

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



The 2024 Delaware State Police Annual Report is dedicated to the members of the Delaware State Police who have made the ultimate sacrifice while protecting the citizens and visitors of the State of Delaware.



In Memoriam:

Patrolman Francis Ryan

Sergeant Thomas H. Lamb

Trooper Paul H. Sherman

Corporal Leroy L. LeKites

Corporal James D. Orvis

Corporal Raymond B. Wilhelm

Trooper William F. Mayer

Trooper First Class Harold B. Rupert

Trooper Robert A. Paris

Colonel Eugene B. Ellis

Trooper William C. Keller

Trooper Ronald L. Carey

Trooper David C. Yarrington

Trooper George W. Emory

Lieutenant William I. Jearman

Corporal David B. Pulling

Trooper Kevin J. Mallon

Trooper Gerard T. Dowd

Corporal Robert H. Bell

Corporal Francis T. Schneible

Trooper Sandra M. Wagner

Corporal Frances M. Collender

Corporal Christopher M. Shea

Corporal Grade 1 Stephen J. Ballard

Corporal Dennis F. Kelly

Mission Statement

To enhance the quality of life for all Delaware citizens and visitors by providing professional, competent and compassionate law enforcement services.



• **HONOR • INTEGRITY • COURAGE**
• **LOYALTY • ATTITUDE • DISCIPLINE • SERVICE**



State of Delaware
DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
P.O. BOX 818
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I am honored to present the 2024 annual report alongside Delaware State Police Colonel William D. Crotty. The commitment of the Delaware State Police (DSP) to public safety and community service over the past century is commendable, and I extend my gratitude to Governor Matt Meyer and the General Assembly for their unwavering support of DSP's crucial mission.

DSP made significant strides toward its future goals in 2024. The construction of a new Troop 6 in Prices Corner is nearly complete and will open in June 2025. Furthermore, groundbreaking for the new Troop 4 on the Stockley Center Campus in Georgetown took place in late 2024. This facility will support both Patrol and Criminal Investigation Troopers and is expected to open in Spring 2027. DSP acquired two new Bell 429 Helicopters, for a total of four, enhancing its capabilities for lifesaving Medivac services, law enforcement support, and search and rescue operations. Last year, DSP helicopters transported 559 trauma patients to area hospitals, a 15 percent increase from 2023. DSP secured funding to deploy advanced 5G connectivity in patrol vehicles, enhancing in-car computing, camera systems, and body-worn cameras.

DSP continued its efforts in outreach and transparency. The Police Accountability Committee was established, which allows community members to provide input on policies and procedures. The Community Engagement Unit facilitated nearly 800 interactions, including a seven-week Citizen's Police Academy in Kent County, which graduated twenty-one individuals. DSP maintained its successful collaboration with the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health (DSAMH) through the Police Diversion Program to identify and support citizens coping with addiction and mental health crises. Its outstanding community service is exemplified by troopers' holiday programs for needy families and the Camp Barnes summer camp, which serves over 500 youth annually by fostering leadership skills and self-confidence. Working with the American Legion, DSP once again held its annual Trooper Youth Week, offering high school students an insight into police training.

In 2024, DSP focused on reducing violent crime and enhancing public safety, marking successes such as a reduction in shooting incidents and other property related crimes. Increased traffic safety measures resulted in a decrease in pedestrian fatalities and an increased focus on the dangers of distracted driving. DSP provided key operational support for the United States Secret Service to ensure security for President Biden's travels. DSP joined federal, state, and local partners to ensure the success of the Quad Summit in Claymont, an historic gathering of world leaders in the First State.

The dedication and commitment of the Delaware State Police is a source of pride for all Delawareans. Despite challenges and personal sacrifices, their courage and unflinching resolve to maintain public safety is commendable. Citizens and visitors can rest assured that DSP will continue to fulfill its mission for future generations. Delaware is privileged to have the diligent troopers and civilian staff of the DSP, who consistently provide excellent service in meeting the demands of their professions.

Secretary Joshua A. Bushweller

A blue ink signature of Joshua A. Bushweller, written in a cursive style.



STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY
DIVISION OF STATE POLICE

P.O. Box 430
DOVER, DELAWARE 19903

As I reflect on my first year as Superintendent of the Delaware State Police, I am filled with pride in the extraordinary work accomplished by the dedicated women and men of this agency. The 2024 Annual Report stands as a testament to their professionalism, resilience, and unwavering commitment to public safety.

