

CAREER RECRUITMENT DIVISION

The Career Recruitment Division was established on June 1, 2015, by order of Colonel J. Bret Johnson. Captain Roger D. Whittler became the first director of the division. The Career Recruitment Division's focus is recruiting qualified and diverse candidates for positions as troopers and for more than 60 civilian career classifications within the Patrol. The division's long term goals are to develop partnerships with diverse groups and organizations in an effort to recruit a qualified workforce that reflects the diversity of Missouri.

Previously, trooper and civilian recruitment as well as the Trooper Selection Process was the responsibility of the Human Resources Division. On July 1, 2015, the Patrol's three full-time recruiters, the trooper selection process coordinator, and a personnel records clerk were transferred from the Human Resources Division to staff the newly created division.

In 2016, in addition to participating in job fairs and making presentations at schools, community events, and military installations, the Career Recruitment Division hosted the first Missouri State Highway Patrol Youth Academy. The three-day training camp for teenagers ages 14-18 took place in Poplar Bluff, MO, at Three Rivers Community College.

The division coordinated "Unity Services" at The Crossing Church in Columbia, MO, and at Oak Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Guthrie, MO. The Career Recruitment Division hosted annual training for 79 Patrol employees who are assigned as part-time recruiters. The division welcomed Sergeant Dwayne Gill and Lieutenant Robert Hendrix of the Michigan State Police as guest speakers for this training.

Lieutenant Benjamin C. Jones was assigned as the first assistant director of the Career Recruitment Division on October 1, 2016.

Captain Roger D. Whittler, Lieutenant Benjamin C. Jones, and troopers from Troops A, C, and the Gaming Division participated in the Kansas City, MO, annual Senator Shalonn Kiki Curls Health Fair, and the Kansas City Employment Preparation and Support Services Fair. In November 2016, the Career Recruitment Division coordinated the Patrol's 85th Anniversary, Diversity, and Family celebration.

The division administered the 102rd and 103rd Missouri State Highway Patrol Trooper Selection Processes. A total of 67 new troopers were commissioned after completing the Patrol's Law Enforcement Academy training.

The Missouri State Highway Patrol held its first-ever Youth Academy Program in 2017. The Youth Academy Program was designed to help young people explore career opportunities in law enforcement while fostering teamwork and personal leadership skills. Career Recruitment Division personnel designed the Youth Academy Program in a way that allows it to be held in any troop area, thus bringing the experience to youth across the state who may not be able to attend a single location academy. This first-

ever Youth Academy Program welcomed 28 youth to Sunnyhill Adventures in Dittmer, MO. The Highway Patrol provided 15 employees to serve as camp staff. Youth Academy Programs are funded by private donations.

A second Youth Academy took place at Eagle Sky Adventures in Piedmont, MO, for youth from the Poplar Bluff region. The Patrol provided 12 employees to serve as camp staff for the 12 youth attending the program at Eagle Sky.

Division Directors

Capt. R.D. Whittler

June 1, 2015 to present