

# Troop 7, Lewes Presents 2018 “Year in Review” to the Communities We Serve

The Delaware State Police Troop 7 Administration held a community meeting on Thursday, February 7, 2019 at the Lewes Senior Center, located at 32083 Janice Road, Lewes, led by Captain Darren Short. Troopers were privileged to have hosted a meeting where the public was provided with an overview of the great work done by the men and women of DSP Troop 7 in 2018. Achieving a 43.8% reduction in burglaries, a clearance rate of 43.2% in thefts and 61.3% in shopliftings, and a decrease of 7.6% in total crashes simply exemplifies the exceptional work the Troopers are doing. Moreover, when you examine many of our clearance rates of crime we demonstrate a deep desire to solve our crime. With a robbery clearance rate of 50% and an aggravated assault clearance rate of 66.2% clearly shows the dedication of our Troopers to solve crime when it occurs.

Equally important to our crime fighting and traffic enforcement measures is our commitment to suppress and prevent crime through our community outreach and engagement efforts. In 2018, Troop 7 embarked on several community based programs to build trust, open lines of communication, foster positive and open relationships between the citizens and police, all aimed at crime reduction and making our communities as safe as possible. Some of the most memorable events in 2018 included:

- Partnership with Pro-cutz Barbershop Backpack Give away
- Participation in the Martin Luther King Jr. Day parade in Lewes
- The Polar Bear Plunge
- Stuff the bus with school supplies event at the Rehoboth Beach Walmart

- Community Café at the Surf Bagel

These pro-active efforts not only provide the community with a better understanding of the Delaware State Police, it also enhances Troopers awareness of the various cultures that exist within the communities they serve.

In 2019, Troop 7 will have a multifaceted approach to crime reduction and traffic safety. Deployment strategies will focus on crash causing offenses and proactive criminal enforcement of the core crimes affecting the Troop 7 patrol territory based on the stratified policing model.

We truly appreciate and thank all those in attendance, including Senator Ernie Lopez, Representative Steve Smyk, and Troop 7's Honorary Commander Mr. Diaz Bonville for joining us to learn more about DSP T7 and the projected goals for 2019.







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*Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal  
Melissa Jaffe*

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# **Troopers Investigating Multiple Fights at Glasgow High School – Newark**

*Newark* – The Delaware State Police are investigating multiple fights that took place at Glasgow High School just before noon today.

At approximately 11:07 a.m., Thursday, February 7, 2019 Troopers responded to Glasgow High School located at 1901 S. College Avenue, Newark in reference to multiple fights involving students. Several Delaware State Police units, assisted by other allied law enforcement agencies were able to break up the fights and secure those students who were involved. During the law enforcement intervention the school was placed on lock-down as a precautionary measure.

At this time there are no known injuries to staff, students or law enforcement. It was also determined that no weapons were involved in any of the altercations.

One student is currently in custody with charges pending after he pushed a Trooper and refused to comply with commands.

All other students who were identified as being involved in the altercations were released to the custody of parents or guardians. The investigation is active and ongoing with further arrests expected. This investigation will be a collaborative effort between the Delaware State Police Youth

Aid Division and the school administration.

As an additional precautionary measure Troopers remained on site until dismissal was complete to ensure there were no further issues.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact the Troop 2 Youth Aid Division by calling 302-365-8564.

Information may also be provided by calling Delaware crime stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at <http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com>

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Michael Austin

Released:020719 1315

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# Troopers Investigating Crash Involving Wrong Way Driver-I-95 Wilmington

*Wilmington* – The Delaware State Police are investigating a crash that occurred early Tuesday morning that involved a vehicle traveling southbound in the northbound lanes of I-95.

The investigation has determined that at approximately 1:23 a.m., Tuesday, February 5, 2019, a 2018 Kia, operated by Jamin Taylor, 30, of Newark, was traveling southbound in the I-95 northbound left lane of travel, just north of the MLK Blvd. off-ramp. A 2006 Mercury Marquis, being driven by a 32 year old Wilmington man, was traveling I-95 northbound also in the left lane, and observed a vehicle coming directly at him. Due to other traffic on the roadway he could not change lanes and in turn was struck head on by the Kia.

