

# 99th Delaware State Police and 95th Municipal Recruit Class Graduation

Colonel Melissa Zebley, the Superintendent of the Delaware State Police, announces the graduation ceremonies for the **99th Delaware State Police and 95th Municipal Recruit Class**. The graduation ceremony was held at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 9th, 2023, at Dover High School. The ceremonies recognized and commemorated the successful completion of the Delaware State Police Training Academy and consisted of 13 Delaware State Troopers and 6 Municipal Officers representing the Bethany Beach Police Department, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control- Division of Parks and Recreation, University of Delaware Police Department, Middletown Police Department, and Smyrna Police Department.



Dignitaries who addressed the class:

**Governor John Carney**

**Attorney General Kathy Jennings**

**Secretary Nathaniel McQueen Jr.**

**Colonel Melissa Zebley**

**Class Speaker:**

**Officer Gregory Contorno, Bethany Beach  
Police Department**

**Class Awards:**

**Trooper Jai'Rae Hammond (DSP) – Physical  
Fitness Award**

Awarded to the Recruit that demonstrated outstanding overall  
excellence in Physical Fitness during training

**Trooper Mitchell Leslie (DSP) –  
Outstanding Proficiency in Police  
Firearms Award**

Awarded to the Delaware State Police Recruit that demonstrated  
the highest proficiency in marksmanship and dedication to the  
art of shooting

**Officer Samuel Jester (UDPD) –  
Outstanding Proficiency in Police  
Firearms Award**

Awarded to the Municipal Recruit that demonstrated the highest proficiency in marksmanship and dedication to the art of shooting

**Officer Lori Ferguson (DNREC P&R) – DSP  
Law Enforcement Core Values Award**

Awarded to the Recruit that most exemplified the spirit of the Academy's Core Values of Honor, Integrity, Courage, Loyalty, Attitude, Discipline, and Service

**Trooper Colby Collins (DSP) – Secretary  
of Safety & Homeland Security Award**

Awarded to the Recruit whose abilities & actions demonstrated exemplary commitment towards teamwork & service

**Officer Patrick Henry (DNREC P&R) –  
Delaware Association of Chiefs of Police  
Award**

Awarded to the Municipal Recruit that demonstrated the highest qualities of leadership while attending the academy

# **Trooper Coleena Markovich (DSP) – Governor’s Outstanding Recruit Trooper Award**

Awarded to the Delaware State Police Recruit that demonstrated outstanding and overall leadership while attending the academy

## **99th DSP and 95th Municipal Class**

### **DSP**

Trooper Colby Collins

Trooper Alicia Evans

Trooper Jai’Rae Hammond

Trooper Ryan Jones

Trooper Mitchell Leslie

Trooper Markie Lewis

Trooper Coleena Markovich

Trooper Rene McKinnon

Trooper Brandon Ruiz

Trooper Michael Rummel

Trooper Jose Santos

Trooper Joseph Shanahan

Trooper Diana Torres

## MUNICIPAL

Officer Gregory Contorno – Bethany Beach PD

Officer Lori Ferguson – DNREC P&R

Officer Patrick Henry – DNREC P&R

Officer Samuel Jester – UDPD

Officer Angel Padillo – Middletown PD

Officer Joseph Wunsch – Smyrna PD

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Sergeant India Sturgis

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