulation; the uniforms must be black and gray. The Ohio State Highway Patrol Auxiliary was instrumental in obtaining the uniforms by assisting with funding. The Patrol's Tailor Shop also assisted, and in 2015 after two years, the Pipes and Drums had uniforms.

On January 15, 2020, the Patrol's Pipe and Drums were deemed official by Colonel Richard S. Fambro to perform as a group and lead in the graduation. In 2023, Colonel Charles A. Jones gave the Pipes and Drums the approval to invite Patrol family members to join the group. The first family member to join was Chaundra Brode, wife of Lisbon Post Commander, now retired Leslie D. Brode.



Since then, the Patrol's Pipes and Drums have grown to 11 members, who range from active duty, retired personnel and family members. They are pipers, snare drummers and bass drummers. Some have more experience than others.

The Pipes and Drums have played at graduations, awards ceremonies, parades and memorial events. They join with other Pipes and Drums groups for some events, which they all enjoy. But just like work on the road, their most honorable moments sometimes take place during someone else's time of grief.

"It's an incredible honor and humbling to play at someone's funeral and to be a part of their final goodbye," said Sergeant McGlashan. "Those are sad and solemn events, so it's tough."

*Are you, or is someone you know,
interested in becoming a part of the
Patrol's Pipes and Drums?
Contact Lieutenant Zupanc
at rzupanc@dps.ohio.gov*

5 PATROL PERSONNEL PRESENTED WITH DPS MILITARY SERVICE AWARDS

On November 28, five members of the Patrol were honored for their unwavering service to their country and state. The Ohio Department of Public Safety's Military Service Awards Ceremony is an annual event where active-duty members, reserves, posthumous service members and veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces are awarded for their exceptional service in the military and daily DPS operations.

"Here at the Ohio Department of Public Safety, we work hard to support the military by developing methods that improve the quality of life for departmental citizen soldiers, airmen, sailors, marines, coast guardsmen and their families during periods of peace, pre-deployment and post-deployment," said Assistant Director of the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Karen Huey. "On behalf of the Director's Office, I want to congratulate all of our 2023 award recipients and honorable mentions."

During the ceremony, Lieutenant Colonel Chuck Linek read the "Missing Man Table," the Patrol's Pipes and Drums played "Amazing Grace" and Ohio Department of Veterans Services Assistant Director Sean McCarthy spoke, congratulating the winners.

The recipients received an award certificate that stated, "For your exemplary performance in merging the nexus between your military service and honorable work with the Ohio Department of Public Safety to contribute to a safer Ohio." They also received a framed 2023 DPS Military Service Award commemorative license plate and a remit voucher for one paid day off.

Two employees were presented with an honorable mention certificate for outstanding service in their designated branch. They also received a 2023 DPS Military Service Award license plate.

The Franklin County Recorder's Office was on hand to register or renew county-issued Veteran ID cards.



Award Recipients:

Sergeant Brian Cowles, Canfield Post
Air Force Reserve
2009 to current
Security Forces Master Sergeant

Trooper Harry Baumgartner IV,
Springfield Post
U.S. Army Reserve
2015 to current
First Lieutenant, military intelligence
officer in the Public Affairs Unit

Sergeant Ryan Purpura, Public Affairs Unit
Ohio Air National Guard
2000 to January 2023
Retired Major, Senior Pilot

Honorable Mention:

OSHP Intel Analyst Alex Nichols,
Intelligence Unit,
Ohio Air National Guard
2014 to current, Captain who serves as the
Director of Equal Opportunity

Ohio Investigative Unit Agent
Cynthia Corser, Toledo District,
United States Navy
1993 to 1995, E3 Plane Captain



From left to right - OSHP Intel Analyst Alex Nichols, Intelligence Unit, Sergeant Brian Cowles, Canfield Post, Sergeant Ryan Purpura, Public Affairs Unit and Trooper Harry Baumgartner IV, Springfield Post. Not pictured Ohio Investigative Unit Agent Cynthia Corser, Toledo District.

OHIO INVESTIGATIVE UNIT NAMED LIQUOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY OF THE YEAR

In October, the Ohio Investigative Unit (OIU) was presented with the National Liquor Law Enforcement Association's (NLLEA) Alcohol Law Enforcement Agency of the Year award.

The award was presented to OIU during the 2023 NLLEA annual conference, held October 4 through 6 in Virginia Beach, Va. In total, more than 35 agencies were represented at the conference including international, federal, state, local and campus law enforcement.

NLLEA presented the award to OIU for their commitment to making businesses and locations safe for patrons, employees and the general public. The award honors the agents, who are committed to reducing violent crimes occurring in and around locations by carrying out violent crime reduction details. Because of their efforts, illegal gun seizures have doubled for OIU every year since 2019. Many of these illegal guns have been taken from violent criminals and gang members.

During the conference, OIU Agent-in-Charge Kellette L. Mayberry, Administrative Services, was also selected as the National Liquor Law Enforcement Association's new Sergeant at Arms.



TROOPERS RUCKER, MCNAMARA RECEIVE OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL AWARD

Trooper Michael D. Rucker and Trooper Jeff R. McNamara, Columbus District Criminal Patrol, were recognized in October during the Ohio Attorney General's Office annual awards ceremony, receiving the 2023 Ohio Distinguished Law Enforcement Group Achievement Award. They were recognized along with the Columbus High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Task Force for their commitment to excellence.

ELEVEN INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN INTERNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATION INDICTED

On November 14, United States Attorney Rebecca C. Lutzko, DEA Special Agent in Charge Orville Greene and Ohio Department of Public Safety Director Andy Wilson announced that 11 individuals were charged for their roles in an international drug trafficking conspiracy. The conspiracy involved the importation of fentanyl, synthetic opioids and synthetic cannabinoids into the United States. The drugs were distributed in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Kentucky and Tennessee.

While incarcerated in an Ohio state prison, an inmate orchestrated the operation, ordering significant quantities of these drugs from an Italian citizen and resident. The Italian citizen arranged for kilogram quantities of these controlled substances to be exported from several foreign countries; first to Italy, then to the United States, for redistribution by conspiracy members. Investigators with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction discovered evidence of the criminal activity and immediately alerted the Ohio State Highway Patrol and the DEA for further investigation. It was determined that U.S.-based conspirators received the foreign shipments, cut and mixed the drugs and redistributed them. Other members of the conspiracy used Bitcoin cryptocurrency

to pay the Italian citizen for the drugs.

This investigation is part of an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDETF) investigation. OCDETF identifies, disrupts and dismantles the highest-level drug traffickers, money launderers, gangs and transnational criminal organizations that threaten the United States by using a prosecutor-led, intelligence-driven, multi-agency approach that leverages the strengths of federal, state and local law enforcement agencies against criminal networks.

The investigation preceding the indictments was conducted by the DEA, Ohio State Highway Patrol and Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction.

"Governor Mike DeWine and the Ohio Department of Public Safety are extremely proud of the work done by the investigative team in this case," Director Wilson said. "This investigation is an excellent example of the great work that can be done when you have seamless cooperation between state, federal and international partners. The work done by this investigative team will truly make Ohio a safer place for our friends, our families, and our children."

TROOPER MOLINA-MENDEZ RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDALLION



From left: Windham Village Fire Department Lieutenant Jeffrey Scott, Assistant Chief Joseph Veccia and Chief Nick Bushek; Trooper Jose Molina-Mendez; civilian Antwon Watson; Colonel Charles A. Jones, Ohio Turnpike Director Ferzan Ahmed; and Windham Village Fire Department Lieutenant Chris Pekarek.

On December 7, Trooper Jose Molina-Mendez, Hiram Post, was presented with the Distinguished Service Medallion from Colonel Charles A. Jones, Patrol superintendent. On July 14, 2023, Trooper Molina-Mendez was dispatched to a location along the Ohio Turnpike for an allergic reaction. When he arrived, he found a distressed teenage male, Antwon Watson, who was having difficulty breathing.