In 2024, our agency remained focused on statewide goals centered on crime reduction, community engagement, and enhancing officer safety and wellness. Through data-driven initiatives like our State Police Enhanced Analytical Response (S.P.E.A.R.) program, we saw meaningful reductions in core crime categories across several jurisdictions. Sussex County experienced its lowest total of burglaries on record, while New Castle County achieved a 51% reduction in crime incidents along the Concord Pike corridor and a 20% decrease in shootings. Proactive enforcement efforts led to the seizure of over 180 illegal firearms and significant quantities of narcotics statewide.

This year also marked major advancements in our operational capabilities. The Aviation Section completed the acquisition of two state-of-the-art Bell 429 helicopters and responded to nearly 5,000 calls for service, including 559 trauma patient transports and 84 search-and-rescue missions. Meanwhile, our K9 and Mounted Patrol Units played a vital role in supporting patrol and community policing efforts, strengthening both safety and public trust.

Our Telecommunications Specialists continue to serve as the link between the public and law enforcement, managing hundreds of thousands of emergency and administrative calls each year. In 2024, these dedicated professionals answered over 200,000 9-1-1 calls and coordinated the response to more than 370,000 incidents statewide. Whether calmly guiding callers through life-threatening emergencies or ensuring troopers have the information they need in the field, their contributions are nothing short of essential. We are grateful for their tireless commitment and professionalism under pressure.

One of our proudest accomplishments in 2024 was welcoming a new generation of Troopers. A total of 42 recruits graduated from our Training Academy, reinforcing our ranks with the women and men dedicated to our core values: Honor, Integrity, Courage, Loyalty, Attitude, Discipline, and Service.

We also celebrated the outstanding achievements of our personnel. Trooper First Class Robert McCormick of Troop 3 was named the 2024 Trooper of the Year, recognized for his exemplary service, leadership, and dedication to duty. Ms. Viviane Sanchez of our Victim Services Unit was honored as the 2024 Civilian of the Year for her tireless commitment to supporting survivors and strengthening our outreach to those in need.

Additionally, construction continued on the new Troop 6 facility, a modern space designed to better serve one of the busiest and most diverse patrol areas in our state. Across all troops, our partnerships with community organizations and the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health continued to expand, allowing us to deliver meaningful resources to vulnerable populations through our Police Diversion Program.

None of this would be possible without the collective effort of our sworn Troopers, civilian staff, and supportive community partners. Together, we remain committed to the mission of enhancing the quality of life for all Delaware citizens and visitors. I look forward to building on this momentum as we enter 2025, united in purpose and driven to protect.

With pride and gratitude,

Colonel William D. Crotty

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Col. William D. Crotty'.



