

PATROL NEWS

November-December 2022

“Over 90 YEARS OF SERVICE & PROTECTION”



See cover page 3.

Superintendent's Message



Colonel Eric T. Olson

While I observed the graduation ceremony of the Patrol's 7th "Police Leadership — The West Point Model" course on November 18, I was reminded of the commitment and dedication required to make the course successful. It takes a great deal of support from all our commanders to send instructors and students to a three-week course, especially in times of significant staffing challenges. The commitment of our instructors is critical to ensuring the cultural benefits and future success of the course. Most noticeable at graduation was the camaraderie of the participants. There was a great deal of admiration and respect among the group, not to mention a healthy sense of humor. There were representatives from two other state police agencies and two Missouri DPS agencies, Alcohol and Tobacco Control and Missouri Capitol Police, in attendance. If you have not had the opportunity to participate in PLWM, I would strongly encourage your consideration in 2023.

Another Patrol-led effort that has made a positive impact on the law enforcement and first responder community in the Midwest is the Missouri Post Critical Incident Seminar. This seminar has been conducted six times over the last three years, with PCIS #7 scheduled for January 23-25, 2023. Like PLWM, this initiative requires significant effort by MSHP staff from around the state, as well as a key partner, the Missouri Department of Mental Health. The primary intent of MO-PCIS is to provide support following exposure to critical incidents in the line of duty. "Critical incident" is broadly defined for the purposes of this seminar, and the resources and support network provided to participants is significant. I have enjoyed meeting the peer support team members, chaplains, and others who make this seminar a true success. I would encourage any Patrol first responder or communications operator to consider their career experiences and determine if this seminar might be of benefit. We have to look for ways to take care of ourselves in all aspects of our lives and I believe PCIS can be a great path for many.

This time of year reminds us of being thankful. I am very thankful for the time and effort expended to make our PLWM and MO-PCIS seminars successful. These are two great examples of how the Patrol impacts public safety in Missouri. I wish all of you a great Thanksgiving and holiday season.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric T. Olson". The signature is written in a cursive style and is placed on a light-colored, slightly textured background.

The official publication of the
Missouri State Highway Patrol

Celebrating Over 55 Years Of News

PATROL NEWS

Michael L. Parson, Governor
State of Missouri

Sandra K. Karsten, Director
Department of Public Safety

Eric T. Olson, Superintendent
Missouri State Highway Patrol

PATROL NEWS STAFF

Capt. John J. Hotz
Managing Editor

Cheryl Cobb
Editor

Meghan Basinger
Design-Layout

Meghan Basinger
Social Media

Chad Buschjost
Printing & Assembly

Rachel Hays
Photography

TROOP REPORTERS

Troop A, Sgt. Bill Lowe; **Troop B**, Cpl. Justin Dunn; **Troop C**, Cpl. Dallas Thompson; **Troop D**, Cpl. Sam Carpenter; **Troop E**, Sgt. Clark Parrott; **Troop F**, Cpl. Kyle Green; **Troop G**, Sgt. Eddie Young; **Troop H**, Sgt. Shane Hux; **Troop I**, Sgt. Mike Mitchell.

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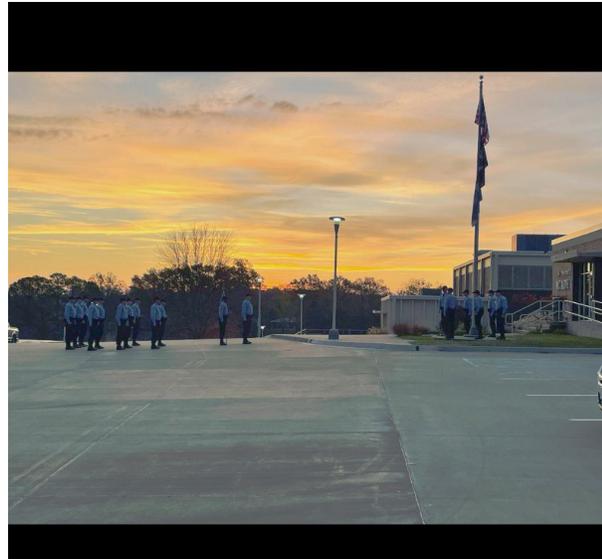
PATROL NEWS

November-December 2022

“Over 90 YEARS OF SERVICE & PROTECTION”

Volume 57 • Number 3

Social Media Snapshot



Members of the 115th Recruit Class keep tradition alive with the morning flag ceremony. This post appeared on the Patrol Academy's Instagram in early November.

Cover

Special Assistant Deidra N. Borgmeyer (Q/FOB) came to work for the Patrol after her husband, Sergeant Nick J. Borgmeyer (F), and mother-in-law, retired Insurance Clerk Evelyn M. Borgmeyer, who were both working for the agency at the time, encouraged her to apply. “The people that work for this organization are welcoming, helpful, and truly care about each other,” said Spec. Asst. Borgmeyer. “The Patrol has many moving parts to keep this organization running. There are so many opportunities for employees to explore.” She said she enjoys many aspects of her job, but her favorite part is reading the commendations that members and civilians alike receive from the public. “It is rewarding to know that our organization is making a difference in people’s lives.” She has enjoyed all of the people she has worked with and feels the Patrol is blessed with the best employees. Something Spec. Asst. Borgmeyer would like you to know is, “Our Command Staff are people, too. They are easy to talk to and truly want to hear what they can do to make the Patrol better. Please don’t be afraid to come and visit. We all enjoy visitors!”

SGT. SHOOP GOES ABOVE & BEYOND

By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb (Q/PIED)

Sergeant Timmy D. Shoop (B) accepted the Department of Public Safety Team Member of the Month for September 2022. DPS Director Sandra K. Karsten presented the award during a ceremony at Troop B Headquarters Friday, September 30.

Major Michael A. Turner (Q/FOB) described the event that led to Sgt. Shoop's nomination for the award.

At approximately 12:45 p.m. June 27, 2022, the Chariton County 911 Center was notified of an Amtrak train/dump truck traffic crash on Porche Prairie Avenue southwest of Mendon, MO. As a result of the crash, the Amtrak, carrying approximately 289 people, derailed with most of the train lying on its side just south of the railroad tracks. Sgt. Shoop, who was nearing the end of his shift, overheard the radio traffic and immediately responded to the scene.

Without hesitation, he and many other area responders jumped into action to assist the occupants of the train. Many people were scared and injured in the crash. Sgt. Shoop climbed down inside a hot, heavily occupied rail car helping to calm the passengers. Some passengers were injured, and physically incapable of climbing out of the rail car, which made extrication efforts difficult. Sgt. Shoop cleared a path for a ladder to be inserted through a window. He then assisted passengers in climbing the ladder up and out of the rail car. He remained inside the train car until only one crew member was left. Unfortunately, this gentleman had



Lt. Brian Anderson (B), Capt. Erik Gottman (B), Sgt. Brandon Griffin (B), Sgt. Timmy Shoop (B), DPS Director Sandra Karsten, and Col. Eric Olson paused for this photo after the DPS Team Member of the Month ceremony.

suffered severe injuries and his arm was pinned under the train.