Dispatch told Trooper Molina-Mendez that EMS would arrive 15 minutes later. With the teen struggling to breathe, Trooper Molina-Mendez took quick action by transporting him to an ambulance. There, paramedics treated the teen, whose condition deteriorated to the point of needing constant medication to keep his airway open while enroute to Trumbull Memorial Hospital. Trooper Molina-Mendez's actions likely saved Watson's life.



TROOPER KLEMAN RECEIVES AWARD

The first weekend of November, Trooper Austin J. Kleman, Dayton Post, was presented with the 2023 Robert B. Jacob Award of Merit. He was nominated for the award by Vandalia Division Police Chief Kurt E. Althouse, for the bravery and cooperation he demonstrated during an incident, which took place on July 28, 2022, when Kleman apprehended a heavily armed suspect. The award is presented by the Hundred Club of Dayton to local police and fire department members who have demonstrated extraordinary bravery above and beyond the call of duty.

TROOPERS RECEIVE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDALLIONS



Colonel Charles A. Jones and Trooper Matthew K. Walker

On November 22, Colonel Charles A. Jones, Patrol superintendent, presented Trooper Matthew K. Walker, Marion Post, with the Distinguished Service Medallion. He was presented with the award after his life-saving actions on November 21, 2022. The Marion Dispatch Center received a frantic 911 call, but was not able to obtain much information. They were able to ping a GPS location in Marion County. First responders arrived on scene and found a vehicle submerged in a pond. Trooper Walker arrived on scene and began assisting, helping to get multiple children who were trapped in the vehicle to shore and performing CPR on a two-year-old victim.



Colonel Charles A. Jones and Trooper John S. Sanders-Tirado

On December 8, Colonel Charles A. Jones, Patrol superintendent, presented Trooper John S. Sanders-Tirado, Toledo Post, with the Distinguished Service Medallion after saving a motorist's life. In August 2023, another department was involved in a vehicle pursuit. The driver being pursued collided at an intersection with another vehicle. The collision caused the suspect's vehicle to catch fire. As Trooper Sanders-Tirado arrived, the wind pushed the flames closer to the innocent driver's vehicle. Trooper Sanders-Tirado and other law enforcement on scene began working to free the driver, who was trapped inside the vehicle. He was able to remove her through the rear door and get her to a safe location.



TROOPER EATON RECOGNIZED IN MEDINA COUNTY

Earlier this fall, Trooper Eric G. Eaton, Medina Post, was recognized during the Medina Safe Communities breakfast. He was honored for his commitment to safety belt enforcement with the "Click it or Ticket" campaign.

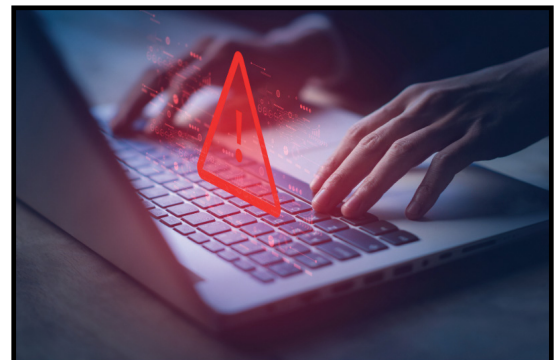
WATCH DESK COMMANDER, INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS AND DISPATCHERS RECEIVE RECOGNITION



From Left: Major Matthew L. Them, Lieutenant Reggie D. Streicher, Operations; Public Safety Intelligence Analyst Sarah J. Rhodes, Intelligence Unit; Dispatcher Brook A. Harris and Dispatcher Jacqueline C. Detter, Columbus Communications Center; and Lieutenant Colonel Chuck Linek. Not pictured: Public Safety Intelligence Analyst Eric Koller.

In November, the Patrol's Watch Desk Commander, OSHP Intelligence Analysts and OSHP Dispatchers were recognized for their diligence and potentially life-saving actions on September 22. Lieutenant Reggie D. Streicher, Columbus Communications Center, Public Safety intelligence analysts Sarah J. Rhodes and Eric D. Koller, and Columbus Communication Center dispatchers Brook A. Harris and Jacqueline C. Detter each received a Certificate of Recognition presented by Lieutenant Colonel Chuck Linek and Major Matthew L. Them.

The award was the result of a call to assist from the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office to the OSHP Watch Desk. The sheriff's office requested assistance with an incident where a 12-year-old female left her home and had not been seen for 24 hours. Through their investigation, Ashtabula County Sheriff's deputies determined that the juvenile had been communicating on social media with a 41-year-old male from out of state, and was possibly with him. Intelligence analysts developed investigatory leads and together with the assistance from the Watch Desk commander and dispatchers, provided the information to other fusion centers across the country. As a direct result of their efforts in developing and disseminating this critical information, law enforcement officers apprehended the adult male and safely recovered the juvenile female in Texas. The combined collaboration between the Watch Desk commander, OSHP intelligence analysts, OSHP dispatchers, as well as law enforcement and intelligence partners across the country, undoubtedly led to the successful and safe recovery of the juvenile.



AVIATION SECTION RECEIVES AAMVA REGION III AWARD

In November, the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) presented Ohio State Highway Patrol Captain Justin W. Cromer, Aviation Section, with the Region III Service Award, Innovative Use of Technology Award. The presentation took place during the Region III annual conference held in Des Moines, Iowa.

The award recognized the efforts the Aviation Section uses to mitigate risk and reduce liability. For example, in vehicle pursuits, an aircraft can keep eyes on a fleeing target vehicle, allowing officers to disengage in the pursuit and follow at a safe speed and distance. The safety of officers and the general public are greatly increased because law enforcement is no longer motivating the suspect vehicle into dangerous driving behaviors to avoid capture. It is recorded from a "bird's-eye view" to provide a broad, more encompassing picture than what body cameras or dash-mounted cameras offer.

Aircraft act as force multipliers for understaffed local agencies by engaging the flight crew in Patrol operations. Flight crews can quickly cover large geographical areas in a fraction of the time of ground officers. This allows them to focus on the most aggressive drivers. In a typical traffic detail, one aircrew can collaborate, on average, with five ground officers for traffic enforcement.

The model has been adopted in communities throughout Ohio and has resulted in an extremely high capture rate, and a large reduction in vehicle crashes. Aviation has become a required component for operational details.



Ohio State Highway Patrol Captain Justin W. Cromer, Aviation Section, receives the Regional Innovative Use of Technology Award from AAMVA Region III officials



LIGHT OHIO BLUE PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

On October 16, photographers Colleen E. O'Shea, OSHP Photographic Services, and Rebecca M. Meadows, ODPS Visual Communications, accepted the Light Ohio Blue First Responder Photo Contest awards for the Patrol. O'Shea captured the winning image for the Specialty Equipment Category and Meadows captured the winning image for Law Enforcement Category 1.

Scan the QR code to view the winning photos on social media.



BLUE MAX CEREMONY HELD

Each year, the Ohio Insurance Institute (OII) recognizes the Ace and Award of Excellence recipients from the previous calendar year. The Blue Max Program is an incentive recognition system designed to recognize troopers who recover stolen vehicles with apprehensions. The Ace Award is earned by recovering five stolen vehicles with apprehension in one calendar year. This year's reception and dinner was held in November at the Renaissance Columbus Westerville-Polaris Hotel.

