



Office of the Chief • Chief John R. Batiste

\*\*\*For Immediate Release\*\*\*

Captain Deion Glover  
Government and Media Relations

June 5, 2025

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### WSP Graduates 57 Troopers from the 120th Basic and 3rd/4th Lateral Training Classes

**OLYMPIA, Wash.** – The Washington State Patrol (WSP) added **57** newly commissioned troopers to its ranks today during the 120th Trooper Basic Training (TBTC) and 3<sup>rd</sup>/ 4<sup>th</sup> Trooper Lateral Training Class (TLTC) graduation ceremony held at the state Capitol Rotunda.

For the 120<sup>th</sup> TBTC, the graduation marks the completion of more than **1,400** hours of rigorous training, including classroom and practical exercises at the WSP Academy in Shelton. The training culminated with a coaching trip where the cadets worked the roads alongside field training officers.

The combined efforts of the 120th TBTC class resulted in 10,648 driver contacts, 3,159 calls for service, the removal of 472 impaired drivers from our roadways, and 960 collision investigations during their two-month long coaching trip.

Thurston County District Court Judge Brett Buckley swore in the new troopers as the rotunda erupted with applause and cheers from family, friends, and colleagues.

Chief John R. Batiste, a member of the 55th Trooper Basic Training Class, thanked the new troopers and their families for their dedication to being a part of the future of the agency.

“You’ve earned it,” Chief John Batiste said to the graduates during Wednesday’s ceremony. “The sweat and tears that you put in at the academy itself and on your field training assignment has prepared you to go out and serve with humility, the people of this great state.”

Chief Batiste alongside Governor Bob Ferguson congratulated each graduate, providing them with their commission card signifying they were now officially a commissioned WSP trooper.

“I know you have choices, but you chose us, and for that we are indebted to you,” said Chief Batiste.

WSP Academy Captain Robert W. Sharpe recognized several members of the class for excelling in aspects of specific skills and abilities, including:

**Trooper Chris Gadd Top Academic Award:** Trooper Aiden J. McCann



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This award recognizes the outstanding efforts of the cadet who attains the highest-grade point average compiled more than 30 exams and quizzes. The award was officially re-named in honor of WSP fallen Trooper Christopher Gadd, who also received the award as a member of the 116th TBTC.

**Top Driving Award:** Trooper Daniel Green

This award recognizes the highest level of proficiency with respect to driving skills, techniques, decision-making, mindset, and the steady and constant improvement through each phase of drive training.

**Top Firearms Award:** Trooper Jacob C. McCabe

This award recognizes the highest level of proficiency with all weapons systems, marksmanship scores, skills, and demonstration of sound judgement during practical encounter scenarios.

**Top Physical Fitness Award:** Trooper Mitch McHugh

This award recognizes the highest level of drive and tenacity in physical fitness testing and training. The recipient of this award consistently performed at the top of the TBTC during physical training. The award is named in honor of Trooper Kristopher Sperry, who tragically died off-duty during a house fire in 2010. Trooper Sperry received the Physical Fitness Award as a member of the 97th TBTC.

**Top Control Tactics Award:** Trooper Jacob Doughty

This award recognizes the highest level of proficiency in control tactics techniques, to include self-defense, handcuffing, searching, and the use of force thought process.

**Top Collision Investigation Award:** Trooper Aiden J. McCann

This award recognizes the highest level of proficiency regarding collision investigation, including mathematical computation, scene investigation, evidence gathering, report writing, and teamwork.

**Top Communications Award:** Trooper James R. Young

This award recognizes the highest level of efficiency of radio communications knowledge, based upon testing and practical exercises.

**Top Overall Cadet Award:** Trooper Colton J. Dyal

This award recognizes the trooper cadet who demonstrated great courage to overcome obstacles, unwavering dedication to stay focused in reaching their goals and their ability to give 100 percent in every aspect of their training. Trooper Dyal demonstrated the necessary skills, abilities, and judgement to be an excellent trooper, and made the efforts to make continuous improvements.

**Core Values Award:** Trooper Jacob Newton

The Core Values Award is determined by the anonymous vote of the members of the 120th TBTC, who chooses the classmate they feel best exemplified the training division's core values of strong leadership, effective partnerships, professional excellence, acting with integrity and accountability, respecting and protecting individual rights, and earning the trust and confidence of the public. The Core Values Award is sponsored by the WSP Memorial Foundation and presented in honor of the WSP troopers who gave their life in the line of duty. Today's award was given in honor of Trooper Christopher Gadd, who died in the line of duty on March 2, 2024. Captain Neil Weaver presented the award to Trooper Jacob Newton.



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### 120th TBTC Final Assignments

Name	Assignment
Armstrong, Matthew J.	Marysville
Baker, Konner K.	Bellevue
Barron, Brittany D.	Olympia
Bowden, Leondis	Marysville
Castaneda-Flores, Leonel	Monroe
Cox, Christopher M.	Tacoma
Crosby, Eugene A.	Bellevue
Davis, Deyondre	Marysville
Deroo, Carson A.	Hoquiam
Deupree, Cole T.	Bellevue
Doughty, Jacob	Marysville
Dyal, Colton J.	Monroe
Essex, Christofer B.	Naselle
Fuhrmeister, Marc A.	Burlington
Green, Daniel	Gig Harbor
Gregory, Asher	Bellevue
Gromov, Andrey R.	Bellevue
Hein, Taylor	Marysville
Hoff, David P.	Hoquiam
Kleweno, Michelle C.	Monroe
Larios, Devon	Bellevue
Lazo-Carrion, Elmer A.	Marysville

Name	Assignment
Lukner, Charles S.	Burlington
McCabe, Jacob C.	Marysville
McCann, Aiden J.	Monroe
McHugh, Mitch	Port Angeles
McLaughlin, Jeffrey C.	Bellevue
Michel, Julian	Marysville
Munoz, Thomas S.	Olympia
Newton, Jacob	Bellevue
Nguyen, Dominic	Bellevue
Niyonkuru, Jean C.	Marysville
Olivas, Samir A.	Marysville
Oliveri, Laura E.	Burlington
Pace, Austin L.	Bellevue
Palesoo, Soli A.	Bellevue
Riebel, Jacob S.	Bellevue
Rojas-Cuevas, Jefry	Bellevue
Saenz, Antonio	Bellevue
Sallee, Alyssa	Bellevue
Toledo, Armando A.	Port Townsend
Xie, Xixang	Olympia
Young, James R.	Bellevue

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