# **AGENCY AT A**

SO FAR THIS YEAR



9,706 impaired drivers arrested



27,049 collisions investigated



198 fatality collisions



35,092 distracted driving contacts



**29,542** seatbelt violations



driver contacts

**274,680** excessive speed contacts

103,809 aggressive



54,830 CMV

inspections

#### **CHANGES COMING TO AXON EVIDENCE**



#### **CHANGING THE LOOK:**

Axon Evidence is undergoing some changes later this month. Learn what those are by checking out Page Two.

#### HAVE PHOTOS **OR STORIES** TO SHARE?



Have an amazing photo of your patrol car? A story to share about what your office does within the WSP? We want to hear from you. Part of the fun of The Milepost is seeing and learning about all the different aspects of our agency - and with us being state wide - you can rest assure there is a ton of content out there! Feel free to send in photos and story ideas to TheMilepost@wsp.wa.gov for future consideration.





### PROPERTY MANAGEMENT: Outfitting tomorrow's troopers















**TUMWATER, Wash. –** The cadets of the 121st Trooper Basic Training Class were outfitted with their trooper uniforms in anticipation of their upcoming coaching trips where they will be dispersed out into the districts and working alongside Field Training Officers. Property Management Division (PMD) Supply Section was closed down for two days as the cadets received their uniforms and campaign hats, ensuring they are ready for the next step toward becoming commissioned troopers. See more about the 121st TBTC Class on Page Three.

#### **RECOGNITION:** CO's receive 'Critical Incident Team of the Year 2024' award

By SHARILYN HINZ ASSISTANT DIVISION COMMANDER, COMMUNICATIONS

SHELTON, Wash. - Washington State Patrol (WSP) District 1 Communications Officers Josh Wilson and Colton Royal were recently recognized, along with dispatchers from South Sound 911 communications, as the "Critical Incident Team of the Year 2024" for their work on an officer involved shooting that occurred on July 15, 2024.

Pierce County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) deputies attempted to locate a subject identified as a person of interest in a homicide. The subject was known to carry a firearm and had made threats to "shoot it out with law enforcement." In an event lasting over 14 hours and involving 10 radio channels and over 100 units, PCSO was able to locate the subject, who had a hostage in his vehicle and refused to stop for deputies even going as far as to strike one with his vehicle while fleeing law enforcement. The suspect fired multiple shots at law enforcement and was eventually cornered in a garage at a residence and was shot by PCSO deputies.

COs Wilson and Royal worked with South Sound 911 dispatchers to coordinate trooper response and provide additional resources to assist PCSO with containment of the suspect and help secure the scene.

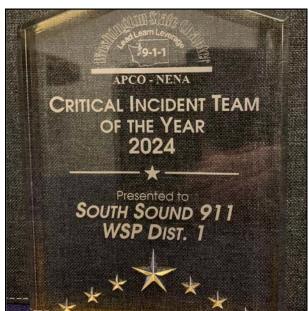
The summary of the event submitted for the award read as follows, "The coordination and rapid response between dispatchers from South Sound 911 and WSP District 1 were critical in ensuring

that no law enforcement personnel were seriously injured, the hostage was safe and that the suspect was neutralized." The award was presented to the team at the Washington APCO-NENA Fall

Conference Awards Banquet in Wenatchee

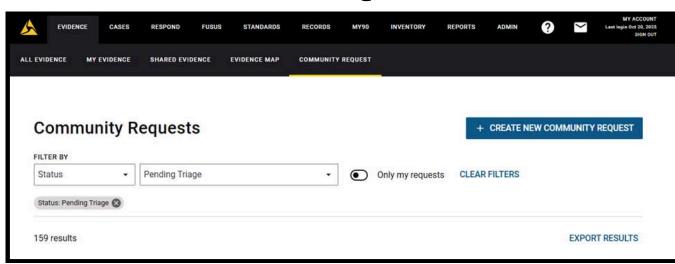
last week on October 16.







### **COMMUNITY REQUEST:** How to's



HOW TO PROPERLY USE COMMUNITY REQUEST - When you send a Community Request to a witness or business owner, please remember to check for submissions. You should receive an email from Evidence.com (E.com) stating that you have evidence "Pending Triage" once that person sends in the video or image. This is very important as it may be needed for a public disclosure report. This such event recently happened.