2022 Ace Recipients:

- TROOPER JEFFERY J. HUFFMAN FINDLAY DISTRICT; BOWLING GREEN POST
- TROOPER MATTHEW D. BOYER CLEVELAND DISTRICT; CRIMINAL PATROL (2022 BLUE MAX)
- TROOPER JASON W. SKIPPER CLEVELAND DISTRICT OIS
- TROOPER JASON W. FOWLER CLEVELAND DISTRICT; AKRON POST
- TROOPER ADAM A. KNOWLES CLEVELAND DISTRICT; AKRON POST
- TROOPER SHAUN P. MOLLOHAN CLEVELAND DISTRICT; AKRON POST
- TROOPER NATHAN R. SWEAZY CLEVELAND DISTRICT; AKRON POST
- SERGEANT JAMES A. WALTON CLEVELAND DISTRICT; AKRON POST
- TROOPER TANNER R. GUINThER CLEVELAND DISTRICT; ASHLAND POST
- TROOPER LOREN J. LEE CLEVELAND DISTRICT; CANTON POST
- TROOPER EVAN M. HILL CLEVELAND DISTRICT; CANTON POST
- TROOPER JUSTIN P. LISTER CLEVELAND DISTRICT; ELYRIA POST
- TROOPER NICHOLAS B. TAMARKIN WARREN DISTRICT; WARREN POST
- TROOPER ANDREW J. ENGLISH WARREN DISTRICT; CRIMINAL PATROL
- TROOPER TYLER L. TOTANI WARREN DISTRICT; RAVENNA POST
- TROOPER AUSTIN J. KLEMAN PIQUA DISTRICT; DAYTON POST
- TROOPER ANDREW L. PUDENZ PIQUA DISTRICT; DAYTON POST
- TROOPER BRADLEY A. BAKER PIQUA DISTRICT; SPRINGFIELD POST
- TROOPER BENJAMIN J. KIRBY WILMINGTON DISTRICT; LEBANON POST

2022 Ace Recipients continued:

- TROOPER HALEY K. L. JUSTICE WILMINGTON DISTRICT; BATAVIA POST
- TROOPER JONATHAN W. SANBORN JACKSON DISTRICT; ATHENS POST
- TROOPER MICHAEL K. ERVIN JACKSON DISTRICT; CHILLICOTHE POST
- TROOPER SPENCER A. LARGE JACKSON DISTRICT; CHILLICOTHE POST
- TROOPER STEFAN K. SPRIGGS JACKSON DISTRICT; PORTSMOUTH POST
- TROOPER COREY J. COTTRILL; PATROL'S TRAINING ACADEMY
- TROOPER COLIN B. GILLIGAN; PATROL'S TRAINING ACADEMY

2022 Award of Excellence Recipients:

- SERGEANT MICHAEL D. RUSSELL; CLEVELAND VTFU
- TROOPER JAMES M. DONOHUE; CLEVELAND VTFU
- BMV INVESTIGATOR MICHELLE RUMINSKI; BMV INVESTIGATIONS (NORTHEAST DISTRICT)
- TROOPER BRIAN E. DEPIZZO; WARREN VTFU
- TROOPER GRADY E. COBLENTZ; GHQ VTFU
- SERGEANT TIMOTHY A. ROOT; GHQ VTFU

EDITOR NOTE: VTFU- VEHICLE THEFT AND FRAUD UNIT

U.S. SECRET SERVICE HONORS FORENSIC COMPUTER SPECIALIST 2 DANIEL MAHER



The United States Secret Service awarded Forensic Computer Specialist 2 Daniel Maher, Computer Crimes Unit, as a Top Forensic Examiner. He was presented the award on December 27, which was given to the top 100 examiners within the Secret Service's programs. The Patrol's Computer Crimes Unit is a member of the Secret Service's Electronic Crimes Task Force. In 2023, Forensic Computer Specialist 2 Maher was tasked with extracting electronic data from digital devices for use in both criminal and administrative investigations. He completed 919 total examinations, accounting for 149.98TB of data. As a participant in the Secret Service's Forensic Partner Reporting program (FPR), Maher ranked 16th out of all examiners across the world.

GXT AWARD



Trooper Justin P. Lister, Elyria Post, earned a perfect score on his Ohio State Highway Patrol Health and Physical Fitness Evaluation Graded Exercise Test (GXT). This is the third time he has earned a perfect score. He previously earned a perfect score in December 2018 and February 2021. Trooper Lister is a member of the 154th Academy Class and earned his commission in April 2013.

There have been 11 individuals who have earned a perfect score. Retired Trooper Bryan Dail earned the honor four times between 2012 and 2022. Major John C. Altman has earned the honor twice between 2019 and 2022.

LT. JACKSON RECEIVES 35 YEARS OF SERVICE



On December 7, Lieutenant Martina J. Jackson was presented with a certificate recognizing her 35 years of state service to the citizens of Ohio and the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

PO2 THOMPSON HONORED FOR SERVING 30 YEARS

On December 20, Police Officer 2 Robert L. Thompson, Expo Center, was honored for serving Ohioans for 30 years by Colonel Charles A. Jones, Patrol superintendent. PO2 Thompson began his service with the Patrol in October 1993, as a Police Officer 1 at the Alum Creek Facility. He was promoted in 1994 to Police Officer 2 and remained at the Alum Creek Facility. As a PO2, he also served in Operations at the Hilltop Facility, Governor’s Residence, Security Services and the Shipley Building. PO2 Thompson is the third police officer to earn this honor. His name was added to the Patrol’s Police Officer 30-year Club plaque.



TORCH RUN PHOTO WINS AWARD



In October, the Ohio State Highway Patrol was celebrated during the 2023 International Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) Conference in Chicago. Hundreds of photos were submitted, and a photo taken by Photographer Colleen O’Shea, OSHP Photographic Services, featuring Trooper Xavia Shurn, Patrol Training Academy, won second place in the 2023 LETR International Photo Contest. The International Association of Chiefs of Police has hosted the LETR photography contest for more than 20 years.

Photographer O’Shea received the award on November 16, during a presentation at the Patrol’s Training Academy.



Above left: O’Shea’s second place winning photo, featuring Trooper Xavia Shurn during the Torch Run

Above right: OSHP Photographer Colleen O’Shea and Trooper Xavia Shurn with the Law Enforcement Torch Run Award

THREE HONORED FOR SUPPORTING THE PATROL



The first week of December, Colonel Charles A. Jones, Patrol superintendent, presented Patrol Photographer Colleen E. O’Shea, Photographic Services; Planner 3 Sylvia Martinez, Office of Planning, Research and Development and Ohio Department of Public Safety Visual Communications Program Administrator 3 Greg Wyatt with Certificates of Appreciation. They were recognized for their exemplary work and unwavering support of the Patrol, our personnel, and the Division’s mission throughout the years, including the 90th Anniversary festivities.

From left: Colonel Charles A. Jones, OSHP Photographer Colleen O’Shea, Planner 3 Sylvia Martinez and ODPS Visual Communications Program Administrator 3 Greg Wyatt.

172ND ACADEMY CLASS GRADUATION

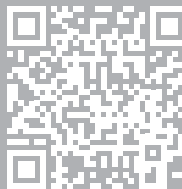


On November 17, the Patrol's 172nd Academy Class graduated after 30 weeks of intense training. Director Andy Wilson, Ohio Department of Public Safety, and Colonel Charles A. Jones, Patrol superintendent, provided remarks. Representative Tracy M. Richardson, District 86, Ohio House of Representatives, delivered the commencement address to the 39 members of the Patrol's 172nd Academy Class. The Honorable Judge David A. Trimmer, Fairfield County Court of Common Pleas, issued the Oath of Office.

Courses completed by the 172nd class included crash investigation, criminal and traffic law, detection of impaired drivers, firearms, physical fitness, self-defense and emergency vehicle operations.

Trooper Nicholas V. Hermann, Bucyrus Post, was selected as class speaker, and thanked the Academy and cadet family members for being supportive during their training.

Graduates began reporting to their posts on November 19. The graduates' first 70 working days were a field training period under the guidance of a veteran officer. The new graduates were assigned to 30 of the Patrol's 59 posts.



Were you unable to make it to the ceremony? Scan the QR code to the left with the camera on your smartphone to view the 172nd Cadet Graduation ceremony video.

THE NEXT 100: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF THE HIGHWAY PATROL

The Patrol has launched a groundbreaking recruitment campaign, The Next 100. It's aimed at assembling a formidable class of 100 cadets for the upcoming spring academy class. The initiative marks a shift in the Patrol's recruitment strategy, underscoring a renewed commitment to enhancing the Division with diverse talents and skills.

The Next 100 was launched in late November across all Patrol social media platforms, and is more than just a call to service; it's an invitation to potential recruits to explore the multifaceted roles that define a modern trooper. A series of videos shows the responsibilities and opportunities within the Patrol.

Recently, there has been a noticeable uptick in interest and cadet class sizes. By announcing a specific goal of 100 cadets, The Next 100 speaks directly to those with an interest in law enforcement and also conveys a sense of urgency.

