



Office of the Chief • Chief John R. Batiste

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

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Government and Media Relations

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WSU Return to Campus Emphasis Patrols

Pullman – The Washington State Patrol (WSP) will be conducting emphasis patrols starting August 6th and running through August 10th as Washington State University (WSU) students return to Pullman for fall semester. District 4 troopers in Whitman and Adams counties and District 6 troopers in Grant and Kittitas counties, will be focusing on speeding, distracted/impaired driving, and other collision-causing violations during the emphasis.

Speeding remains a major cause of collisions across the state. District 4 investigated 14 fatality collisions in 2025 compared to 5 for the same period in 2024 for an increase of 180%. Troopers will closely monitor posted speed limits to prevent tragedies from occurring on our roadways. Drivers should pay close attention to all speed limit changes as they travel across the state. Troopers will have zero tolerance for drivers who are found to be impaired while behind the wheel. Also, motorists should not drive distracted. We ask that when you are behind the wheel your focus should be safe operation of your vehicle. Our primary mission is to ensure that everyone arrives back at school safely and without incident.

Motorists traveling to and from WSU will see an increased WSP presence on State Routes 26 & 195 as well as Interstate 90 over Snoqualmie Pass.

The WSP, WSU, and other state and local officials will be working hard throughout the year to ensure everyone heading to and from Pullman has a safe and enjoyable trip. WSP public information officers will be updating information throughout the emphasis using the hashtag **#BeSafeCougs**.

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