Sgt. Shoop and other responders kept the gentleman calm until emergency personnel were able to free his arm. Sgt. Shoop, who had developed a rapport with the man, knew he was seriously injured and remained by the man's side and, according to one paramedic, "took charge of removing the patient." Once the man was secured on a long spine board, Sgt. Shoop helped remove the man from the rail car by lifting and climbing his way out of the car, while ensuring the patient remained level. After the injured man was removed from the rail car, Sgt. Shoop then went from car to car ensuring everyone else was out of the rail cars and accounted for.

Those train passengers not transported directly from the scene for medical attention were transported by school bus to nearby Northwestern R-1 School.

The school quickly became an emergency operations center where passengers were further triaged for injuries and checked against a manifest provided by Amtrak to ensure all people were accounted for. In the coming days, Sgt. Shoop, a native of Chariton County, became the liaison between the Highway Patrol, National Transportation Safety Board, and the school, ensuring everyone's needs were met. Once the NTSB was prepared for the crashed rail cars to be removed, Sgt. Shoop was placed in charge of escorting the over dimension loads safely by highway to their final destination.

Sgt. Shoop worked an entire week on this investigation. He steadfastly remained available and ready to volunteer for the next assignment in order to see this incident through from beginning to end. Sgt. Shoop displayed an outstanding work ethic and took

– SHOOP

Continued from page 4.

pride in representing the Patrol and his community. It should be noted that on July 8 Sgt. Shoop traveled to University Hospital in Columbia, MO, to visit the injured man he helped extricate from under the train.

“I have known Timmy for my entire career,” said Major Turner

(Q/FOB). “He is a great officer and an even better person. It gave me great comfort when I learned he was among the responding officers.”

“The day before the ceremony, Timmy was trying to find a way out of attending,” said Captain Erik A. Gottman (B). “He is a team player and felt he shouldn’t be singled

out because others helped with the train derailment. However, he went over and above and truly deserved the award. Undoubtedly, he displayed the core values of resourcefulness, compassion, professionalism, commitment throughout this incident.”

Congratulations, Sgt. Shoop!

Looking Back ... in the Patrol News

45 years ago

November 1977 — The cover of this issue was a unique fingerprint with a “smiley face” in the center. The Waynesville Zone of Troop I cleared up 13 house burglaries and arrested six men with the help of this fingerprint.

35 years ago

December 1987 — The 59th Recruit Class graduated. One photo showed Sergeant Sam B. Kaunley (D) taking part in an air bag demonstration. The demonstrators were purchased by the Missouri Division of Highway Safety and installed in the vehicles of our nine safety officers. They used the air bag to show the value of an air bag/seat belt combination. (The air bags inflated more slowly than they would have in an actual emergency.)

25 years ago

November 1997 — The Hell’s Angels USA/Run at the Lake of the Ozarks took place. The Crime Laboratory’s Firearms Section made its first Drugfire hit. This issue welcomed Colonel Weldon L. Wilhoit as the Patrol’s 18th superintendent. CVE Inspector Donald J. Hardway (A) won first place in the Hazardous Materials/Dangerous Goods/Cargo Tank and Hazardous Materials Package Inspection category at the Challenge ’97 Competition. K9 Argo retired.

15 years ago

November/December 2007 — An article reported on the inaugural Tour of Missouri bicycle race. Ten troopers were assigned full-time to this detail with local troopers assisting at intersections. The race traveled through Troops A, C, D, F, and I. Experts in the Communications Division updated Otto-the Talking Car with newer technology and added sound effects to his repertoire.

5 years ago

November/December 2017 — Sergeant Jason H. Glendenning and Trooper Tyler G. Zimmerman (both Troop D) accepted Missouri Medals of Valor, and Trooper Austin B. Kings (F) accepted a Public Safety Medal of Merit. The Patrol celebrated 25 years of accreditation. An article saluted active employees who also serve in the National Guard. The first-ever Youth Academy Program took place at Sunnyhill Adventures in Dittmer, MO.

Troop A Softball Team Reclaims Champion Status!

By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb (Q/PIED)

The day dawned bright and sunny, then moved into quite the scorcher for the Patrol's annual softball tournament. Held September 10, 2022, at the 63 Diamond Sports Complex just north of Jefferson City, eight teams participated in the double elimination tournament. When the battles were over, Troop A was victorious over Troop F in the championship game with a score of 12 to 8. Thanks to MOSTA for sponsoring and organizing the event! See you next year!



Section Chief James Parks (Q/CommD) pitched for the Troop F team.



Tpr. Brant Masek (F) whacked this ball into the outfield.



Cpl. Nick Perez (A) threw a runner out at first base.



Troop A's team of champions featured (back row, l to r) Tpr. Zach Davidson, Tpr. Tanner Wallace, Tpr. Ben Owens, Tpr. Nathaniel Medrano, Tpr. Nick Ott; (back row, l to r) Sgt. Bryan Hamerle, Tpr. Colten Henderson, Tpr. Zach Thomas, Cpl. Nick Perez, and Sgt. Adam Dillon.

Troop F's team, the F Bombers, consisted of (back row, l to r) Tpr. Jake McKinney, Lt. Casey Utterback, Tpr. Brant Masek, and Tpr. Jake Vislay; (front row, l to r) Sgt. Nolan Bax, Cpl. Chad North, Sgt. Morgan Patterson (Q/TND), Mr. Jeremy Parks (son of Section Chief James Parks), Section Chief James Parks (Q/CommD), Sgt. David Fouch, and Cpl. Derek Shikles.



— Softball

Continued from page 6.



Troop D's softball team was comprised of (l to r) Cpl. Blake Dehaan, Tpr. Sean Goostree, Tpr. Doug Jackson, Tpr. Kyle McCallister, Cpl. David Johnson, Cpl. Ricky Rorie, Tpr. Austin Royster, Tpr. Andrew Rickman, Tpr. Tristan Royster.

The Gaming Division team included (back row, l to r) Tpr. Greg Tesch, Sgt. Brian Holcomb, Mr. Carson Lutz (son of Tpr. Parrish Lutz), Sgt. Jason McTheeney, Sgt. John Masters, Mr. Jace Dalton (Cpl. Zac Harrison's nephew), Standing with red pants, Mr. Mike Holden (Tpr. Parrish Lutz's cousin); (kneeling, l to r) Sgt. Chris Turner, Cpl. Maurice Benzie, Cpl. Zac Harrison, and Tpr. Parrish Lutz (coach). Not Pictured: Cpl. David Miranda.