The driver of the Mercury was treated at an area hospital for non-life threatening injuries. Neither impairment nor improper driving are contributing factors on his behalf.

Taylor was also transported to an area hospital for non-life threatening injuries. Further investigation did determine that Taylor was impaired at the time of the crash and was subsequently charged with the following offenses:

- Vehicular Assault 1<sup>st</sup> Degree
- DUI Alcohol
- Fail to Drive in Proper Lane and Direction
- Fail to Remain in Single Lane

Taylor was arraigned in Justice of the Peace Court #2 and then committed to the Howard R. Young Correctional Institution in lieu of \$3102.00 secured bail.

I-95 northbound at MLK Blvd. was closed for approximately 1.5 hours while the scene was investigated and cleared.

If you or someone you know is a victim or witness of crime or have lost a loved one to a sudden death and are in need of assistance, the Delaware State Police Victim Services Unit/Delaware Victim Center is available to offer you support and resources 24 hours a day through a toll free hotline 1800 VICTIM-1. (1800 842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at [debra.reed@state.de.us](mailto:debra.reed@state.de.us).

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Michael Austin

Released:020519 1722

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# Delaware State Police, Office

# of Highway Safety Partner to Target Distracted Driving

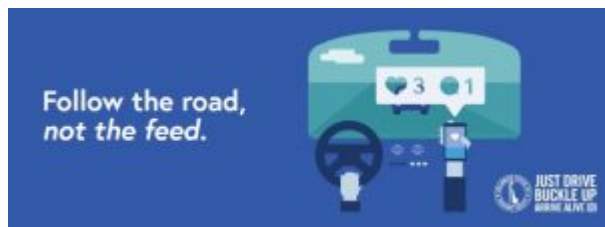
**Delaware** – The Delaware State Police and the Delaware Office of Highway Safety (OHS) have joined forces to address the issue of distracted driving by conducting a series of statewide enforcement initiatives, the first of which took place today, February 4, 2019, along Concord Pike in North Wilmington.

This enforcement initiative occurred during the mid-afternoon time frame, along the Concord Pike (U.S. 202) corridor in the area of Silverside Rd., and involved uniformed Troopers in fully marked patrol vehicles, who worked in conjunction with plain clothes Troopers, who were operating unconventional vehicles. A team of plain clothes Troopers manned vehicles such as work vans, and pick-up trucks, which were utilized as mobile observation platforms in order to identify motorists who were texting/talking while driving. Once a violation was observed, the uniformed Troopers were provided with a description of the vehicle and operator, along with a detailed description of the illegal activity. They then conducted a vehicle stop. During the four hour initiative a total of 49 vehicles were stopped, all of which were for distracted driving violations.

The Delaware State Police and Delaware OHS recognize that distracted driving caused by the usage of personal electronic devices is an ever growing problem and the hope is that through enforcement initiatives such as this along with educational opportunities, we can send the message that texting/talking while driving is not only illegal but can be deadly.

According to NHTSA, 3,450 people were killed across the country in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers

in 2016. Nationally and in Delaware, distracted driving fatalities have been trending upward since 2012. Texting while driving has become an especially problematic trend among millennials. Young drivers 16 to 24 years old have been observed using handheld electronic devices while driving at higher rates than older drivers since 2007.