To find your Community Request submissions, select the Evidence Tab and then Community Request. Click on the Triage (# items) and either Accept or Reject the evidence. Questions? Reach out to the Axon Technology Team!

#### **NEW LOOK:** Axon Evidence to change Nov. 1

CHANGES COMING - Axon has announced a major redesign of its Evidence.com platform, set to launch later this month.

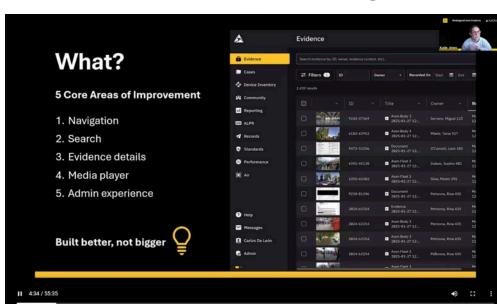
The redesign focuses on five core areas: navigation, search, evidence details, media playback, and administrative tools. Currently, users navigate through multiple menus, often requiring multiple clicks to reach essential tools. The future interface will greatly improve this experience with simplified navigation, faster access to core features, and a layout designed for speed and clarity.

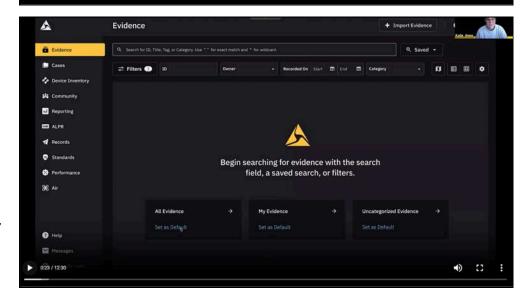
The search functionality is also getting a major upgrade, the redesigned version introduces smarter search capabilities, including dynamic filters, relevance-based results, and granular controls that help users find exactly what they need, quickly and accurately.

Evidence detail pages will become more informative and contain additional details. The future state will feature expanded metadata, and detailed audit trails. Similarly, the media player is being revamped. The current playback system provides standard controls with minimal tools for collaboration. The new version will include improved playback controls, annotation capabilities, and enhanced sharing options to support multi-user based review.

Axon's upcoming redesign of the Evidence.com platform marks a significant leap forward in usability. efficiency, and functionality.

To learn more about the change, view this **Axon video**.





### Windows passwords increase to 15 characters starting end of month



will update the default Windows password policy to increase the minimum password length from 8 characters to 15 starting on Friday, October 31, 2025 at 5 p.m. All WSP employees will be required to create Windows passwords that are at least 15

PASSWORD CHANGES - Washington State Patrol's Information Technology Division (ITD)

characters long the next time they change or reset their password after this date. This change is necessary to comply with WaTech's SEC-06-01-S Identification and Authentication Security Standard, which requires all Windows accounts to have a minimum

password length of 15 characters not later than January 1, 2026. This will only apply to Windows passwords that expire after Friday, October 31. 2025 at 5 p.m. All existing Windows passwords will continue to work until they expire or require a reset. Please contact ITD Help at (360) 705-5999 or <a href="mailto:itdhelp@wsp.wa.gov">itdhelp@wsp.wa.gov</a> if you have any

questions about this matter.

#### **POPS** application migrating to **SharePoint**

MOVING FROM REMEDY - As part of the Remedy Replacement initiative, the team has migrated the  ${\color{red} {\hbox{POPS application}}}$  to SharePoint. You can now access it directly from the main iWSP page or through the FOB SharePoint site.

The team also transferred all active projects, which remain available for ongoing edits and updates. Additionally, we moved all projects completed within the past six years to ensure compliance with state retention requirements.

#### WHAT IS POPS?

Many community and problem oriented policing (COP/POP) models have emerged in city, county, and state police agencies throughout the country. POPS is the Washington State Patrol's tailored approach to Problem Oriented Policing (POP). The two major tenets of POP are:

- Problem Solving using the SARA model (scanning, analysis, response, assessment);
- Partnerships (engaging stakeholders and citizens in the problem-solving process).