EMPLOYEE SECURITY/SAFETY IS A PRIORITY

Submitted by Fleet & Facilities Division

In late 2019 and early 2020, a safety and security committee addressed building security concerns at the General Headquarters complex in the interest of employee safety. Many new employees have joined our workforce and some retirees may not be aware of the initiatives that arose from that committee's efforts.

Please be aware of the following:

- All exterior doors have proximity access readers that will allow active Patrol employees easy access.
- Do NOT hold the door open and allow access for someone who lacks a Patrol proximity badge. This includes family members of current employees and retirees.
- If a nonemployee wishes to gain access to the building, kindly instruct them that the front or back lobby entrance of the Waggoner Building should be utilized for such access. If you feel comfortable escorting the family member, retiree, or other visitor directly to the front lobby, you may proceed in that manner. (Visitors should never be allowed to roam freely.)
- If you ever observe any type of questionable activity or person(s) on the property, immediately report those concerns to your supervisor and/or a uniformed member within the complex.

Thank you for taking seriously the safety and security of all employees. This is a top initiative of Colonel Eric T. Olson, our superintendent, and we should all remain vigilant.

MSHP FLEET SAGA CONTINUES ...

By Director Cathy F. Brown (Q/FFD)

It's been over a year since I wrote the last *Patrol News* article regarding our fleet challenges, and I admit my noted optimism in the last article has waned slightly. The fleet industry continues to meet or exceed its previous lackluster performance, which continues to force us to develop solution

avenues hardly ever realized in the history of this agency. In the last year, we have continued to experience vehicle orders completely or partially cut; order deliveries that have taken months longer than normal to receive; and significant, ongoing price increases across all manufacturers.

For example, we ordered 80 Dodge Chargers during fall 2021. In early March 2022, we were informed we would be receiving only three of those vehicles! Given we generally turn over/sell our vehicles every two to four years, this issue could be a significant hit to our fleet program. Fortunately, the Ford Utility order bank was still open, and we quickly ordered 67 of these vehicles. (We needed to remain within the same amount of money anticipated for the original order of Chargers, which forced us to order fewer Fords.) However, in mid-August, we learned the order of Model Year (MY) 2022 Ford vehicles was also canceled. Luckily, we were then able to order 58 of the MY 2023 Ford Utility vehicles. The price of the MY23 vehicles has increased, which reduced the number of total vehicles we were able to order yet again. This is one example of what happens when manufacturers cut their orders. It obviously creates a "snowball" effect, or what I prefer to call the "avalanche effect." This kind of debacle has happened with every manufacturer at varying times this past year, and I expect it to be the norm for probably the next two years.

Going forward, we have about 385 vehicles of varying makes/models currently on order. Because we have little certainty as to whether our orders will be built, a decision was made to cease all vehicle fleet sales for a few months ... until we know whether we will receive new vehicles at some point next spring. Once again, this agency has never been faced with the need to cease vehicle sales. The impact of not selling

Jefferson City, Missouri

September 22, 1943

MEMORANDUM NO. 308

TROOP COMMANDERS

1. Since it is practically impossible for us to buy new cars as replacements for our Patrol cars, arrangements have been made with the Highway Department Garage at Jefferson City to completely overhaul any of our cars. The garage can overhaul a car on an average of about one every ten days.

2. Troop Commanders are to furnish this office as soon as possible a list of cars needing an overhaul, listed in the order of greatest need or importance. Troop Commanders will be informed sufficiently in advance of the time when one of their cars will be overhauled to permit the car to be brought to Jefferson City.

3. Due to the shortage and difficulty in obtaining repair parts, it is necessary that cars be handled in such a manner as to prolong to the utmost their condition of good repair. It is imperative that cars which have been overhauled be broken in as follows: Not over 25 mph for the first 100 miles. Add 5 mph for each additional 100 miles until the car has been driven 700 miles. For the next 500 miles, the car must be driven under 60 mph.

4. Our attention has been directed to the fact that springs on Fords should not be oiled as a routine matter. Springs should be oiled only when a decided squeaking of the springs is present. Greasing of springs causes unnecessary wear on shock absorbers. Replacement shock absorbers are practically impossible to obtain.

M. STANLEY GINN
Superintendent

MEG:vc

Copy to:

Troop A - B - C - D - E - F - Radio

CHQ.

Dispatchers

Property Officer

This memorandum from 1943 shows another time when acquiring vehicles was challenging.

numerous vehicles every month could force us to be creative with the purchasing of vehicles.

Because we have recruits who will require vehicles and a continual number of vehicles in the repair process, and for contingency planning purposes, we absolutely cannot run the risk of having zero vehicles available. We have identified a few types of vehicles we plan to operate over our normal mileage cutoff (when we would typically sell a vehicle). The focus has been predominantly on those vehicles that are not used solely for pursuit purposes and those used for more non-pursuit/civilian assignments. Again, this decision was not made lightly, but was necessary to properly maintain our fleet.

Industry experts believe the fleet industry will be changed for the future. Aside from used vehicles, dealer parking lots with tons of new inventory may be a thing of the past. This would reduce the dealership's overhead and potential liability from storm

damage, etc. The new norm could be to require customers to order their new vehicles and then wait for delivery. If by chance a customer cancels their order, dealers could just move to the next customer that would like to buy that ordered vehicle. Interestingly, this paradigm shift already has most dealer's profitability at an all-time high. They may not have any interest in going back to the way they used to do business. The days of haggling with a dealer over new vehicle pricing may also be over. As consumers, we should probably expect to grow comfortable with the Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) if we are interested in buying a new vehicle for now. On the flip side, we continue to watch used vehicle pricing increase — a positive for anyone wishing to trade their vehicle. These are all different perspectives that various industry experts in the fleet shared with me the last several months, but much that we already knew through direct experience.

For now, we will continue to routinely assess the fleet industry and the impacts the Patrol could realize because of the many obstacles. The challenges will probably remain at least over the next couple of years, and these challenges are being realized across the country with every law enforcement agency. Even so, we will continue to ensure officers are in vehicles that are safe and dependable. That is the Fleet and Facilities Division's driving goal, and I can assure you, we take this very seriously.

Thank you to everyone who has been supportive of these necessary changes. We have not heard one complaint and we appreciate everyone's continued cooperation as we work through these challenges. (Interestingly, while writing this article, I received an email from Ford informing us their order bank for F-250s, of which we have a few in the cue to be ordered once the order bank opens, is now moving back another 10 days!)

The fleet saga continues ...

You're Invited!

The Missouri State Highway Patrol Annual Awards Ceremony and The MASTERS Banquet will be held on Saturday, April 29, 2023, at the Holiday Inn Executive Center, Columbia, Missouri. This awards banquet is open to all The MASTERS members, MSHP employees, and their guest/spouse. In the past, the fee has been \$40 per person, and we anticipate the same for the 2023 event. The banquet usually starts with a social hour at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner and the presentation of awards. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Redel at (573) 526-6159 or mary.redel@mshp.dps.mo.gov.

