



For Immediate Release

Captain Monica Alexander
Government and Media Relations

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Contact: Trooper Chelsea A. Hodgson

Phone: (360) 265-1332

Email: Chelsea.Hodgson@wsp.wa.gov

Twitter: @wspd8pio

WSP Commercial Vehicle Officers, Troopers participate in Brake Safety Week

Bremerton – Washington State Patrol (WSP) District 8 Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officers (CVEO) and Troopers will be on the lookout for commercial motor vehicles with brake issues during Brake Safety Week from Sept. 16 to Sept. 22.

The nationwide Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) emphasis focuses on vehicles with critical brake violations and faulty brake systems. Brakes are required to be routinely inspected and maintained to perform at manufacturer's specifications to avoid potential collisions.

"Ensuring commercial motor vehicle's braking systems are in working order is a proactive step at keeping our roadways safe and reducing the number of collisions," said WSP Commercial Vehicle Division Lieutenant T. Sharff.

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, 32.7 percent of large trucks with pre-crash violations suffered from brake issues. Brake problems were identified to be the largest percentage of out of service vehicle violations cited during the 2017 International Roadcheck, a three-day enforcement emphasis that resulted in 62,013 inspections in the United States and Canada.

This year's Brake Safety Week has grown from last year's one day emphasis held Sept. 7, 2017. On 2017's Brake Safety Day, 14 percent of the 7,698 inspections conducted in the United States and Canada resulted in a commercial motor vehicle being placed out of service for brake-related violations.

District 8 CVEOs and Troopers participated in the 2017 emphasis, conducting 36 Level 1 inspections on commercial motor vehicles, placing 22 percent out of service.

A Level 1 inspection is a thorough, 37-step process that includes examining the driver's operating requirements and vehicle's mechanics, including checking brake systems. The inspection also examines cargo securement and lighting devices.

District 8 serves Clallam, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Kitsap, Mason, Pacific and Wahkiakum counties.

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