One aspect of The Next 100 is the focus on the diverse roles and career paths within the Patrol. It shows that the Patrol is not just about enforcing traffic laws, but the Division is a multidimensional agency with roles ranging from aviation to tactical operations. The videos and stories, generated by our Regional Public Information Officers, highlight these diverse roles, while offering potential recruits a comprehensive view of the career possibilities within the Patrol. This aspect has sparked interest among potential recruits and served as a reminder to the public of the multifaceted nature of the Patrol's work.

The Next 100 is more than just a recruitment campaign. In fact, it's a forward-looking strategy to prepare the Patrol for the challenges of the future. As a diverse and talented group of individuals becomes interested in joining the ranks, the Division is ensuring that the Patrol remains a dynamic and versatile force, ready to adapt and excel in an ever-evolving law enforcement landscape.

The Next 100 is about ushering in a new era for the Patrol, where diversity, skill, and commitment to providing service with a purpose define the heart and soul of the organization.



The Next 100 may seek to work in the Aviation Section of the OSHP, which offers local law enforcement agencies assistance with traffic enforcement, search and rescue efforts, and more.

OPERATION SANTA'S SLEIGH BRINGS HOLIDAY CHEER



Ohio Department of Public Safety Director Andy Wilson, Ean and Payton Wilson and family, and Colonel Charles A. Jones.



Colonel Charles A. Jones pins a badge on Ean Wilson's shirt while his sister, Payton, and DPS Director Andy Wilson observe.

On December 23, 2023, law enforcement agencies traveled to various children's hospitals and Veterans homes across the state to spread holiday cheer during Operation Santa's Sleigh. Since its inception in 2019, the event has continued to grow each year, both in size and impact.

Operation Santa's Sleigh brings joy to eight different cities across Ohio, including Columbus, Cincinnati, Toledo, Cleveland, Dayton, Georgetown, Akron and Sandusky. In Columbus alone, nearly 300 public safety and law enforcement vehicles caravanned to Nationwide Children's Hospital, lit up the lights on their vehicles and waved to the children spending the holidays in the hospital.

To kick off the event in Columbus, a ceremony was held at Columbus State Community College. During the ceremony, several brave and strong boys and girls were honored and sworn-in as Operation Santa's Sleigh junior leadership.

The honor of Junior Ohio State Highway Patrol Colonel was given to two individuals this year. A brother and sister duo, 13-year-old Payton, and her little brother, 5-year-old Ean Wilson, were given the important role. In early 2023, their father was diagnosed with stage 4 bladder cancer. After the diagnosis, Payton and Ean stepped up, helping take care of their family during the hardest moments of their lives. Ohio State Highway Patrol Colonel Charles A. Jones, along with Ohio Department of Public Safety Director Andy Wilson, presented them with their badges and proclamations.

After all junior leadership had been announced and sworn-in, the winners of the Deck Your Sleigh contest were announced where Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspectors Paul Gundler and Leo Grabovich, Columbus District, took First Place with Elves Choice Award.

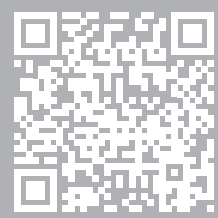
Gabriel Rosvanis, who was the Junior Colonel of 2022 Operation Santa's Sleigh, performed "O' Holy Night." Following his performance, a donation check was given to Bridge the Gap.

Before the caravan departed for Nationwide Children's Hospital, Santa made a surprise appearance to end the ceremony.



Scan the QR code to the left to view more photos from Operation Santa's Sleigh.

Scan the QR code to the right to view the Light Ohio Blue - Operation Santa's Sleigh highlight video.



DISTRACTED DRIVING EVENTS KICK OFF ENFORCEMENT

On October 5, four coordinated events took place throughout the state of Ohio to officially kick off the new distracted driving law. This is the first primary offense distracted driving law in Ohio. During the previous six months, law enforcement throughout Ohio issued warnings, while educating the public on the dangers of distracted driving.

On January 3, 2023, Governor Mike DeWine signed Senate Bill 288, which was a wide-ranging criminal justice bill that included provisions to strengthen Ohio’s distracted driving laws and established the offense of Distracted Driving as a primary offense in Ohio.

Under the new provisions, texting while driving became a primary offense and illegal while operating a motor vehicle. It similarly became illegal to drive and dial a phone number, talk on a phone while holding it and using a speaker feature, or enter addresses into a map application or GPS device.

There were some exceptions to the law for drivers, including reporting an emergency to law enforcement or a similar emergency entity, holding their phone to their ear only during phone conversations, as long as the call is started with a single touch or swipe, and holding or using cell phones or other electronic devices while stopped at a traffic light or parked on a roadway during an emergency or road closure.

The new law went into effect on April 4. There was an interim period of six months to allow for proper education to the public. During this timeframe, a motorist could be stopped by law enforcement and educated on the new law and the associated dangers of distracted driving, however they were not issued a citation for violating the elements found in the new law. Full and written enforcement of the new law began October 5.

To encourage more drivers to follow the law, the Ohio State Highway Patrol conducted high-visibility traffic enforcement on distracted driving corridors throughout Ohio, including on I-71 in Delaware County, I-77 in Summit County, I-70 in Guernsey County and U.S. 35 in Jackson County.

“Law enforcement officers see the deadly consequences of distracted driving on a daily basis, and the tragedy left in its wake,” said Colonel Charles A. Jones in October. “Distracted driving is unsafe and irresponsible, and in a split second, the consequences can be devastating. That is why Distracted Driving Corridors, like the one behind me, are so important. Throughout the remainder of this year, troopers will be committed to high-visibility enforcement of Ohio’s distracted driving laws, both within these corridors and on roadways across the state.”

Colonel Jones added that enforcing distracted driving won’t stop at the end of the year. Troopers, he said, will continue to make distracted driving violations a priority in Ohio to reduce the number of serious injury and fatal crashes on our roadways.

Since Senate Bill 288 has been enforced, troopers have made an impact on curbing crashes. From October 5 through December 31, there were 3,575 citations for distracted driving issued. As of the end of 2023, provisional data showed a decrease in the number of fatalities related to distracted driving.

"In just six months, this law is saving lives by changing the culture around distracted driving and changing the behavior of drivers behind the wheel," said Governor DeWine in October. "I am grateful to every driver who has chosen to put their phones down, and I encourage other drivers to commit to doing the same. There is no acceptable amount of distracted driving."



NEW DODGE DURANGOS REPLACE CHARGERS

The Ohio State Highway Patrol cruisers are getting a new look. Because the Dodge Chargers will be discontinued in 2024, the Patrol had to find a new option.

In 2022, the Patrol made the decision to make the Dodge Durango the primary replacement of the Dodge Charger. After months of testing throughout the state, the Durango was well-received in the field. Part of that decision came from the positive history with the Chargers and the limited rollout of the Durango in 2021.

Administrative Officer 3 Paul J. Hansen said that one of the positive aspects the SUV offered the Patrol was greater flexibility over the traditional sedan. For example, the extra storage space in the rear of the vehicle enabled the Patrol to install a custom storage box in each Durango. The new storage platform greatly enhances the ability of troopers to quickly, and safely, gain access to equipment needed while working on the roadside. The Durango also has a new light package, siren system and cage and prisoner seat.

The Durangos will be direct replacements for Chargers and Ford Explorers.

“The last ‘new’ Charger was issued out in late October,” said Administrative Officer 3 Hansen. “That was officially the last new Charger we will ever issue out of Central Install.”

The color also changed. The silver purchased previously was discontinued by Dodge. Because of that, the darker color “Vapor Gray” was chosen.

The last time the Patrol changed vehicles was after 2011, when Ford stopped making the Crown Victoria.



COFFEE WITH THE COLONEL

Colonel Charles A. Jones invited employees to join him for Coffee with the Colonel. The four events involved casual and open conversations about life in the Patrol family. In February, the Statistical Analysis Unit began conducting employee surveys to gather information on employee interest in participating. Each Coffee with the Colonel hosted approximately 30 to 35 Patrol personnel and lasted for two hours. The first Coffee with the Colonel was held in December 2022 at the Patrol's Training Academy, followed by Marion, Marysville and most recently, Athens.