*Colonel William D. Crotty
Superintendent*



*Lt. Colonel Daniel K. Meadows
Deputy Superintendent*



*Major Peter B. Sawyer
Special Operations Officer*



*Major Jason H. Sapp
North Operations Officer*



*Major Christy E. Ballinger
South Operations Officer*



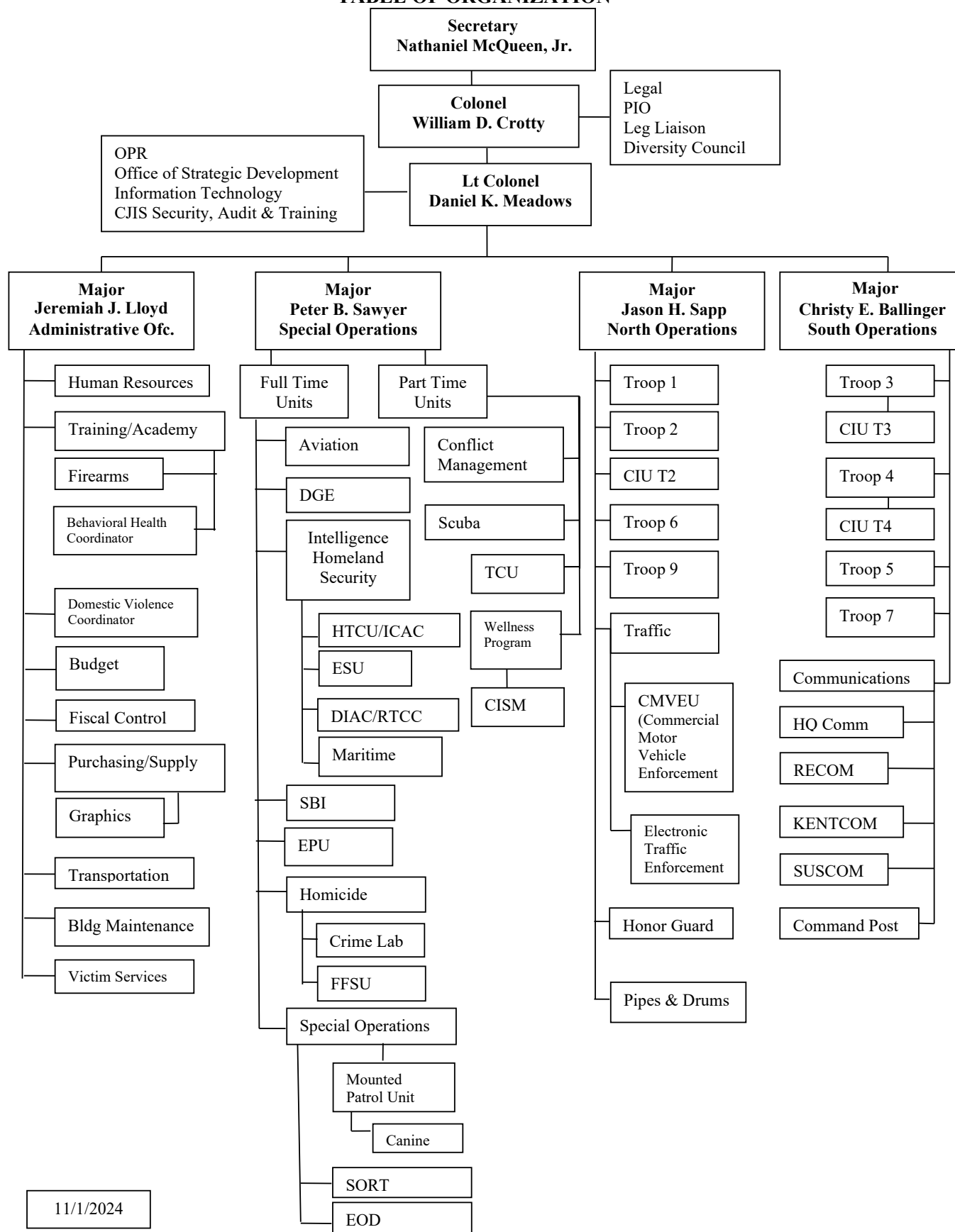
*Major Jeremiah J. Lloyd
Administrative Officer*

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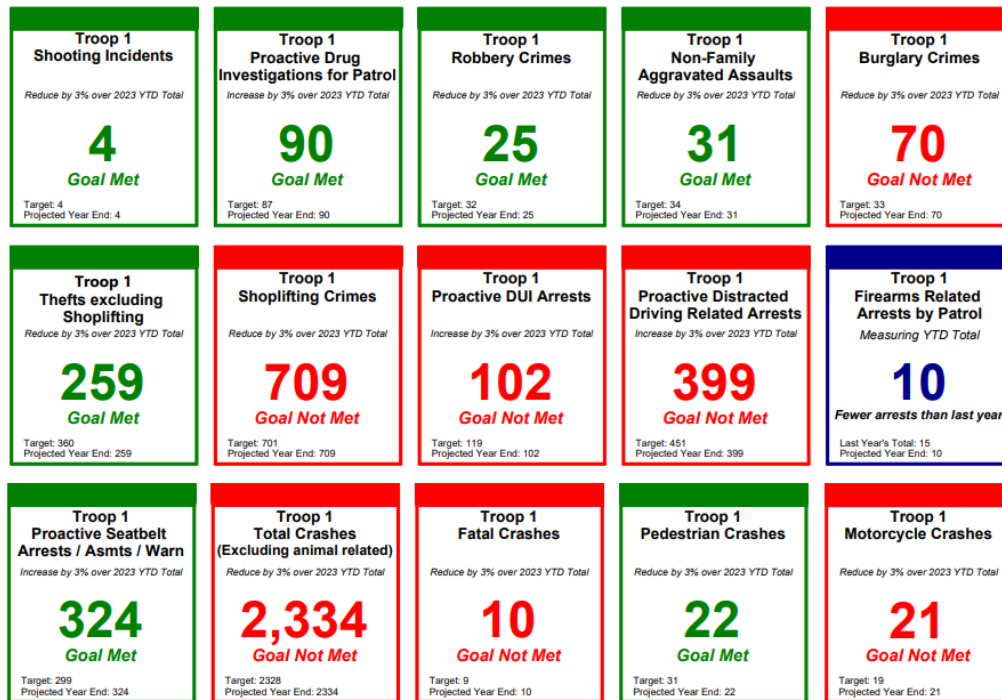
2024 Divisional Goals