For more information about the Delaware Office of Safety log on to: [www.ohs.delaware.gov](http://www.ohs.delaware.gov)

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Michael Austin

Released:020419 1710

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# Delaware State Police Troop 1 to Host Community Cafe

**Claymont** – Delaware State Police Troop 1 will be holding a Community Café from 9:00-10:30 a.m. on Friday, February 15, 2019 at the Dunkin', located at 3224 Philadelphia Pike, Claymont. The Community Café will have the Troop 1 Command Staff, along with the Community Outreach Trooper in attendance, to meet and interact with members of the public. The Community Café is often referred to as "Coffee with a Cop" in other police agencies and is being held in an effort to build a stronger relationship between the Delaware State Police and the communities that we so proudly serve.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal  
Michael Austin

Released: 020419 1540

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# Troopers Investigating Armed Robbery of Claymont CVS

**Claymont** – The Delaware State Police are investigating an armed robbery that took place at a Claymont area CVS pharmacy, Sunday night.

The incident occurred at approximately 8:56 p.m., Sunday, February 3, 2019 at the CVS Pharmacy, located at 702 Naaman's Rd., Claymont. A disguised suspect, brandishing a handgun, entered the business and confronted an employee on the sales floor. The employee was then directed at gunpoint to the sales counter and ordered to open the cash registers. The employee complied with the orders by opening the registers at which time the suspect removed an undisclosed amount of cash. The suspect then exited the business and was last seen on foot towards Peachtree Rd. The employee was not injured as a result of the incident.

The suspect was described as a black male, 30-40 years of age, 5'6"-5'8" tall, 200-220 lbs., wearing a gray sweatshirt, dark pants, and dark covering concealing his face, and in possession of a handgun.

No surveillance images are available at this time.

Anyone with information regarding this incident are asked to contact the Troop 2 Robbery Unit at 302-365-8566.

Information may also be provided by calling Delaware crime stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at <http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com>

If you or someone you know is a victim or witness of crime or have lost a loved one to a sudden death and are in need of

assistance, the Delaware State Police Victim Services Unit/Delaware Victim Center is available to offer you support and resources 24 hours a day through a toll free hotline 1800 VICTIM-1. (1800 842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at [debra.reed@state.de.us](mailto:debra.reed@state.de.us).

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Michael Austin

Released:020419 1530

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## Troopers Investigate Shooting Incident – Newport

*Newport, Delaware (19804)*– The Delaware State Police are investigating a shooting incident that occurred this afternoon.

The preliminary investigation has determined incident was reported on Sunday, February 3, 2019 at approximately 2:11

p.m., when troopers responded to a local area hospital for a report of a victim being shot. Upon arrival, troopers made contact with a 16-year-old male of New Castle. The victim advised that he was on a dirt bike motorcycle traveling west bound on Delaware 4 (Maryland Avenue) near Champlain Avenue and was shot by an unknown suspect traveling on Maryland Avenue in the same direction. The victim was taken to the hospital with injury to his lower torso and is listed in stable condition.

There is no suspect information at this time.

The investigation is ongoing and anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact Troop 2 Major Crimes Unit, Detective G. Biddle at 302-365-8475. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware crime stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at <http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com>

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***Presented by Director of Public Information, Sergeant Richard Bratz***

Released: 020319 1730

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# **Troopers Investigating Shooting-Alder Park Dover**

***Dover, Delaware*** – The Delaware State Police are currently investigating a shooting that occurred late last night at Alder Park in Dover.

The preliminary investigation has determined the incident was reported around 11:12 p.m. Saturday, February 2, 2019 when troopers received a call that an 18-year-old female had arrived at a local area hospital with a gunshot wound to her upper torso. The female was sitting in a vehicle when a black male wearing a black hooded sweatshirt and black pants ran toward the vehicle and began shooting in her direction before fleeing the scene. The female exited the vehicle and an unknown subject provided her a ride to a local area hospital. It was determined another male subject was in the vehicle during the incident and possibly sustained injury. He fled the area in an unknown direction and did not respond to the hospital.

The female sustained a graze wound to her upper torso and the round did not penetrate her body. It was also determined the female provided a fictitious name due to the fact that she had an active FTA capias on weapons charges. Once she was

cleared from the hospital she was transported Delaware State Police Troop 3, Camden where she was arraigned on her active capias and committed to Baylor Women's Correctional Institution in lieu of her bail.