FINDLAY DISTRICT



From left to right: Sergeant Ryan E. Purpura, Public Affairs Unit; Staff Lieutenant Matthew R. Crow, Findlay District Headquarters; Lieutenant Bradley P. Longo, Toledo Post; Lieutenant Matthew B. Meredith, Swanton Post; Lisa Canales, Angels Outreach; Staff Lieutenant Scott M. Wyckhouse, Findlay District Headquarters; Captain William N. Bowers, Findlay District Headquarters; Administrative Professional 1 Treena J. Krummrey, Findlay District Headquarters, and Trooper David Lopez, Findlay Post.

District Headquarters – On November 16 and December 19, troopers and professional staff from the Findlay District Headquarters, the Toledo, Swanton and Findlay posts, and the Public Affairs Unit assisted Angels Outreach by delivering baskets of food and goods to Toledo families ahead of Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Defiance Post – On October 12, troopers from the Defiance Post joined partners from the Williams County Health Department at a CarFit event in Montpelier. Trooper James S. Edwards, Trooper Joseph J. Nicholson and Trooper Adam R. Foster assisted senior drivers with everything from adjusting their mirrors to seat positioning to make sure they “fit” their vehicle.

BUCYRUS DISTRICT



From left: Dispatcher Kylie R. Shreve, Sandusky Post; Dispatcher Melissa M. Lowrey-Huntley, Sandusky Post; Trooper Michael J. Whiley, Norwalk Post; Sergeant Jeffrey A. Kaess, Sandusky Post; Lieutenant Timothy J. Hoffman, Norwalk Post; and Sergeant Jason P. Demuth, Norwalk Post.

Norwalk and Sandusky Posts – On December 9, as part of the Patrol’s Season of Sharing, troopers and dispatchers from the Sandusky and Norwalk posts shopped with children at the Walmart in Norwalk ahead of the holiday season.

GHQ

Crime Lab – For more than a decade, the OSHP Crime Laboratory staff has participated in the Franklin



County Children Services Holiday Wish program. This year, the Crime Lab staff fulfilled the wish lists of 19 children, and made cash donations to purchase gift cards in the amount of \$840 for 14 teenagers.



Mansfield Post – Leading up to Halloween, troopers and dispatchers from the Mansfield Post took part in several area Trunk-or-Treat events in Richland County.

Trooper Jason R. Beck passes out candy during the event at the Lexington Child Development Center.

CLEVELAND DISTRICT



Ashland Post – On October 31, Trooper Jesse L. Brown passed out treats at the Ashland Main Streets Costume Capers event in downtown Ashland.



Ashland Post – In November, Trooper Richard J. Kluever, Lieutenant Bradley R. Bishop and Sergeant Cristian Perrin helped serve Thanksgiving meals at the Ashland Salvation Army Ray & Joan Kroc Corps Community Center.



Ashland Post – Troopers from the Ashland Post partnered with community volunteers to distribute food for Associated Charities annual Christmas food giveaway on December 14. More than 200 families were served.



Canton, Medina and Wooster Posts – 2022 Ohio Public Safety Telecommunications Awards Program District 3 winners: Dispatcher Jennifer M. Jackson, Dispatcher Chelsea L. Raugh and Dispatcher Joshua M. Raymond, with Dispatch Supervisor Amanda H. Hermann (far left).



Summit County Sheriffs Office

Aviation – On November 17, Trooper Milan V. Milosevic (left) and Lieutenant Jonathan A. Ganley (right) were guests of honor at the Summit County Sheriff's annual awards dinner. Together they were recognized by Summit County Sheriff, Kandy Fatheree (center), for their notable contributions to proactive traffic enforcement efforts in 2023.

CLEVELAND DISTRICT



Ashland Post – In December, the Ashland Post partnered with the Ashland County Associated Charities, the Ashland University Criminal Justice Club and the Ashland County Emergency Management Agency for the annual Cram the Cruiser event at the Ashland Walmart. They received overwhelming support, with a van full of donations.

Canton Post – Trooper Justin K. Smith, Canton Post, and Trooper Mark Starnes, Cleveland District Licensing Commercial Standards, participated in a Stark County Safe Communities Seatbelt Check at East Canton High School in October. If they wore their seatbelt, they received “smarties.”

Cleveland District – Trooper Clayton W. Conrad, Eyria Post, Sergeant Daniel Kumor, Ashland Post, and Sergeant Clinton O. Smith, Wooster Post, took part in the Ashland University Career Fair in October.

Medina Post – In October, Trooper Demarques Camper visited the Cleveland Arts & Social Society Academy for an Anti-Bullying presentation. Trooper Demarques spent time with the children, and spoke with them about the effects that bullying can have on children throughout their lives and the consequences that can occur if they continue to bully one another.

WARREN DISTRICT



Chardon Post – On November 18, the Chardon Post held a “Can the Cruiser” event at the Chardon Walmart. The Post partnered with the Chardon Police Department and the Geauga County Sheriff’s Office for the event. It was a huge success. In all, approximately 3,200 pounds of non-perishable food items were received.



Chardon Post – Teddy Trooper and Bella Kindler, daughter of Sergeant Jeremy A. Kindler, both helped gather donations for the United Way of Geauga County.

WARREN DISTRICT



Warren District Criminal Patrol – In October, Warren District Criminal Patrol K-9 Trooper Andrew J. English, participated in the 8th Annual Calcutta Fire Department’s Parade and Trunk or Treat. The event drew approximately 300 children. Trooper English used this event as a recruitment opportunity to speak with the parents and adults regarding employment possibilities within the Division.

Warren Post – Trooper Ethan L. Jones participated in Brookfield High School’s Safety Day in October. Trooper Jones set up a table where he gave items away to the kids. Lanyards, color-changing pencils and plastic tote bags were distributed. During the event, Trooper Jones made contact with the children, answered questions from parents and other adults and had the opportunity to meet some of the aspiring public safety members of the community.



Chardon and Ravenna Posts – Trooper Jessica L. Hipple, Ravenna Post, and Trooper Jason L. Turner, Chardon Post, attended a Kent State University Men’s Basketball game on November 30. While promoting joining the Patrol, troopers also had a chance to educate the attendees on eliminating impaired driving. They did so through utilizing fatal vision goggles on students as they attempted to make a layup. Reports say, the students were unsuccessful.

Recruitment – In November, Trooper Diep N. Pham attended Career Day in the Crestwood School District.



Recruitment – In November, Sergeant Adam M. Shonk, Lisbon Post, and recruiters in Recruitment & Diversity attended a Kent State University football game. Troopers set up an area where they could educate students on the dangers of driving impaired.

PIQUA DISTRICT



Wapakoneta Post – For two dates in December, personnel from the Wapakoneta Post participated in the Patrol’s Season of Sharing. Staff, including Sergeant Matthew A. Dyer (pictured), took part shopping in both Celina and Wapakoneta.

Springfield Post – Trooper Harry B. Baumgartner, Springfield Post, organized a food, clothing and hygiene drive for Springfield area Veterans. In addition to Springfield Post personnel, the team at Gordon Food Service made donations as well.

Springfield Post – In November, personnel from the Springfield Post donated food to the Springfield Soup Kitchen, which serves the homeless, those who don’t have nutrition assistance or have difficulty cooking. A soup kitchen representative explained that the donation made a dramatic impact.

CAMBRIDGE DISTRICT

Zanesville Post – The Zanesville Post participated in educational efforts with local elementary students during School Bus Safety Week in October. Trooper Nicholas R. Smith spoke with elementary students on how to stay safe on and around school buses.

COLUMBUS DISTRICT



Columbus Post – Sergeant Nicholas C. Diehl, Columbus Post, and Trooper John E. Moore, Columbus Post, took time during the Circleville Pumpkin Show to take a photo with the Zane Trace Middle School cheerleaders. Also in the photo is Sergeant Diehl’s daughter, Ava.