Goal	2024 Goal	% Change	Statistical Perspective	Strategic Perspective
Shooting Incidents	3% Reduction	10% Reduction	Within statistical norm	12 fewer shootings than previous year.
Robbery	3% Reduction	10% Increase	Within statistical norm	15 more robberies than previous year. Second lowest total on record and half the number of just a few years ago.
Non-Family Agg Assaults	3% Reduction	0.2% Increase	Within statistical norm	One more assault than previous year.
Burglary	3% Reduction	2% Reduction	Within statistical norm	13 fewer burglaries than previous year. Missed goal by 7 assaults. Lowest total on record and half the number of just a few years ago. Decreasing trend since 2011.
Theft ex Shoplifting	3% Reduction	14% Reduction	Within statistical norm	Lowest total on record. Decreasing trend. Half that of a decade ago.
Shoplifting	3% Reduction	3% Reduction	Within statistical norm	Over 100 fewer shopliftings.
Proactive Drug Investigations	3% Increase	17% Decrease	Significantly lower than normal	More than 300 fewer investigations. Lowest total since 2011.
Proactive DUI Arrests	3% Increase	3% Decrease	Within statistical norm	56 fewer arrests than previous year.
Proactive Distracted Driving Arrests	3% Increase	4% Increase	Within statistical norm	More than 200 additional arrests than previous year. Increasing trend since 2020.
Proactive Seatbelt Enforcement	3% Increase	8% Increase	Within statistical norm	375 additional seatbelt arrests, warnings, and/or assessments than previous year.
Total Crashes (non-animal related)	3% Reduction	0.4% Increase	Within statistical norm	75 more crashes than previous year.
Fatal Crashes	3% Reduction	2% Increase	Within statistical norm	2 more fatal crashes than previous year. Third highest total since early 2000s.
Pedestrian Crashes	3% Reduction	6% Reduction	Within statistical norm	11 fewer pedestrian crashes than previous year.
Motorcycle Crashes	3% Reduction	14% Increase	Significantly higher than normal	35 more motorcycle crashes than previous year. Highest total since 2012.

DSP Statewide Annual Goals

DSP Statewide Shooting Incidents <small>Reduce by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 103 <small>Goal Met</small> <small>Target: 111 Projected Year End: 103</small>	DSP Statewide Proactive Drug Investigations for Patrol <small>Increase by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 1,486 <small>Goal Not Met</small> <small>Target: 1547 Projected Year End: 1486</small>	DSP Statewide Robbery Crimes <small>Reduce by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 159 <small>Goal Not Met</small> <small>Target: 139 Projected Year End: 159</small>	DSP Statewide Non-Family Aggravated Assaults <small>Reduce by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 452 <small>Goal Not Met</small> <small>Target: 437 Projected Year End: 452</small>	DSP Statewide Burglary Crimes <small>Reduce by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 642 <small>Goal Not Met</small> <small>Target: 635 Projected Year End: 642</small>
DSP Statewide Thefts excluding Shoplifting <small>Reduce by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 3,390 <small>Goal Met</small> <small>Target: 3336 Projected Year End: 3390</small>	DSP Statewide Shoplifting Crimes <small>Reduce by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 3,299 <small>Goal Met</small> <small>Target: 3305 Projected Year End: 3299</small>	DSP Statewide Proactive DUI Arrests <small>Increase by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 1,790 <small>Goal Not Met</small> <small>Target: 1902 Projected Year End: 1790</small>	DSP Statewide Proactive Distracted Driving Related Arrests <small>Increase by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 5,451 <small>Goal Met</small> <small>Target: 5408 Projected Year End: 5451</small>	DSP Statewide Firearms Related Arrests by Patrol <small>Measuring YTD Total</small> 242 <small>More arrests than last year</small> <small>Last Year's Total: 228 Projected Year End: 242</small>
DSP Statewide Proactive Seatbelt Arrests / Asmts / Warn <small>Increase by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 5,062 <small>Goal Met</small> <small>Target: 4828 Projected Year End: 5062</small>	DSP Statewide Total Crashes (Excluding animal related) <small>Reduce by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 19,287 <small>Goal Not Met</small> <small>Target: 19635 Projected Year End: 19287</small>	DSP Statewide Fatal Crashes <small>Reduce by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 112 <small>Goal Not Met</small> <small>Target: 106 Projected Year End: 112</small>	DSP Statewide Pedestrian Crashes <small>Reduce by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 170 <small>Goal Met</small> <small>Target: 175 Projected Year End: 170</small>	DSP Statewide Motorcycle Crashes <small>Reduce by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 287 <small>Goal Not Met</small> <small>Target: 244 Projected Year End: 287</small>