Congratulations On Your Retirement!

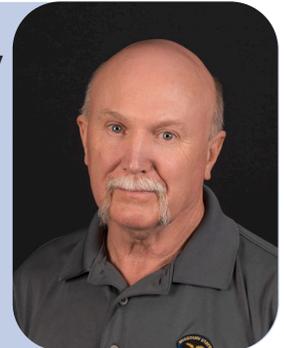
Jeffrey G. Bonner Sr.
Comm. Oper. III
Troop H

*Retired October 1, 2022.
27 years, seven months of
dedicated service.*



Donald H. Duffey
Auto. Tech. III
Troop E

*Retired October 1, 2022.
28 years of dedicated service.*



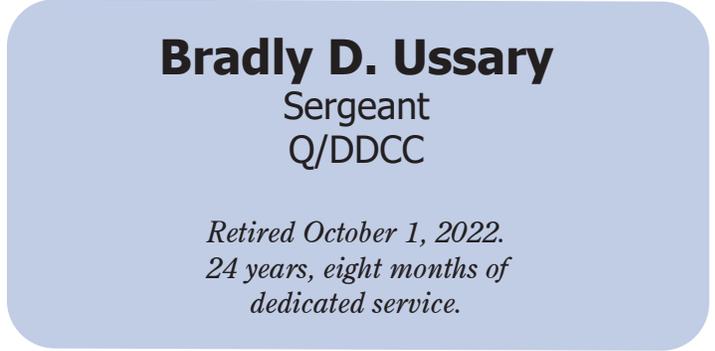
Michael L. Mobley
Sergeant
Troop I

*Retired October 1, 2022.
29 years, two months of
dedicated service.*



Bradly D. Ussary
Sergeant
Q/DDCC

*Retired October 1, 2022.
24 years, eight months of
dedicated service.*



Marty L. Wiseman
Trooper
Troop G

*Retired October 1, 2022.
27 years, three months of
dedicated service.*



Nelson D. Elfrink
Lieutenant
Troop B

*Retired November 1, 2022.
32 years, 10 months of
dedicated service.*



Pam C. Ford
DE III
Troop A

*Retired November 1, 2022.
24 years, two months of
dedicated service.*



Matt R. Heits
Corporal
Q/GD

*Retired November 1, 2022.
26 years, four months of
dedicated service.*



Congratulations On Your Retirement!

**Dwell T.
Isringhausen**
Sergeant
Q/GD

*Retired November 1, 2022.
33 years, four months of
dedicated service.*



**Gerry W.
Johnson**
CVO Sprv.
Troop H

*Retired November 1, 2022.
29 years, one month of
dedicated service.*



Ron D. Kiekel
MVI Sprv.
Troop C

*Retired November 1, 2022.
13 years, seven months of
dedicated service.*



Karen A. Kolieboi
DE III
Troop C

*Retired November 1, 2022.
17 years of dedicated service.*



Tray T. Pitts
Sergeant
Q/GD

*Retired November 1, 2022.
25 years, 10 months of
dedicated service.*



Clark N. Stratton
Captain
Troop H

*Retired November 1, 2022.
30 years, 10 months of
dedicated service.*



**Lance M.
MacLaughlin**
Lieutenant Colonel
Q/ASO

*Retired December 1, 2022.
27 years, four months of
dedicated service.*



MSHP Troopers Compete, Earn Top Cop

By Sgt. Shane M. Hux (H)

On September 24-25, 2022, Missouri State Highway Patrol troopers competed in the “Border War Top Cop Shoot Out” at RangeTec in Mercer County, MO. Five, two-man teams from the Patrol, Mercer County Sheriff’s Office, Cameron (MO) Police Department, and the Decatur County (Iowa) Sheriff’s Office competed for bragging rights. Trooper Michael S. Cline and Trooper Jared W. Smith (both Troop H) teamed up and earned the booming first place Border War Top Cop traveling trophy! Trooper Allen D. Neighbors (H) and Corporal Adam J. Michels (C) shot their way to a third-place finish.

The two-day competition event consisted of stressful rifle and handgun shooting situations at distances of 25 to 400 yards. The officers’ athleticism came into play as they were required to flip tractor tires and run through the competition course. Their skill level was put to the test as they encountered moving and stationary targets. The officers also were required to transition from the rifle to the handgun at close range targets. The long-distance rifle course involved moving targets and required a shooter/spotter type team. Time was a factor when the



Tpr. Allen Neighbors (H) takes aim on the rifle course.

officers were required to draw their holstered handguns and put two rounds on target from 25 yards in less than two seconds.

Tpr. Cline and Tpr. Smith will retain the traveling trophy until the competition shoots off again next year. They were also awarded individual trophies for winning the “Border War Top Cop Shoot Out.” Congratulations to Tpr. Cline, Tpr. Smith, Tpr. Neighbors, and Cpl. Michels!!!



(l to r) Tpr. Michael Cline, a RangeTec instructor, and Tpr. Jared Smith are pictured with the traveling trophy.

Cpl. Adam Michels flips a tire on the Top Cop Shoot Out course.



(l to r) Tpr. Jared Smith and Tpr. Michael Cline (both Troop H) compete on the handgun course.

TROOP C HOSTS 1ST CAREER FAIR & OPEN HOUSE

By Cpl. Logan M. Bolton (C)

We all know there are vacancies throughout the state in every division. When someone thinks of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the first image that comes to mind is a trooper in a blue uniform. However, that is not the only position where we need help. We have a great need to fill vacancies in our civilian positions. Like most troops, Troop C is feeling the effects of these vacancies.

Troop C decided to think outside of the box. On Saturday, October 29, 2022, Troop C held its first Career Fair and Open House.



CVO Chief William Rule (C) talks to a family about the portable scale unit.

The goal of the event was to give the general public the opportunity to see some of what the Patrol has to offer and draw some interest in the civilian careers we provide. We had several displays, such as K-9 Pele, a commercial vehicle enforcement scale truck, Patrol motorcycle, SWAT Bearcat, and one of our marine operations troopers brought a boat. Attendees were able to stop by each of these displays and ask questions. Since it was so close to Halloween, we



Lt. Tycee Williams (C) explained SWAT responsibilities to those attending the Career Fair & Open House event.

Troop C driver examiners (foreground) and communications personnel (background) answer questions about their duties.

decided to turn the event into a trunk-or-treat for the parents who needed to bring their young children along. The public was also given the opportunity to tour the inside of Troop C Headquarters.

