

AGENCY AT A
glance
SO FAR THIS YEAR

-  2,813 impaired drivers arrested
-  6,916 collisions investigated
-  39 fatality collisions
-  9,096 distracted driving contacts
-  6,518 seatbelt violations
-  27,375 aggressive driver contacts
-  75,528 excessive speed contacts
-  19,841 CMV inspections

IN THE NEWS

APPLE VALLEY NEWS:
Unexpected situation for a WSP trooper turns into rescue mission

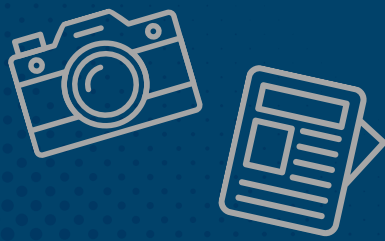


What started as a routine traffic stop near Kennewick turned into a race against time for a Washington State Patrol trooper who happened to pick up an extra shift that day. [Learn more here.](#)

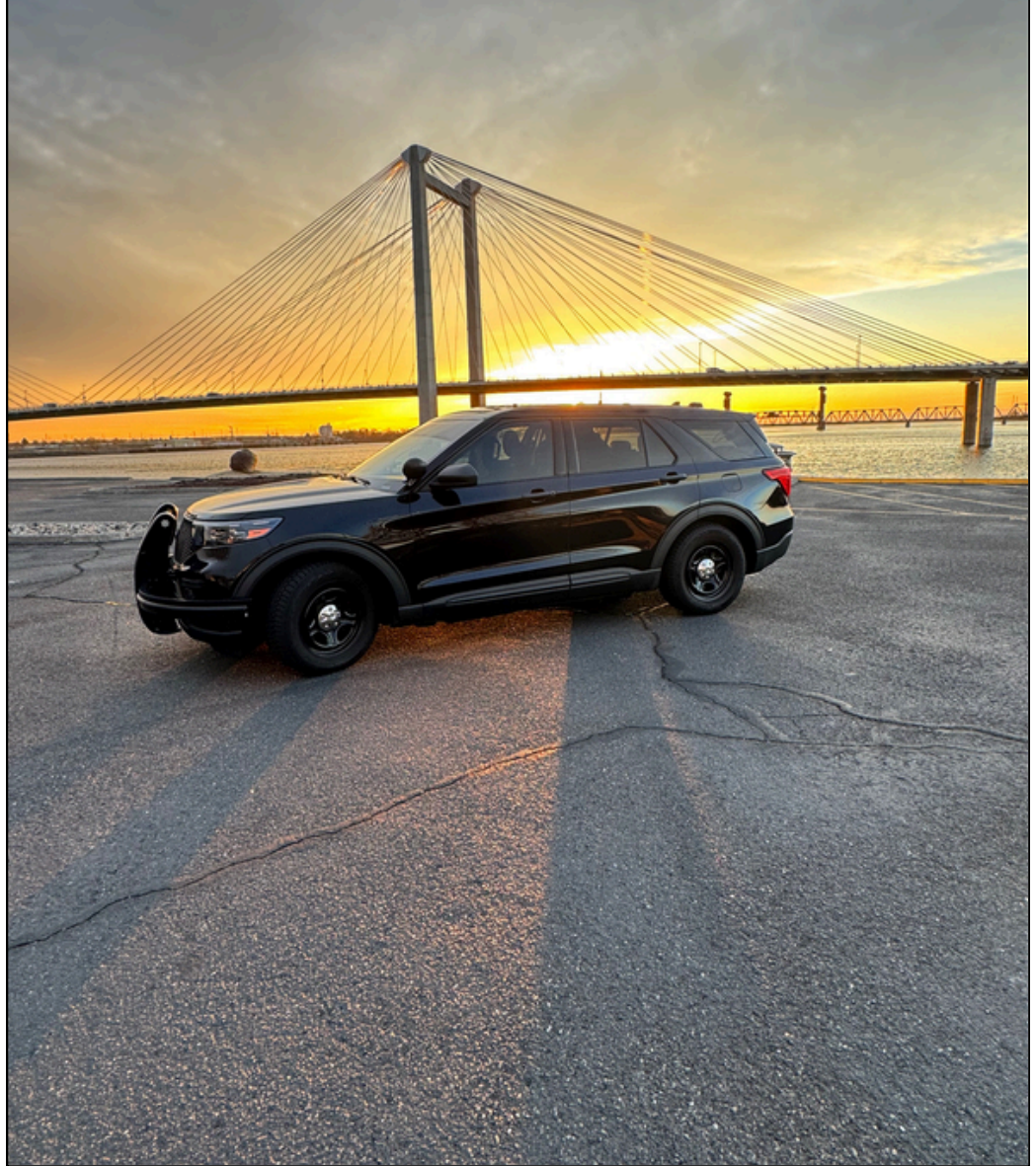
HAVE PHOTOS OR STORIES TO SHARE?