Troop 1 Annual Goals



The “First Troop in the First State” has proudly stood at the pinnacle of Penny Hill since 1923, embodying a rich legacy of tradition and exceptional public service. The 40 dedicated troopers of Troop 1 are unwavering in their commitment to the citizens and visitors of our state, delivering professional and compassionate service to an increasingly diverse community, from Wilmington to Claymont, Brandywine Hundred to Centreville. They patrol vital corridors, including two major interstate highways and the thriving Concord Pike, home to the North American headquarters for Astra Zeneca. Troop 1 forges strong partnerships with community and business leaders, facilitating events like the Winterthur Point-to-Point, which attracts nearly 15,000 attendees.

In 2024, Troop 1 continued to embrace the Division’s stratified policing model, known as the State Police Enhanced Analytical Response (S.P.E.A.R.). Throughout the year, Troopers remained deeply engaged in upholding accountability in both criminal and traffic matters. The Troop 1 leadership team identified both the Concord Pike corridor and the Claymont area as locations for increased enforcement. Troop leadership identified the Concord Pike corridor and the Claymont area for targeted increased enforcement, resulting in a greater presence to deter violent crime. Thanks to these committed efforts and collaborations with local businesses, leaders, and legislators, the Concord Pike corridor experienced a remarkable 51% reduction in core crime incidents, while Claymont saw a 55% decrease.

Troop 1 crime prevention and enforcement efforts were directed by Lieutenant Patrick Stock. Under Lt. Stock’s leadership in 2024, Troop 1 observed a 30% reduction in thefts, 27% reduction in robberies, and 14% reduction in aggravated assaults. Daily analysis allows Troop 1 to identify hot spots and develop strategies that address concerns promptly and effectively.

Troop 1 traffic initiatives and enforcement have been directed by Lieutenant Roger Davis. Lt. Davis targeted and led traffic initiatives with funding from the Office of Highway Safety and the Division’s Traffic Section. Utilizing the Stratified Model, they concentrated their efforts on I-95 and I-495. In 2024, Troop 1 achieved a 3% reduction in total crashes - the lowest total in 20 years - and a significant 31% reduction in pedestrian crashes.

Troop 1 is an integral part of the community and has a unique distinction of being one of the few troops in a neighborhood. Troopers take joy in engaging with the public, and 2024 provided abundant opportunities to participate in community events beyond normal policing. The Troopers at Troop 1 continuously seek innovative ways to foster meaningful connections and ensure a safe environment for all to enjoy. Their contributions included visits to Al DuPont Children’s Hospital, participation in local parades, and active involvement in public safety meetings and outreach missions.

Within the building, we are privileged to partner and collaborate with two members of the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health (DSAMH). Our PDP Care Manager and Peer Support Specialist tirelessly support our Troopers, offering assistance to those in need. Their wealth of experience and vast network have allowed the Delaware State Police to enhance its outreach significantly. In