#### WHAT IS A PROBLEM THAT FALLS WITHIN POPS AREA OF CONCERN?

A problem is defined as a series of repeat incidents which share related characteristics or circumstances (behavior, location, people, and time) that concern the community and fall within the mission and jurisdiction of the Washington State Patrol. This includes traffic safety issues as well as internal challenges involving agency business practices. For more information, see **Center for Problem-Oriented** 

#### POPS SUSTAINMENT

The Washington State Patrol undertook an assessment of the state of POPS in 2008. As a result of this assessment, Chief John R. Batiste created a POPS Integration Sustainment Committee (PISC) to provide continuing oversight of a variety of POPS-strengthening initiatives.



## **ACADEMY CHECK IN:** Flag Ceremony











Photos by Heather Davis / Washington State Patrol Photograph

**SHELTON, Wash.** - At the beginning and end of each day, members of the trooper basic training class and the commercial vehicle enforcement basic training class come together to participate in a flag ceremony. This ceremony has long been a tradition that - upon the conclusion of the day - honors one of the agency's fallen officers where their biography is read aloud to the class, keeping their memory alive with the new recruits.

## SPECIAL OLYMPICS: D8 organizes event for athletes to learn about LEOs

BREMERTON, Wash. - Washington State Patrol (WSP) Trooper Kilgallen organized an event with athletes from the Special Olympics in Kitsap County. A volunteer with the organization, Trooper Kilgallen wanted to provide an opportunity for the athletes to meet with and learn from local troopers about what law enforcement officers do. The athletes got to see the inside of a patrol car, tour communications, and hear from District 8 Captain Julie Fisher.









## **FAITH IN BLUE:** WSP troopers, chaplain attend Port Angeles community event

**BY TROOPER KATHERINE WEATHERWAX**D8 PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

PORT ANGELES, Wash. - Washington State Patrol (WSP) Chaplain Kathi Gregoire and I were at the Faith & Blue Community Celebration this past Sunday.

Faith & Blue (October 10 - 13) is a national initiative whose mission is to facilitate safer and stronger communities by engaging law enforcement officers and local residents through the connections of faith-based organizations.

Port Angeles faith communities came together to conduct a supply drive for the local law enforcement agencies. They collected stuffed teddy bears for officers and chaplains to give to kids who need comforting on scene. They also collected beverages and snacks for troopers & officers to keep them going during their long shifts.

Last Sunday, Oct. 12, there was a community celebration which allowed Port Angeles to meet their law enforcement neighbors, explore patrol vehicles, and celebrate the community's generosity. Thank you to Lower Elwha Tribal Police and Clallam County Sheriff's Office who joined WSP's Sergeant John Ryan and Troopers Danny Menihane and Mitch McHugh at the celebration.







## BRIDGING THE GAP: D5 CO's make visit to Skamania County Dispatchers



BY JAMIE SATALICH
DISTRICT 5 SECRETARY

STEVENSON, Wash. - As part of the 'Bridging the Gap' initiative launched by Washington State Patrol Communications Officer 1 Chris Ralston earlier this year, he and CO4 Heather Kavanagh visited the Skamania County Dispatch Center to show appreciation for the voices behind the radios.

Accompanied by Sergeant Nate Hovinghoff, they delivered a basket of treats to the hardworking Corrections/ Dispatch team.

The visit offered a chance to connect face-to-face and express gratitude for their daily support. Bonus highlight: meeting Sheriff Summer Scheyer's adorable pup, Kevin!





## FEATURED: WSP SWAT training





**DISTRICT TWO** - The Washington State Patrol (WSP) Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team is comprised of both tactical operations (including entry and sniper teams) and a crisis negotiation team. (*Above Left*) SWAT Crisis Negotiation Team member Trooper N. Brockman conducts a pre-flight inspection of his unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) for an operation in District 2 earlier this week. Part of the job duties of a negotiator is to assist with overwatch operations utilizing agency issued UAVs during operations. (*Above Right*) Members of the SWAT tactical team debrief following a training mission held in Fife late last week.