Once someone stepped inside, there were several booths with representatives from divisions with vacancies, including Driver Examination, Communications, Motor Vehicle Inspection, and Commercial Vehicle Enforcement. Each booth was manned by an employee in that division and patrons were able to stop by and get a full job description and a list of benefits the Highway Patrol provides its employees. Several



people stopped at the booths, asked great questions about the jobs, and expressed their intent to apply for a position.

With this being the first of its kind in Troop C, it was difficult to gauge how successful the Career Fair and Open House would be. We were pleasantly surprised with the turnout, the number of applicants, and those who expressed interest in applying for a position. I believe it is safe to say this event will be one that continues in Troop C for years to come.



Lt. Julie Scerine (C) handled inquiries about the Patrol's marine operations troopers and their equipment.

MO-PCIS Experience Facilitates

By Lt. Phil W. Morrison (Q/HRD)

What is a Post Critical Incident Seminar? Perhaps the best explanation comes from the testimony of those who have actually attended one. A participant at the Patrol's January 2022 MO-PCIS gave permission to share his description of what PCIS means to him.

"I've been to lots of seminars and conferences all over the country in the interest of my professional development, and I can honestly say I've never attended anything truly worthwhile as PCIS. I hit what might be termed as my breaking point three years ago after experiencing a line-of-duty death ... What was already a pretty terrible experience was compounded, in retrospect, by the previous 15 years' worth of stressful experiences working in law enforcement, the fire service, and EMS. At the time, nothing like PCIS was available. While peer support was available, I simply didn't know where to turn for it. My three days in Branson (MO) with everyone last week was indeed therapeutic, but also educational. I've had a passion for responder mental health since I



MSHP DEFENSE peer team members Comm. Oper. III Michael Crase (G) and Sergeant Trois Maloney (Q/TND), along with Franklin County peer Anthony Davis, inform PCIS participants about the harmful consequences of unchecked cumulative stress using a backpack being filled as a visual aid.

began getting my life back into order, and I came away from PCIS with a huge amount of knowledge on what is available these days, as well as what I can begin to do to be able to give back to my family in blue ..."

MO-PCIS is an acronym for Missouri Post Critical Incident Seminar and is facilitated by the Patrol's DEFENSE Program in partnership with the Missouri Department of Mental Health.

Peer support is intended to mitigate psychological injury and is akin to "psychological first aid." Employees exposed to repeated

MSHP DEFENSE peer team member Cpl. Kim Davis (Q/DDCC) speaks with a PCIS participant at the October 2022 PCIS in Branson, MO.

critical incidents without having adequate resources may be impacted by cumulative stress. Cumulative stress is the result of multiple stressors, such as working numerous events, a heavy workload, personal life stressors, ineffective communication skills, and poor relationships. Cumulative stress can reduce immunity to common illnesses, limit cognitive abilities, and decrease or agitate one's mood. Over the long term, those who do not resolve chronic stress may develop poor health and have higher rates of mortality (Slopen, Meyer, & Williams, 2018).

When a first responder has received a combination of one-on-one peer support/defusings and/or participated in a CISM debriefing, but continues to be bothered by certain aspects of their critical incident, they may



First Responder Trauma Recovery

be suffering from post-traumatic stress. In other words, when the impact of critical incidents exceeds the available internal and external coping resources of a particular individual, they may not be able to effectively bounce back from the experience.

Untreated, these experiences may result in unwanted and problematic symptoms for weeks, months, or even years following the original event. But there is help! The MO-PCIS is a three-day intensive therapeutic seminar for first responders and their significant others. The seminar facilitators provide one-on-one therapy services, couples and small group counseling, and psychoeducation about the effects of trauma. PCIS staff teach and demonstrate healthy coping strategies.

On the first day, participants at PCIS are connected to a caring community of mental health professionals, peer team members, chaplains, retirees, and volunteers. Confidentiality is emphasized as essential to the program's success. During the day, attendees discover that they are not alone in their experiences. One of the greatest benefits of PCIS is the immediate availability of free, onsite professional resources. Self-help books are also available for those who prefer a more individualized approach.

Over the next two days, attendees gather for special training about trauma recovery. Presentation topics include trauma effects on the brain; psychotropic medications; grief and loss; healthy relationships; building resiliency; and finding forgiveness.

Attendees break into small groups and join other attendees who have experienced similar, critical incidents. Many attendees of PCIS claim the small groups provide some of their most-valued experiences at PCIS.

Free massages from the PCIS's on-site licensed massage therapists and one-on-one private counseling interventions by licensed mental health professionals (e.g., eye movement desensitization and reprocessing therapy, couples therapy, etc.) are also valued by those attending. Upon completion of PCIS, the courage displayed by each participant and their post-traumatic growth is celebrated in a special closing ceremony.

To understand the full impact

of PCIS, it would be best to see it for yourself. What do you have to lose by attending? For more information about Missouri PCIS and to register, please visit: <http://mopcis.info>.

Below are additional examples of feedback from past PCIS participants:

"I enjoyed the resources like the EMDR, massage, and counseling available to us."

"The variety of resources and on-site therapeutic services were perfect."

"This really made a huge impact on me. The support I received here was amazing ..."



MSHP DEFENSE peer team members, Sergeant Andrew Henry (H) and Corporal Bruce McLaughlin (F), develop rapport and camaraderie with two attendees at MO-PCIS in Branson October 2022.

(The following reference was cited in this article: Slopen, N., Meyer, C., & Williams, D.R. (2018). Cumulative stress and health. In C.D. Ryff, & R.F. Krueger (Eds.), *The Oxford handbook of integrative health science* (p. 75-85). New York, NY: Oxford University Press.)

Gov. Parson Presents Public Safety Awards

By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb (Q/PIED)

Governor Mike Parson presented the Missouri Public Safety Awards at a ceremony September 7, 2022, in the Patrol Academy's gymnasium. Sergeant Andy A. Henry (H) sang the national anthem. This year's awards included a new one: the Red, White, and Blue Heart Award, which is presented to first responders who are severely injured or killed in the line of duty.

"Law enforcement is about doing things most people don't want to do," said Gov. Parson. "Today we are here to show honor and respect to those who have been called upon to do something heroic."

Congratulations Sergeant Kurt A. Schmutzler (H), Corporal Bradley E. Maudlin (H), and Trooper Colton J. Beck (Q/DDCC), who each accepted a Medal of

Valor. Tpr. Beck also accepted a Red, White, and Blue Heart Award, recognizing his being seriously injured in the line of duty.

Congratulations and our deepest appreciation for truly serving above and beyond the call of duty!



Gov. Mike Parson presents Missouri's Medal of Valor to Sgt. Kurt Schmutzler (H) to recognize his and Cpl. Bradley Maudlin's (H) bravery June 24, 2021, in a dangerous flash flooding incident where they rescued multiple people.