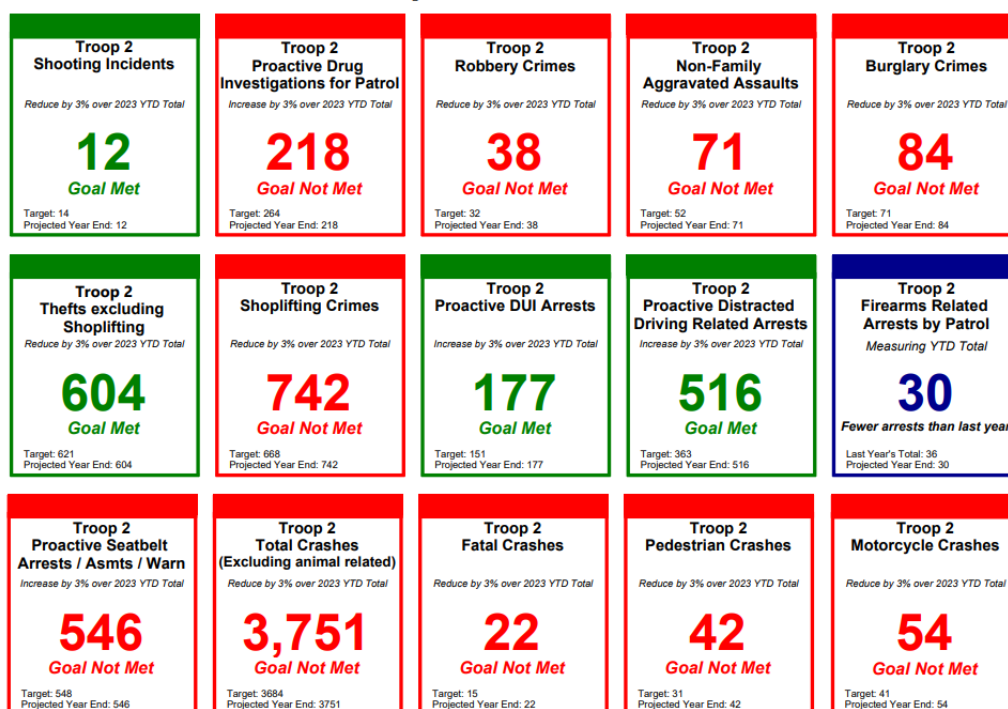
2024, we witnessed an inspiring growth in community connections and resources, building on an already record-setting year in 2023.

Troop 1 is also responsible for coordinating and assisting with many aspects of President Biden's campaign, motorcade and public events. In cooperation with United States Secret Service, the Delaware State Police has participated in the frequent motorcades and security details required for President Biden's visits to Delaware. Troop 1 often served at the forefront of DSP's involvement while dedicated troopers from all over the state assisted in significant and challenging operations to keep the President, his family, and staff safe. In September of 2024, Troop 1 had the honor of coordinating efforts with numerous federal, state, and local law enforcement, as well as the Delaware Department of Transportation, to provide site security and travel assistance for four world leaders attending a Quad Summit at Archmere Academy. For two days, Claymont was on the world stage, and we could not have been prouder to represent the community and play a part in such a historic moment.

In conclusion, Troop 1 stands as a shining example of cohesion and collaboration, with a dedication to excellence that surpasses expectations. The unwavering effort and hard work of the Troopers who served the Troop 1 community throughout 2024 have resulted in accomplishments that are truly remarkable. The designation of "Hiller" is never given, but always earned.

Troop 2 Patrol - Captain Robert Wallace

Troop 2 Annual Goals



Troop 2 is located at 100 CPL/1 Stephen J. Ballard Way, Newark, DE, and is responsible for primary coverage of approximately 100 square miles of Troop area that runs from Interstate 95 to the C&D Canal (North to South) and from the City of Wilmington/Delaware River to the Maryland Line to (East to West). It is comprised of both a patrol division, which is under the command of Captain Robert Wallace, and a Criminal Investigative Unit (detectives), which is under the command of Captain John Laird. Together, Captain Wallace and Captain Laird are responsible for over 170 uniformed and civilian staff.

The patrol division of Troop 2 is made up of two lieutenants and four sergeants. Lieutenant Jerel Morton and Lieutenant Josh Jubb are the Troop 2 lieutenants. They handle oversight of traffic operations and criminal operations, respectively, for patrol. In 2024, the first line supervisors for Troop 2 were comprised of the following, A-Shift: Sergeant Jennifer Lloyd; B-Shift: Sergeant Michael Cassel, C-Shift: Sergeant Matt Jones; D-Shift: Sergeant Mark Hogate. Together, they are responsible for providing and managing day to day patrol operations for the Troop area.

Also assigned to Troop 2 are the investigators of the New Castle County Collision Reconstruction Unit (C.R.U.). This unit is tasked with investigating fatal motor vehicle crashes, departmental collisions, and other serious injury related crashes. The C.R.U. team is staffed with four highly trained investigators and was supervised in 2024 by Sergeant John Jefferson. This unit investigated a total of 59 fatal collisions in the Delaware State Police's New Castle County jurisdiction during 2024.

Patrol Officers took a proactive approach to addressing the overall crashes in the Troop 2 area of responsibility by identifying and

stopping impaired drivers and those committing moving violations on our roadways. One hundred seventy-seven (177) proactive/non-collision impaired driving arrests were made in 2024, up from one hundred forty-six (146) the previous year. Additionally, proactive distracted driving traffic arrests increased 47% over 2023. Total crashes experienced a 1.2% reduction compared to 2023. This is a testament to the continued work by our troopers to improve safety on the roadways by focusing on high risk driving behavior.