WILMINGTON DISTRICT



Batavia Post – In December, as part of the Patrol’s Season of Sharing, Patrol personnel and family members from the Wilmington Post participated in a holiday shopping event with Highland and Brown County children at Walmart in Hillsboro. Wilmington Post representatives include Sergeant Donald N. Rack, Gwen Stevens (wife of Trooper Stevens), Dispatcher Kayla J. Hilderbrand, Trooper Alison A. Kindler, Dispatcher Khiley C. Staples and Trooper Todd Stevens.

WILMINGTON DISTRICT



Batavia Post – In December, as part of the Patrol’s Season of Sharing, Sergeant Joshua L. Patrick and Cadet Intern Lauren Holiday joined officers from the Miami Township Police Department and shopped with children at Meijer.

Jackson Post – On Christmas Eve, Jackson Post Personnel brought some holiday cheer to eight families, which included 22 children, as a part of the Patrol’s Season of Sharing. The families were provided with items to make a complete Christmas dinner, along with non-perishable food items. Each child was sponsored by a Patrol employee and received gifts of both needs, and of course, some toys to make their Christmas special.

JACKSON DISTRICT



Bottom from left – Dispatcher Kasaundra M. Kiger, Lieutenant Steven P. Daugherty and Santa Claus
Top from left - Trooper Kyle A. Ratcliff and Captain Craig S. Cvetan

Athens Post – On December 9, first responders from Hocking County participated in a giving event which benefited approximately 430 kids. First responders, including Athens Post troopers, provided approximately 430 kids with up to \$100 to spend. Participating agencies included the Logan Police Department, Hocking County Sheriff’s Office, and Logan Fire and EMS.



Ironton Post – On December 13, the annual Ironton Patrol Post and Lawrence County Sherriff’s Office shopping event was held at the South Point Walmart. Troopers, deputies and local law enforcement treated 27 children and their families to an evening with Teddy Trooper, Santa, a catered meal, and shopping for clothing and toys for Christmas.

RETIREES

Where are they now?

By Captain Rob Jackson, Retired

Kathy McKinniss, Administrative Assistant 3
 Years Served: June 24, 1974 to March 1, 2001
 Assignments: Personnel, Procurement, Colonel's Office, Investigation and Licensing and Commercial Standards

Kathy McKinniss has continued to work in a variety of part-time jobs since retiring, beginning as a test proctor for the Department of Emergency Medical Services. Currently, she holds a part-time staff position at the Museum of Catholic Art and History. In addition to her part-time work, Kathy volunteers with the Saint James the Less Food Pantry, the Holy Family Soup Kitchen and as secretary for the Confraternity of Christian Mothers at Holy Family.

Since retiring, Kathy has traveled to Israel, Bermuda, the Bahamas, Alaska, Texas, Nevada, Colorado, and a variety of beaches in Virginia, North and South Carolina and Florida. She continues to stay busy with her daughters, 10 grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. Although she misses the comradery of the Highway Patrol, she does keep in touch with many



From left: Kathy's sister-in-law Tammy McKinniss, Retired Staff Lieutenant Eric McKinniss and Kathy McKinniss

friends from her time working. This includes occasional breakfast and lunch get-togethers, and Kathy has attended the annual retiree cookout and Melva Dodd's annual Christmas party.

Kathy's younger brother, retired Staff Lieutenant Eric McKinniss, also served with the Division, and Kathy started when she was just two weeks out of high school. Kathy said, "I never thought it would be my lifelong career, and I'm very grateful for the friendships I still have today from the Patrol."

2023 HOLIDAY CARD CONTEST



Colonel Charles A. Jones and contest winner Charlie Glockner. Colonel Jones holds a framed copy of Glockner's winning design.

The winner of the 2023 Holiday Card Contest was Charlie Glockner, a sixth grader from Notre Dame Elementary in Portsmouth. She was presented with a certificate and a framed version of her artwork by Colonel Charles A. Jones, Patrol superintendent, during an awards ceremony at the school on December 6.

Charlie's design was used on the holiday card from the Superintendent's Office distributed to law enforcement and partners in Ohio and across the U.S., as the official holiday greeting and on social media.

In order to be considered, the design needed to include, "Happy Holidays from our Family to yours," and the Ohio State Highway Patrol Flying Wheel 90th anniversary logo.

Charlie is the daughter of Joe Glockner and Amy Ferguson (Joe Ferguson, Ohio Investigative Unit).

Runner-up designs were created by Fiyera Albaugh, a second grader from Eaton, and Josie Willis, a first grader from Circleville.

HONORING THE FALLEN FOR THE HOLIDAYS

This past holiday season, in the spirit of the Patrol's core value of Family, a new video was produced to honor the fallen (*see QR code below*). The video was released on the Patrol's social media platforms on December 22. It resides permanently on the Memorial page of our website: <https://statepatrol.ohio.gov/about-us/memorial>. This special presentation is a tribute to those who sacrificed everything in their Service with a Purpose to others. Since the Ohio State Highway Patrol was established in 1933, 48 members of the Patrol family have lost their lives in the line of duty.

In the video, you will see special memorial ornaments, each one containing the unit number of one of our fallen. Prior to their graduation, members of the 172nd Class were honored to take time away from their training to make those special ornaments.

Throughout the holiday season, the Christmas tree you see in the video that is adorned with the memorial ornaments was on display in Heritage Hall at our Training Academy in Columbus. This will become a new tradition at the Training Academy, with a tree and ornaments honoring our fallen each year as part of our holiday observance.

Special thanks goes to the State Highway Patrol Federal Credit Union and the Public Affairs Unit (PAU). With funding supplied by the Credit Union, the PAU purchased Christmas lights and ornaments for the memorial tree, which were displayed with the help of Academy Security Officer Todd E. Osborn.

As we celebrate the holiday season each year, please know that we remember the legacy of those represented in this new video. Their sacrifice is a poignant reminder of the cost of safety, and the peace we strive to maintain.



Scan the QR code above with the camera on your smartphone to view the Fallen Officer Holiday Tribute



Cadets from the 172nd Academy Class decorate ornaments with unit numbers of the fallen for the memorial tree.



PATROL PARTICIPATES IN SHOE GIVEAWAY, AUXILIARY DONATES SOCKS

For the last several years, the Ohio State Highway Patrol has helped distribute shoes to children at nine elementary schools in the Columbus City School District and to students at one school in the Whitehall City School District. In addition, the Patrol's Auxiliary donated colorful and fun socks for each of the children. In all, 4,000 shoes and socks were donated this year in partnership with Rock City Church. The children's shoe sizes were obtained ahead of time, and the shoes were wrapped by volunteers. The Columbus Division of Police, Franklin County Sheriff's Office and the Whitehall Division of Police also participated.

Auxiliary Lieutenant Colonel Jason Sanford assists students during the shoe giveaway.



HIGHWAY PATROL AUXILIARY

The Ohio State Highway Patrol Auxiliary, an all-volunteer force that provides assistance to troopers in the course of their duties, is accepting applications.

To inquire or apply for a position in the Auxiliary:

email OSHPAux@dps.ohio.gov or apply online:

<https://statepatrol.ohio.gov/recruit/auxiliary.html>



2023 Credit Union Impacts

- **266** new accounts
- Over **\$11,000,000** in loans written for cars, motorcycles, boats, and RVs
- **\$12,000** paid by the credit union to provide "Killed in the Line of Duty" coverage to pay off members' loans if something happens to sworn officers while on duty
- **\$2,000** paid in Member Outreach Awards to members and potential members facing severe illness, injury, or other critical events
- Over **\$1,000,000** paid to members in dividends on their deposits
- Almost **\$6,000,000** in purchases made with credit union VISA credit cards



JERROD A. SAVIDGE
BUCYRUS DISTRICT

Captain Jerrod A. Savidge, Bucyrus District, retired on December 1, 2023, after 30 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in January 1993 as a member of the 124th Academy Class. He earned his commission in June of the same year and was assigned to

the Findlay Post. He was named Post Trooper of the Year three times. In 2001, he was promoted to sergeant and transferred to the Fremont Post to serve as assistant post commander. In 2006, he was promoted to lieutenant and transferred to the Findlay Post to serve as post commander. As a lieutenant, he also served as post commander at the Bowling Green Post. In 2016, he was promoted to staff lieutenant and transferred to the Findlay District headquarters. In 2021, he was promoted to captain and transferred to the Bucyrus District headquarters.