Cpl. Bradley Maudlin (H) accepts a Missouri Medal of Valor from Gov. Mike Parson. Cpl. Maudlin and Sgt. Kurt Schmutzler (H) evacuated several residents during flash flooding in deep, strong currents.



Tpr. Colton Beck (Q/DDCC) accepted both a Missouri Medal of Valor and a Red, White, and Blue Heart award honoring his bravery. He was seriously injured after a traffic violator fled the scene, crashed his vehicle, then shot Tpr. Beck as he approached. Gov. Mike Parson presented both awards.



Kansas Police Department Appreciates Assistance

By *Cpl. Logan M. Bolton (C)*

On Tuesday November 1, 2022, Corporal Travis N. Ziegler, Trooper Joshua T. Parrott, Assistant Chief Operator Jenny L. Cruise, Communications Operator III Heather J. Thomas, Communications Operator I Cory A. Mack, and Communications Operator III Kayleigh M. Troske (all Troop C) accepted Certificates of Appreciation and challenge coins from the Junction City (KS) Police Department for their actions on October 2, 2022. Capt. Ryan A. Burckhardt handled the presentation.

At 6:50 a.m. Sunday, October 2, 2022, Troop C communications broadcasted a “Be On The Lookout” referencing a subject wanted for questioning in a homicide that occurred in Junction City, KS. The Junction City (KS) Police Department issued the BOLO. Troop C communications indicated a license plate reader in Boone County, MO, located the suspect vehicle on eastbound Interstate 70 at approximately 5:41 a.m.

Tpr. Parrott parked his patrol vehicle at the scale house on eastbound Interstate 70, east of Missouri Route W, in St. Charles County, MO. At approximately 7:06 a.m., he observed a vehicle displaying a Kansas license plate and matching the description provided earlier traveling eastbound on Interstate 70. After confirming the license plate matched, Tpr. Parrott notified Troop C and requested additional units for a vehicle stop. Multiple O’Fallon (MO) Police Department officers responded to assist. Tpr. Parrott made a traffic stop at which time the driver was positively

identified and arrested without incident. Corporal Travis Ziegler (C) then contacted the Junction City (KS) Police Department to initiate extradition of the suspect.

The dispatch room at Troop C Headquarters was instrumental in sharing pertinent information about the murder suspect throughout the Troop C area. Comm. Oper. III Troske relayed the information to St. Charles County zone troopers and kept them aware of all developments. Asst. Chief Oper. Cruise and Comm. Oper. I Mack made sure information was shared with surrounding agencies, and kept Junction City (KS) Police Department up-to-date. All radio traffic not pertaining to the wanted subject was still answered, and Comm. Oper. III Thomas ensured those calls were handled.

Since the incident, Capt. Burckhardt received several phone calls from the Junction City (KS) Police Department thanking the Missouri State Highway Patrol. This is a great example of the quality of work the Highway Patrol does to ensure the safety

of the citizens of Missouri and assist other law enforcement agencies. It also highlights how our communications operators go above and beyond to assist the troopers to effectively locate and apprehend dangerous individuals.

“On behalf of the Junction City Police Department, we would like to personally say thank you for your work and attention to detail on this today,” said Detective Nicholas Blake. “Thank you, for seeing the NLETS BOLO message and taking the time to run that tag through the Boone County LPR then immediately calling us with the results. Thank you for getting this information out quickly and efficiently, so your road troops could react in such a timely manner. Without you and your quick response, this capture certainly would not have taken place in Missouri.”

“This shows how hard we work in Troop C,” said Capt. Burckhardt. “We will not shy away from a challenge, and the teamwork that led to this arrest is a great example of how we handle business in Troop C.”



Pictured (l to r) are Asst. Chief Oper. Jenny Cruise, Comm. Oper. I Cory Mack, Comm. Oper. III Heather Thomas, Captain Ryan Burckhardt, and Comm. Oper. III Kayleigh Troske.

Deaths

Erin M. Center



Erin M. Center, 48, of Jefferson City, MO, died Saturday, September 17, 2022, at home with her parents and brothers at her side. She was born on May 11, 1974, in Jefferson City, MO, the daughter of John and Susie (Smith) Center. Erin was a 1992 graduate of Jefferson City High School, and later graduated from William Woods University in Fulton, MO, with double majors in graphic and interior design. During her time at JCHS, she was involved in chorale and participated in the operetta every year.

On August 1, 1996, Erin joined the Missouri State Highway Patrol. She spent her professional career as the staff artist and was assigned to the Public Information and Education Division at General Headquarters in Jefferson City. She took part in making sure yearbooks, photographs, the agency's bi-monthly magazine, brochures, and other printed materials were well designed for the Highway Patrol. She painted Otto-The Talking Car's face and gave him a touch up whenever needed before he went to the Missouri State Fair each year. She designed the department's Purple Heart medal and memorial pin.

Erin also had the great honor of painting a mural, which is proudly displayed in the Colonel Alvin R. Lubker Safety & Education Center at General Headquarters.

Being gifted with artistry, Erin found many ways to share her creativity. She provided several original paintings for her family and friends, enjoyed drawing, and decorated her home for any sort of holiday. Erin enjoyed going on annual getaways to Denver, CO; Cancun, Mexico; and to the East Coast with some of her close college friends.

Erin's love for her miniature schnauzers would never go unnoticed; they were her children. First, Zoe and Mia, and most recently, Oliver and Gray. They were special to her and great companions. Above all, Erin cherished the times she spent with her loving family. You could find Erin at the ballfields supporting her niece and nephew while they played sports or at their school events. Extremely proud of her family, she always found ways to enjoy their company. She relished the times when her family came over to her house for game night and good food. Erin will be remembered as a loving, sweet, kind, and thoughtful person who always made sure everyone was taken care of before herself.

Erin is survived by her parents, John and Susie; two brothers, Brian (and his wife, Kathy) Center, of New Bloomfield, MO, and Patrick (and his wife, Erin) Center, of Holts Summit, MO; nieces, Brooklyn and Coraline; nephews, Brody and Asa; aunts, Mary Schroer, of Holts Summit, MO, Abbie Huffstickler (and her husband, Shane), of Des Arc, AR,

Cindy Wright, of Grants Pass, OR, and Janie Byard, of Beebe, AR; uncle, Don (and his wife, Alberta) Smith, of Jonesboro, AR; and her beloved schnauzers, Oliver and Gray.

Erin was preceded in death by her paternal grandparents, John and Alva Center, and maternal grandparents, Herbert and Ella Smith.

Visitation took place at Freeman Mortuary Friday, September 23, 2022, with funeral services immediately afterward in the Freeman Chapel. Reverend Dr. Monte Shinkle officiated. Graveside services and interment occurred at Riverview Cemetery, Jefferson City. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions be made to the American Cancer Society or the Goldschmidt Cancer Center by mailing all donations to P.O. Box 95, Jefferson City, MO 65102. To view this article or see additional photos, visit the Freeman Mortuary website. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Center family.