Troop 2 patrol officers handled 20,942 various calls for police services in 2024. Criminal and Field Service reports accounted for 80% of those calls. The remaining 20% of calls were collision and impaired driver investigations. Troop 2 experienced a 20% reduction in shootings and a 6% reduction in thefts in 2024. Unfortunately, burglaries, robberies, and non-family aggravated assaults saw increases in 2024 after the historical decreases achieved in 2023. Additionally, thirty (30) illegal firearms were seized by patrol troopers.

In 2024, Troop 2 patrol partnered with the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health (DSAMH). Troop 2 partnered with DSAMH employees who operated on a full-time basis out of our building. Numerous multi-disciplinary outreach events were conducted along New Castle Avenue to connect members of the community with needed mental health, medical, and social services. Positive feedback was received about these events from members of the community and business community. There was a noticeable decrease in homelessness and vagrancy in the areas of these events.

The Troop 2 Administration was assisted daily by Administrative Specialist Kelly Tush, Physical Plant Maintenance Specialist Jeffrey Miller and Automotive Mechanics Tim Henderson and Wallace George. These professionals served to ensure the smooth and seamless operation of the Troop.

We were also blessed to have had local community member Pastor Chris Akhimien serve as our 2024 Honorary Troop Commander. Pastor Chris, the Senior Pastor at All Nations Family Church, has been active in the local community for decades. His commitment to improving the lives of the community is a testament to his dedication to his fellow man.

The Troopers at State Police Troop 2 will continue to strive to make a positive impact in 2025. We believe that building strong community partnerships and providing professional, competent, and compassionate law enforcement services will help achieve our goal of a safer Delaware for all.

Troop 2 CIU - Captain John Laird Jr.

The Criminal Investigative Unit (CIU) for New Castle County is located at Troop 2 and provides investigative support to the four patrol troops in New Castle County. The CIU is under the command of Captain John Laird Jr., Lieutenant David Diana, and Lieutenant Scott Weaver.

CIU's primary focus is to provide "detective" operations throughout New Castle County. Detectives leverage modern technological resources to deploy resources, identify suspects and locate stolen property. Detectives are tasked with quickly identifying crime trends to identify the perpetrators and take them into custody, preventing future crimes, which often come with escalated violence.

CIU is currently staffed with (72) sworn Troopers, (3) Civilian Auto Theft Technicians, and (2) Probation Officers assigned to the Governor's Task Force. CIU has the investigative responsibility for everything from quality-of-life issues that affect our citizens to the investigation of any serious criminal offenses that occur in New Castle County.

- The Troop 2 CIU Robbery Unit investigated 86 robberies during 2024. There was a significant decrease in the number of carjacking incidents investigated in 2024 compared to 2023 (17 in 2023 compared to 4 in 2024). There was a 10% increase in total robberies in 2024 from the previous year. Clearance rate for robberies in 2024 was at 79%.
- The Troop 2 CIU Property Unit investigated 380 cases, including 176 burglaries, 164 theft of motor vehicles, 3 firearm thefts and 37 thefts, trespass, assist patrol and other agencies. The Property Unit was responsible for 14 Crime Pattern Bulletins. Many of the burglaries impacted businesses and we experience a significant number of thefts of motor vehicles throughout New Castle County.
- The Troop 2 CIU Major Crimes Unit investigated 312 cases (a decrease of 4.6% in cases from 2023), which included 106 sexual assaults, 19 shootings, and 81 death investigations. The Major Crimes Unit also reviewed 217 DFS hotline referrals.
- The Troop 2 CIU Financial Crimes Unit investigated 157 initial and 41 follow-up cases.
- The Troop 2 CIU Evidence Detection Unit handled 651 crime scenes/criminalistics requests and obtained 166 print hits on active cases.
- The Drug Task Force and Governor's Task Force Units seized over 54.22 kilograms of cocaine, 9.47 kilograms of Methamphetamine, 1.54 kilograms of Fentanyl/Heroin, 222.13 kilograms of marijuana, 64 illegal guns, and \$479,429 in