Have an amazing photo or story to share? 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 statewide - 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.



OFFICE VIEWS: Tri Cities



KENNEWICK, Wash. - Washington State Patrol (WSP) Trooper Carlos Marta submitted this amazing shot from the Tri Cities overlooking the Ed Hendlar cable bridge that connects Pasco to Kennewick. Submit photos for a future edition by e-mailing TheMilepost@wsp.wa.gov.

Snow day for the 122nd TBTC



SHELTON, Wash. - Washington State Patrol (WSP) Trooper Cadet Arbnor Reka submitted this photo of the 122nd Trooper Basic Training Class taken during a snow day on campus earlier this month. The academy class continues to work hard to complete their training and move toward their coaching trips. We look forward to them all being one day out on the road serving the communities of our state.

State Productivity Board awards

Assistant Chief Bendiksen, Captain Jones recognized for government improvement efforts

OLYMPIA, Wash. - Washington State Patrol (WSP) Assistant Chief Shannon Bendiksen and Captain Clark Jones were recently recognized by the State Productivity Board for their contributions in promoting improvements in state government.

Captain Jones received the "Outstanding Evaluator Award" and Assistant Chief Bendiksen received the "Outstanding Coordinator Award for Large Agency."

Read the latest "Innovate the State" Newsletter here: [2025 Year-End Issue of "Innovate the State"](#)



Year-End 2025 Newsletter
Productivity Board Wrap-Up

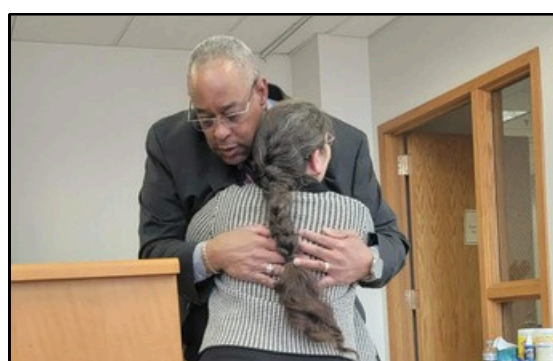
As we approach a new year, it is a great time to show gratitude and appreciation for the state employees who helped improve state government with their suggestions to the Productivity Board. [Read More...](#)



Photos courtesy of WA Secretary of State



King County felony collision prosecutor retires



SEATTLE, Wash. - Washington State Patrol (WSP) Chief John R. Batiste, District 2 Captain Ron Mead, Criminal Investigation Division Captain Trisena Sharf, and members of the District 2 Criminal Investigation Unit (CIU) attended the retirement celebration of King County Felony Collision Prosecutor Amy Freedheim. Freedheim worked with the WSP, prosecuting felony collision cases for more than 25 years. We appreciate her partnership and dedication over the years.

WSP's RDT annual in-service training



Photos by Heather Davis / WSP Photographer

**By LT. CASEY MYERS
DISTRICT 5**

WARRENTON, Ore. - During the week of March 2-6, the Washington State Patrol (WSP) Rapid Deployment Team (RDT) once again traveled to Camp Rilea in Warrenton, Ore., for their annual in-service. Training dates this year were accelerated in anticipation of possible need in the busy summer months and upcoming 2026 FIFA World Cup in Seattle.

RDT had a fantastic showing with over 130 total troopers, sergeants, cadets, commanders and admin staff making the journey to Rilea for training. This year was met with mostly good weather during our training dates and one very real-world wet day with practical exercises having the teams show how resilient they truly are.

Training this year consisted of new uniform accusation. All RDT members were issued brand new uniforms and over vests. We also conducted CART and CUT training certification and recertification. We also covered squad formation training and mass arrest training to prepare for our final day of the mega practical.

A huge thank you goes out to Chief John R. Batiste, AC Mjor, AC Knott, and Captain Raymond, Captain Stellmacher, and Captain Mead for making the journey to encourage our team. Thank you to our pre-academy cadets which help make this training possible. Also, thank you to Program Specialist 3 Jana Alderman for taking care of all the odds and ends as well as providing snacks for everyone. Last but not least Thank you to Vio Mihai who took care of the teams and barracks all training long.

It was another great in-service. If you are interested in joining our RDT please reach out to your local Commanders to find out how.



honesty - integrity - accountability - attention to detail - work ethic