Captain Savidge completed the FBI National Academy in August 2012.



JAMES E. TRACY
OFFICE OF FIELD OPERATIONS

Captain James E. Tracy, Office of Field Operations, retired on December 19, 2023, after 23 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in August 2000 as a member of the 136th Academy Class. He earned his commission in March of the

following year and was assigned to the Delaware Post. In 2005, he was named Post Trooper of the Year and he earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement. He was presented with the Criminal Patrol Award three times. In 2007, he was promoted to sergeant of the St. Clairsville Post. In 2011, he became post commander of the Cambridge Post when he was promoted to lieutenant. He was promoted to staff lieutenant and transferred to the Office of Planning, Research and Development in 2018. In 2021, he was promoted to captain in the Office of Field Operations.

Captain Tracy earned a Master of Arts in criminal justice from Tiffin University in 2013. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in english from Youngstown State University in 2000. Captain Tracy graduated from The Ohio State University John Glenn College of Public Affairs Public Safety Leadership Academy in 2013. In 2011, he graduated from Northwestern University School of Police Staff & Command.



LESLIE D. BRODE
LISBON POST / D4

Lieutenant Leslie D. Brode, Warren District, Lisbon Post, retired on October 27, 2023, after 23 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in August 2000 as a member of the 136th Academy Class. He earned his commission the following March and was

assigned to the Canton Post. As a trooper, he also served at the Patrol's Training Academy. In July 2007, he was promoted to sergeant and transferred to the Office of Personnel. As a sergeant, he also served at the Hiram and Chardon posts. In 2010, he was presented with the Superintendent's Citation of Merit. In August 2012, he was promoted to lieutenant and transferred to the Van Wert Post. As a lieutenant, he also served at the Lima Post.

Lieutenant Brode earned an Associates of Applied Science degree in criminal justice from the Air Force Community College in 2010. In 2014, he graduated from The Ohio State University John Glenn College of Public Affairs Public Safety Leadership Academy. He served in the United States Air Force from 1990 to 1991. From 2002 to 2003 and from 2010 to 2011, he served in the United States Air Force Reserve.



MISTY D. WALLER
OFFICE OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS/ SECURITY SERVICES-EXPO CENTER

Lieutenant Misty D. Waller, Office of Criminal Investigations/ Security Services-Expo Center, retired on November 3, 2023,

after 25 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in April 1998 as a member of the 131st Academy Class. She earned her commission the following October and was assigned to the Mt. Gilead Post. As a trooper, she also served at the Circleville and West Jefferson posts, as well as the Patrol's Training Academy. In July 2016, she was promoted to sergeant and remained at the Training Academy. As a sergeant, she also served at the West Jefferson Post and the Office of Recruitment and Diversity. She was promoted to lieutenant and remained in the Office of Recruitment and Diversity. In 2023, she transferred to the Expo Center.

Lieutenant Waller earned a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice from Ashland University in 1997.



SHON L. FROST
CAPITOL OPERATIONS

Sergeant Shon L. Frost, Capitol Operations, retired on December 1, 2023, after 25 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in April 1998 as a member of the 131st Academy Class. He earned his commission in October of the same year and was assigned to the Mansfield Post.

As a trooper, he also served at the West Jefferson Post, Executive Protection, Columbus District Investigations and Office of Criminal Investigations. As a trooper, he earned an Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement in 2001. In 2004, he received the Trooper Recognition Award. In July 2018, he was promoted to sergeant and transferred to Capitol Operations. As a sergeant, he also served in the Office of Recruitment and Diversity.

Sergeant Frost served in the United States Marine Corps from 1994 to 1997.



CHRISTOPHER J. WOOD
CAMBRIDGE POST / D7

Sergeant Christopher J. Wood, Cambridge Post, retired on November 3, 2023, after 29 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in February 1994 as a member of the 126th Academy Class. He earned his commission in July of 1994 year and was assigned to the

Mansfield Post. He was promoted to sergeant in 2002 to serve as assistant post commander of the Athens Post. As a sergeant, he also served at the Bucyrus, New Philadelphia and Cambridge posts.

In January 2014, he earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in business management from Walsh University.



ROBERT W. GATCHEL
WAPAKONETA POST / D5

Trooper Robert W. Gatchel, Wapakoneta Post, retired on December 15, 2023, after 25 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in October 1998 as a member of the 132nd Academy Class. He earned his commission in July of that year and was assigned to the

Van Wert Post. As a trooper, he also served at the Lima and Wapakoneta posts. In 2017, he earned a certificate of recognition. He earned an Associate of Applied Science in law enforcement from Lima Technical College in 1998.



ERIC GONZALEZ
TOLEDO POST/ D1

Trooper Eric Gonzalez, Toledo Post, retired on October 23, 2023, after 31 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1992 as a member of the 123rd Academy Class. He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to the Toledo Post.

Throughout his career, he served in the Office of Special Operations, Circleville, Bowling Green and Fremont posts.



MICHAEL J. LANDERS
SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM

Trooper Michael J. Landers, Special Response Team, retired on November 1, 2023, after 32 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1991 as a member of the 121st Academy Class. He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to the

Hiram Post. As a trooper, he also served at the Canfield Post and the Warren District Criminal Patrol Unit. In 2008, he was presented the Trooper Recognition Award for the Warren District Headquarters. He also earned a Criminal Patrol Award in 2006.



ADAM D. MCKENZIE
SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM

Trooper Adam D. McKenzie, Special Response Team, retired on October 5, 2023, after 20 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in September 2003 as a member of the 141st Academy Class. He earned his commission in March of the following year and was

assigned to the Zanesville Post.

He received a Bachelor of Science degree in criminology in January 2003 from Capital University Law School. He also received an Associate of Applied Science in criminal justice from Muskingum Area Technical College in June 2001.



**CHARLES F. MENDENHALL
WARREN DISTRICT
COMMERCIAL
ENFORCEMENT UNIT**

Trooper Charles F. Mendenhall, Warren District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on October 4, 2023, after 26 years with the state. He began as a corrections officer at the Trumbull Correctional

Institution in March 1997, before joining the Patrol in March 2001 as a member of the 137th Academy Class. He earned his commission in September 2001 and was assigned to the Hiram Post. As a trooper, he also served at the Ravenna and Canfield posts. He also served as a sergeant at the Warren Post from July 2007 through May 2010.

Trooper Mendenhall received the Post Trooper of the Year award while serving at the Ravenna Post in November 2004. He was also given an Employee Recognition Award in December 2015.



**MARK R. SORG
FREMONT POST/ D2**

Trooper Mark R. Sorg, Fremont Post, retired on October 5, 2023, after 20 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in September 2003 as a member of the 141st Academy Class. He earned his commission in March the following year and was assigned to the Fremont Post throughout his career.



**ROSS E. THOMPSON
CAMBRIDGE DISTRICT
INVESTIGATIONS**

Trooper Ross E. Thompson, Cambridge District Investigations, retired on November 3, 2023, after 25 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in October 1998 as a member of the 132nd Academy Class. He earned his commission in

April the following year and was assigned to the Athens Post. As a trooper, he also served at the Cambridge and St. Clairsville posts. He was presented with a Certificate of Recognition in August 2004.

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- \$31.19 per hour upon graduation
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Recent changes to application process:

- Age requirement is now 20-39 to apply
- Uniform policy change now allows tattoos that can be covered by our long sleeve uniform

Minimum Requirements:

- U.S. Citizen
- High School diploma/GED
- Valid driver license, less than 6 points
- Become a resident of Ohio prior to graduation



For more information visit
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#JoinOSHP



**K-9 BOY
FINDLAY DISTRICT**

Boy retired after six-and-a-half years of service to the Patrol and the citizens of Ohio. Boy is an eight-year-old Belgian Malinois. Boy will spend his retirement years with his handler, Trooper Matthew M. Manly, and family.