“

When words fail,
music speaks.

— Hans Christian Anderson,
writer

”

Deaths

Leif A. Dezner



Leif A. Dezner, 26, died in a tragic accident on September 30, 2022. He was born on November 4, 1995, to Lance and Sarah Dezner in Clearwater, FL. While Leif was attending Fayette High School [Fayette, MO], he began his National Guard career. Upon graduation, he attended basic training and became a military policeman. He stayed in service until he died. He graduated from the Highway Patrol's Law Enforcement Academy in 2017. His first assignment was North St. Louis County, where he served for five years. There, he was promoted to corporal. At the time of his death, he was assigned to Cooper and Howard counties.

Leif was passionate about his work, and always strove to be the best officer he could be. Hardworking and well respected, he could always be counted on to do what he said. His family will remember him as a devoted and loving father and spouse, who was always ready to do something outside. He loved the water and fishing and was always working on a project. His children will remember him as a father who loved to wrestle, would always let them help with projects, and

could always be convinced to buy something for them on outings.

Leif leaves behind his wife, Mary; three children, Everett, Mirella, and an unborn child; parents, Lance and Sarah Dezner, of Columbia, MO; siblings, Logan Dezner and Emily Dezner, both of Columbia, MO; numerous brothers in the Highway Patrol and National Guard; and many in-laws.

Services honoring Leif's life took place Thursday, October 6, 2022, at the First Baptist Church in Fayette. Rev. James Briggs and Lieutenant Jamey Diffe officiated. Burial with honors followed at Walnut Ridge Cemetery in Fayette. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to The Backstoppers Inc., in care of Carryager Funeral Home, P.O. Box 210, Fayette, MO 65248. Condolences may be shared at www.carryager.com. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Dezner family.

George R. Archer



George R. Archer, 80, of Kennett, MO, died August 30, 2022, at St. Bernard's Medical Center in Jonesboro, AR. George married Mary Burks April 27,

1962. He joined the Missouri State Highway Patrol as a driver examiner October 1, 1964, serving in Kennett his entire career. He retired as a driver examiner supervisor after 33 years of dedicated service. He is survived by his wife, Mary, two sons, five grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and a brother. He was preceded in death by a son, three brothers, and five sisters. Online condolences may be made at www.mcdanielfuneralservice.com. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Archer family.

Joyce E. Schaefer



Joyce E. Schaefer, 81, of Jefferson City, MO, died peacefully Tuesday, August 30, 2022, with her family at her side. She worked for many years as a nurse at Ellis Fischel, and also worked at McGraw Edison before joining the Missouri State Highway Patrol. Joyce retired October 1, 2005, as a cook supervisor assigned to the Training Division after 16 years of service. Joyce is survived by her husband of 53 years, Donald, four children, six grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and one on the way, and two brothers.

Deaths

She was preceded in death by two brothers. In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made to a charity of the donor's choice. Arrangements are under the direction of Houser-Millard Funeral Directors, and condolences may be left online for the family at www.millardfamilychapels.com. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Schaefer family.

Joseph L. Endicott



Joseph L. Endicott, 69, of Sarcoxie, MO, surrounded by his loved ones, peacefully entered into the gates of heaven, on September 3, 2022. After high school, he earned an Associate of Science in law enforcement at Missouri Southern State University in Joplin, MO. He was employed with the Missouri Highway State Patrol in 1978, retiring after 29 years of dedicated service as a commercial vehicle officer supervisor. Joe was known by many as "Joe, the fix-it man." Survivors include his wife of 49 years, Kathy, four children, nine grandchildren, a sister-in-law, two brothers-in-law, and a multitude of nieces and nephews. Joe was preceded in death by a son, his in-laws, and five siblings. Joe and

Kathy were foster parents for over 23 years to over 60 children. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made at the funeral home to First Baptist Sarcoxie Church toward the "Joe Fix-it Fund" for church improvements. Arrangements are under the personal care and direction of Housh-Goodwin Funeral in Sarcoxie, MO. To learn more about Joe, visit the funeral home website at <https://www.housh-goodwinfuneralhome.com>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Endicott family.

Terry L. Day



Terry L. Day, 70, of Parkville, MO, died September 12, 2022, at St. Luke's Heart Institute in Kansas City, MO, surrounded by his family. Terry graduated from Bolivar High School in 1970, then served his country in the U.S. Army. After being honorably discharged from his military police attachment, he joined the Jefferson City Police Department and continued as an Army reservist. Terry joined the Missouri State Highway Patrol August 1, 1978, as a member of the 48th Recruit Class. After graduating from the Patrol's Law Enforcement Academy, he was assigned to

Troop A, Lee's Summit. He enlisted as an Air Force Reservist while a member of the Patrol. In July 1997, the Patrol formed its Major Crash Investigation Unit. Terry was an original member of the MCIU's Team 1, which answered calls in Troops A and H, as well as parts of Troop B and Troop F. He retired as a sergeant June 1, 2003, after almost 25 years of dedicated service. Terry is survived by his wife of 50 years, Vickie, sons [Lieutenant C. Joey (and wife, Kristy) and Chris], three grandchildren, two sisters, a dozen nieces and nephews, and a host of family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, grandparents, and brother. A celebration of life took place Saturday, October 22, 2022, at Fortress of Faith Christian Fellowship Church in Leavenworth, KS. To read Terry's entire obituary, visit the Highland Park Funeral Home website at <https://www.highlandparkfh.com>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Day family.

Anneta M. Neill



Anneta Mae Neill, 81, of Kingsville, MO, died Thursday,

Deaths

October 6, 2022. Anneta worked for the Missouri State Highway Patrol Troop A for 38 years. She retired as a senior secretary September 1, 1996, after having worked for eight troop commanders. She is survived by two brothers, a sister, a brother-in-law, and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, George Neill. To learn more about Anneta, visit the Royer Funeral Home website at <http://royerfuneralhome.com>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Neill family.

Janette Moore



Janette Moore, 83, of Jefferson City, MO, died October 6, 2022. She graduated from Clarksburg High School in Clarksburg, MO, and later earned an associate degree. She valued education and was always learning. Janette worked at the Missouri State Highway Patrol as an AFIS entry operator in the Criminal Records and Identification Division for over 16 years, retiring in 2003. Janette is survived by her husband, Ronald B. Moore, of the home, her daughter, stepchildren, four grandchildren, her beloved

cats, and her brother. She was preceded in death by her son, four brothers, four sisters, and her first husband. The family suggests memorials be sent to the Central Missouri Food Bank at <https://sharefoodbringhope.org/donate>. For more information about Janette, visit the Windmill Ridge Funeral Service website at windmillridgefuneralservice.com. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Moore family.