This case continues to remain under investigation. Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact Troop 3, Criminal Investigations Unit, Detective Nash at (302) 698-8444. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at <http://delaware.crimestoppersweb.com>

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***Presented by the Director of Public Information, Sergeant Richard Bratz***

Released:020319 1115

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# Troopers Investigating Shots Fired Incident- Capitol Park, Dover

*Dover, Delaware* – The Delaware State Police are investigating a shots fired complaint that occurred last evening.

The preliminary investigation has determined the incident occurred on Saturday, February 2, 2019 at approximately 8:30 p.m. when troopers were dispatched to President Drive, Capitol Park, Dover in reference to a shots fired complaint. It was determined that a light colored SUV was speeding down the road at the same time as the gun fire. It appears that the moving SUV was targeted as it traveled at a high rate speed toward the exit of the neighborhood. During the time shots were fired a residence was located with a puncture hole in the front siding of the victim's residence which did not penetrate into the residence.

An adult male and female were inside the residence and only the female was injured as a result of moving to the floor while the shots were fired. EMS arrived on scene to treat the victim who was later transported to a local area hospital with a minor injury.

There is no suspect information at this time.

This case continues to remain under investigation. Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact Troop 3, Criminal Investigations Unit, Detective Nash at (302) 698-8444. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at <http://delaware.crimestoppersweb.com>

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*Presented by the Director of Public Information, Sergeant Richard Bratz*

Released: 020319 1058

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## **Troopers Investigating Serious Crash- Dagsboro**

*Dagsboro, Delaware* – The Delaware State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit is currently investigating a serious crash involving multiple vehicles which occurred this morning.

The incident occurred on Saturday, February 2, 2019 at approximately 9:53 a.m. when a 2010 Chevrolet Silverado, operated by a 62-year-old male of Dagsboro, was traveling westbound on Clayton Road (SR 26) stopped at the intersection of DuPont Boulevard (US 113) which is controlled by a traffic light that was red for westbound traffic. A 2013 Ford Edge,

operated by a 39 year old male of Millsboro, was traveling eastbound on Nine Foot Road (SR 26) stopped at the intersection of DuPont Boulevard directly across from the Silverado on the opposite side of the highway. A 2018 Ford Econoline FedEx truck, operated by a 53-year-old male of Ocean View, was stopped directly behind the Ford Edge on Nine Foot Road. For unknown reasons, the Silverado accelerated through the intersection and crossed both the northbound and southbound travel lanes of DuPont Boulevard. After crossing through the intersection, the Silverado entered into the eastbound travel lane of Nine Foot Road where its front end collided with the front end of the Ford Edge. As a result of the impact, the Ford Edge was forced backwards for a distance until its rear end collided with the front end of the FedEx truck. All vehicles ultimately came to final rest in the eastbound travel lane of Nine Foot Road.

It is unclear whether or not the driver of the Chevrolet Silverado suffered a medical issue that precipitated the events leading up to the collision. He was transported from the scene by the Delaware State Police Aviation Unit Helicopter to the Christiana Hospital and is listed in critical condition.

The Ford Edge occupied by the driver and two passengers (33 year old female and four year old male) were properly restrained and suffered only minor injuries as a result of the collision. They were all transported to the Nanticoke Memorial Hospital by EMS as a precautionary measure.

The driver of the FedEx Truck did not sustain any known injuries as a result of this collision.

Nine Foot Road was closed west of DuPont Boulevard for approximately three hours during the investigation.

If you or someone you know is a victim or witness of crime or have lost a loved one to a sudden death and are in need of

assistance, the Delaware State Police Victim Services Unit/Delaware Victim Center is available to offer you support and resources 24 hours a day through a toll free hotline 1800 VICTIM-1. (1800 842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at [debra.reed@delaware.gov](mailto:debra.reed@delaware.gov)

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***Presented by the Director of Public Information, Sergeant Richard Bratz***

Released: 020219 1910

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