**K-9 DANNY
BUCYRUS DISTRICT**

Danny retired after five years of service to the Patrol and to the citizens of Ohio. Danny is a six-and-a-half-year-old German Shepherd who worked with his handler, Trooper Jacob A. Dickerson. Danny was a great dog to take to elementary schools for community

events. Danny loved to work, but he loved human contact more than anything else. He is looking forward to a well-earned retirement.



**K-9 GABI
WILMINGTON DISTRICT**

Gabi retired after five-and-a-half years of service to the Patrol and to the citizens of Ohio. Gabi is a seven-year-old German Shepherd who worked with her handler, Trooper Justin T. Van Meter. She is looking forward to a well-earned retirement spent with family.



**K-9 MAX
COLUMBUS DISTRICT**

Max retired after seven years of service to the Patrol and to the citizens of Ohio. Max is an eight-year-old German Shepherd who worked with his handler, Trooper Michael D. Rucker. He is looking forward to a well-earned retirement spent with family.



**K-9 MICKEY
JACKSON DISTRICT**

Mickey retired after six years of service to the Patrol and to the citizens of Ohio. Mickey is a seven-year-old German Shepherd. For Mickey's last day of work, his family gave Mickey a retirement party with his own doggy cake. Mickey will spend his retirement years on the farm with his handler, Trooper Matthew T. Atwood and family.



**K-9 TANGO
CLEVELAND DISTRICT**

Tango retired after eight years of service to the Patrol and to the citizens of Ohio. Tango, an eight-year-old German Shepherd, began his career with Trooper Darrell M. Dowler in April 2015. He will spend his retirement years with Trooper Dowler and his family.

During their years of service, all K-9s were utilized for tracking, narcotics detection and seizure, article searches and criminal apprehension.

FORMER SENIOR STAFF LUNCHEON HELD



Former members of the Patrol's senior staff gathered together for the Former Senior Staff Luncheon in October. During the luncheon, which was held at the Patrol's Training Academy, current senior staff members briefed retirees on current operations. Approximately 20 retirees attended. The presentation was followed by a traditional ham and beans lunch, provided by the Ohio State Highway Patrol Retirees' Association.

HIGHWAY HIGHLIGHTS

Comments received via social media.

OSHPSEO @OSHPSEO · 6h
 On Christmas Eve, @OSHP's Jackson Post brought some holiday cheer to 8 families, which included 22 children, as a part of the Patrol's Season of Sharing. The families were provided with ingredients for a Christmas dinner along with some non-perishable food items.



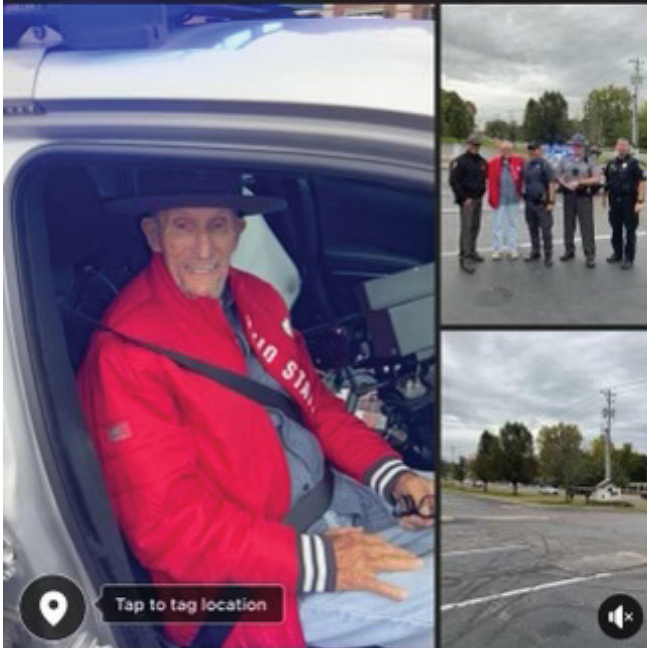
3 comments, 1 retweet, 3 likes, 1.2K views

Kimberly, Advocate & Ability Enabler @AbilityEnabler

Things like this mean Soo much to families & individuals who are having times of financial struggles... On the holidays & any ordinary day. When I had to walk away from my job to care for my daughter I experienced the gift of groceries & it's a True Blessing 🙌🙌🙌🙌 Thank you



Cody Graham 58m · 🧑🏻
 Pap always wanted to be a State Trooper in his younger days. Well today he got a little visit and ride along for his 90th birthday! Thank you so much to Canton Ohio State Highway Patrol and Uniontown Police Department OHIO for making his dreams come true! Truly blessed to have this man in our lives ❤️



EHOVE Career Center 3d · 🧑🏻
 A big thank you to Trooper Mentis from the Ohio State Highway Patrol for joining our junior and senior EHOVE Criminal Justice classes! His expertise in traffic stops provided real-world learning for our students. #EHOVEworks





Colonel Jones addresses the audience at the 90th anniversary historical marker unveiling ceremony.



Brigadier General Woodruff and Ohio Department of Public Safety Director Andy Wilson unveil the image of the historical marker honoring the 90th anniversary of the Ohio State Highway Patrol's first graduating class.



Colonel Jones and Ohio History Connection Executive Director and CEO Megan Wood.



Shown left: Examples of Patrol cruisers throughout the years.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



The Bible has much to say about justice. Justice is often described as the actions and decisions that set things right. In a world like ours, we are grateful for those who stand for the right and tirelessly work to set things right that have gone awry. You stand as sentinels of order and compassion. I've witnessed your unwavering commitment to the core values that set you apart as one of the premier law enforcement agencies. In the face of adversity, you embody resilience, a beacon of hope and strength for a society seeking refuge in the rule of law.

Amidst the shadows that loom on the thin line between chaos and order, your courage shines bright. Your duty is not merely a job; but a high and holy calling to safeguard the vulnerable, uphold the law, and foster a haven where justice prevails.

In moments of uncertainty, remember that your sacrifice does not go unnoticed. Every step you take in pursuing justice reverberates through the communities you serve and continues to leave lasting and indelible marks of hope.

I echo the collective gratitude of those you serve. Embrace the responsibility with pride. May your journey be blessed with strength, wisdom and an unwavering belief in the goodness you strive to protect.

Blessings!

Reverend Phil Hurlbert


State Chaplain

DIRECTOR'S CORNER



Department of
Public Safety

Members of the Ohio State Highway Patrol:

At the time I am writing this, the provisional number of traffic related fatalities in 2023 is 1,246 lives lost. This is 29 fewer than the 2022 total of 1,275.

That number represents 29 more people alive this year than last year. That includes mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, husbands, wives, partners, neighbors, and friends who will be alive to celebrate all the amazing experiences that life has to offer.

Over the Thanksgiving holiday, fatalities dropped 26% from 2022 to 2023 and over the New Year reporting period, fatalities were down 46% from 2022 to 2023. Throughout the entire Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years holiday season, the total number of fatalities dropped from 44 in 2022 to 33 in 2023.

I want each and every one of you to take a second and reflect on the fact that your dedication, your passion, and your selfless service truly saves the lives of our fellow Ohioans. Every impaired driver, every gun, every shipment of drugs, and every distracted or reckless driver that you interdict is potentially a life that you save.

Words are not enough to thank you for what you do every day to keep our families, our friends, and our communities safe.

Please know how proud we are of each of you and how much we appreciate your service. LET'S GO!!!

Andy Wilson


Director

FLYING WHEEL

The *Flying Wheel* is published by the Ohio State Highway Patrol in the interest of the entire Patrol family.

Mike DeWine – Governor, State of Ohio

Andy Wilson – Director, ODPS

Colonel Charles A. Jones – Superintendent, OSHP

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1933-2023

The Ohio State Highway Patrol's core values are instilled into all new recruits and continually reinforced to officers throughout their service. These simple, yet important, values are the foundation upon which a trooper can be a consummate public servant.

- Adaptability
- Attention to Detail
- Diversity
- Family
- Honesty
- Officer Safety
- Performance Driven
- Professionalism
- Self-Discipline
- Sense of Urgency
- Team Oriented



2023

OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL
OHIO HISTORY CONNECTION

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