



Office of the Chief • Chief John R. Batiste

For Immediate Release

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Government and Media Relations

April 2, 2026

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WSP Detectives Apprehend Fugitive After 8+Years on Washington's Most Wanted List

Seattle, Wash. – On April 2, 2026, Washington State Patrol (WSP) detectives arrested a longtime fugitive in West Seattle.

Jerry C. Denson, 36, was placed on the WSP Most Wanted list in 2017 after failing to appear in court on a vehicular homicide charge. The charge stems from a DUI-related collision on Interstate 5 in Kent, in which Joy Marie Brannon, a 28-year-old passenger in Denson's vehicle, was tragically killed.

Over the past several months, WSP detectives and the Organized Crime Intel Unit developed credible information regarding Denson's whereabouts and worked in close coordination with members of the U.S. Marshals Violent Offender Task Force to safely apprehend him.

Denson was taken into custody without incident and booked into the King County Jail, where he will face proceedings related to the original vehicular homicide charge.

"No matter how much time passes, we will continue to pursue those who evade accountability for serious crimes," said Trisena Sharff, Captain of the Washington State Patrol's Criminal Investigative Division. "Today's arrest is the result of relentless investigative work and strong partnerships, and we hope it brings some measure of justice to the Brannon family."

"This tragic crash was not forgotten, and I appreciate the work between the State Patrol and our Special Operations Unit to find and safely apprehend this defendant," King County Prosecutor Leesa Manion said. "Our thoughts are with the victim's family and this vehicular homicide case will move forward in the courts with our Felony Traffic Unit."

The Washington State Patrol thanks the King County Prosecutor's Office and U.S. Marshals Violent Offender Task Force for their assistance in apprehending Denson and helping bring a measure of justice to the Brannon family.



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