Twila A. Walker



Twila A. Walker, 66, of Jefferson City, MO, died peacefully on Friday, October 21, 2022, at University Hospital and Clinics, surrounded by her loving children. She was a 1974 graduate of Mexico High School in Mexico, MO. Twila earned a bachelor's degree from William Woods University in Fulton, MO, in 1978. For almost 30 years she was employed with the Missouri State Highway Patrol as a research analyst. She retired July 1, 2011. Twila is survived by her two children, two brothers, three sisters, four grandchildren, best friend, and a host of cousins and

extended family. She was preceded in death by an infant sister and a brother. The family suggests expressions of sympathy be made to The American Cancer Society. For more information about Twila, visit the Houser-Millard Funeral Directors website at www.millardfamilychapels.com. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Walker family.

Charles A. Daugherty



Charles A. Daugherty, 79, of Kennett, MO, died October 31, 2022. He served his country as a member of the United States Navy, and served in the Vietnam War. Charles was employed with the Missouri State Highway Patrol on May 31, 1977, as a weight inspector. He served for 24 years before retiring as a commercial vehicle officer. Charles is survived by a son, daughter, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by four brothers and one sister. McDaniel Funeral Service of Kennett, MO, handled funeral arrangements. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Daugherty family.

Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy goes to the following personnel who have lost a member of their family:

Lt. C. Joey Day (Q/TND) - father
Cpl. Chad C. Clark (D) - father
Sgt. Adam V. Dillon (A) - father
Comm. Oper. III Jessica R. Dillon (A) - father-in-law
Ret. Cpl. Allen R. Flannery - mother
Sgt. Bill W. Schafer (D) - grandmother
Clerk IV Janis A. Leesmann (C) - son
Cpl. Steven J. Force (H) - father-in-law
Ret. Trainer/Auditor IV William C. Welch - wife
Tpr. Maurice Lang Jr. (A) - father

Ret. CVO Sprv. Terri J. Noland - mother
Sgt. Liere R. Dancy (A) - grandfather
Ret. Sgt. Jimmie D. Mays - brother
Tpr. Jake T. Langsdale (A) - mother
Ret. Capt. James W. Remillard - father
Ret. MVI III Charles G. McMillan - mother-in-law
Tpr. Craig Garbulski (Q/GD) - father-in-law
Tpr. Cory M. Stauffer (I) - wife's grandfather
Sgt. Rich A. Stewart (Q/RCOD) - father

Patrol Investigates Cave Diver Incident

By Capt. Mike A. Petlansky (Q/WPD)

Shortly before noon Friday, October 14, 2022, Troop D Communications was advised of a medical emergency involving a cave scuba diver at the Roaring River State Park in Barry County. The diver was part of a group of cave divers exploring and documenting the cave system within the park. When the emergency occurred, he was at a depth of 190 feet. (The diver died later.)

Trooper Les A. Wilson (D) and Trooper Ryan W. Pace (D-marine operations) responded to the

scene. The Patrol's Dive Team leader, Sergeant Kurt C. Merseal (Q/WPD) was notified of the scuba diving incident and recommended Corporal Logan B. Monahan (G-marine operations) respond to the scene. Cpl. Monahan is a TECH deep diver and scuba diving instructor, and his technical expertise was needed to assist Tpr. Pace with his investigation.

Sgt. Merseal and Troop D staff facilitated a course of action for the recovery of the diver and preservation of evidence pertinent for the investigation.

Cpl. Monahan's certifications, experience in cave diving, and familiarity with the scuba diving equipment used enabled him to systematically capture all available data for a thorough investigation.

The Patrol's investment in the advancements in scuba diving prepared us for this mission and our people successfully carried it out. The MSHP Dive Team has the capabilities to make recoveries anywhere in Missouri waters, including caverns, caves, ice, swift water, and prolonged 300' deep dives using advance TECH equipment and mixed gases.

Thank You

My entire family and I would like to thank all of you for your prayers, cards, calls, and messages during the hospitalization and passing of my father, retired Sergeant Terry L. Day. We appreciate all of you checking in on us and your continued support as we process the loss of a true servant. Dad enjoyed his time with the Patrol. His true passion was helping people.

Thank you,

Lt. C. Joey Day (Q/TND)

On behalf of the Public Information and Education Division, I want to thank those of you who have reached out to us after the death of our team member, Staff Artist III Erin M. Center. Erin's family appreciated the presence of those who attended the visitation and funeral. The PIED team appreciated your calls, prayers, and support for us and the Center family.

Sincerely,

Capt. John J. Hotz (Q/PIED)

Randle Accepts MAFS Distinguished Service Award

By Director Brian K. Hoey (Q/CLD)

On September 15, 2022, at the 51st Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Association of Forensic Scientists, Criminalist Supervisor Will A. Randle accepted the association's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award.

The MAFS is a professional association for forensic scientists based in the Midwest, with over 900 members from across the country. The MAFS' mission is to encourage the exchange of ideas and information within our profession and advance our science through training and education.

Crim. Sprv. Randle has been an MAFS member since 1996 and has attended 20 annual meetings. Throughout the years, he has served as an MAFS workshop instructor five times and has given presentations at 10 different meetings. His presentations included interesting cases he has worked or research he has conducted to advance our science. Crim. Sprv. Randle has also served on behalf of MAFS as a visiting scientist multiple times, often using his own annual leave time to share his talents to train other scientists in the field of trace evidence and fire debris analysis. Additionally, he served on the MAFS Board of Directors as secretary for three years and president-elect, president, and past president for one year each.

Crim. Sprv. Randle has demonstrated his dedication to the field of forensic science not only in his service to MAFS but also by serving as an expert



Crim. Sprv. Will Randle (Q/CLD) recently accepted the Midwestern Association of Forensic Scientists' Distinguished Service Award.

on fire debris, ignitable liquids, explosives, and gunshot residue on many other regional and national committees. He has given numerous presentations and has taught workshops throughout the country.

The criteria for the MAFS Distinguished Service Award are as follows:

- At least 15 years' experience in forensic science and 10 years as a MAFS member in good standing.
- Outstanding contributions to MAFS, including teaching and service as a board member, committee member, section chair, organization, representative, or meeting planner.
- Dedication to improvement in the quality, recognition, and acceptance of MAFS or the forensic science field.

Crim. Sprv. Randle's accomplishments are numerous, and he certainly checks all the boxes of the criteria above. However, more than anything, his competence and character were the driving force behind this nomination and award. The fact that his peers both nominated and voted for him to be recognized speaks to how respected he is in the forensic community. In the nomination letter that was sent on Crim. Sprv. Randle's behalf, the colleague who nominated him wrote, "Will is one of the most caring and genuine people you will ever meet."

The Crime Laboratory Division congratulates Crim. Sprv. Randle not only for his Distinguished Service Award but for his numerous contributions to the field of forensic science and for the enumerable hearts and minds he has touched.

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