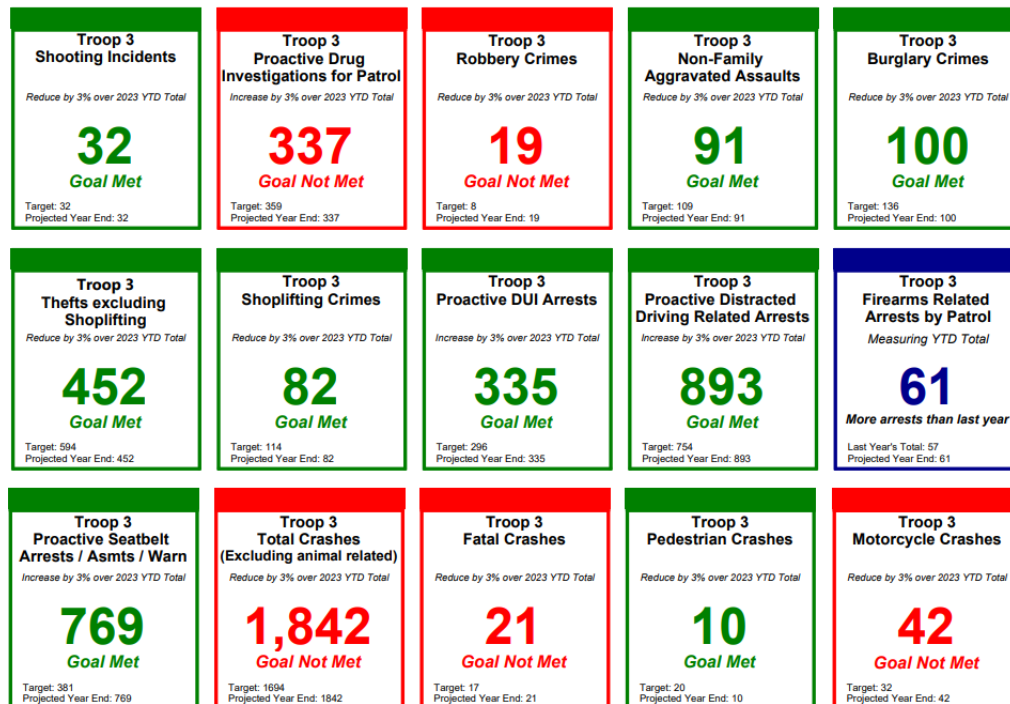
United States Currency. Additionally, 426 criminal complaints were investigated resulting in 726 criminal arrests.

- Our (24) School Resource Officers continue to provide safety and mentorship to thousands of students throughout New Castle County. In 2024, a total of 763 school related complaints were handled by School Resource Officers and Youth Aid Detectives.

The detectives at the Troop 2 CIU look forward to the challenges to come in 2025 and through their on-going training and experience, will continue to serve the citizens and visitors of the state in an exemplary and professional manner by providing competent and compassionate law enforcement services and furthering the division's crime reduction goals.

Troop 3 - Captain J. Andrew Lloyd

Troop 3 Annual Goals



In 2024, the Delaware State Police Troop 3 was one of the busiest Troops in the state, covering a diverse area comprised of urban, suburban, and rural settings. The Patrol Division covers approximately 425 square miles of Kent County, while our Criminal Investigative Unit covers all 586 square miles of the county. Collectively, we serve a population of roughly 190,000 residents. The Troopers of Troop 3 provide our residents and visitors with professional, competent, and compassionate law enforcement services.

The Troop has an authorized strength of ninety-four sworn Troopers and five professional staff. The command staff consists of Captain J. Andrew Lloyd, Lieutenant Mark Dawson, Lieutenant Dannaile Rementer, and Lieutenant Michael Dill. Our administrative assistants, Mrs. Sonia Jonas and Mrs. Susan McNatt, support the Troop's daily operations. Our mechanic, Mr. O. Joseph Menard, maintains the Troop's fleet. Our victim services specialist is Ms. Viviane Sanchez, and our auto theft technician is Mr. Thomas Sheehy. Annually, the Troop selects a community member as an Honorary Commander. In 2024, our Honorary Commander was Mr. Mike Fennemore of Fifer Orchards in Camden-Wyoming, Delaware. Mr. Fennemore actively participated in the program, and we look forward to continuing this partnership as he transfers his position to another community member in 2025.

Lieutenant Michael Dill leads the Troop 3 Patrol Division. Patrol has an authorized strength of forty-eight and consists of four shifts, each being led by a Sergeant. Sergeant Michael Lipp, Sergeant Joshua Rowley, Sergeant Katrina Scaramazza, and Sergeant Jason Vernon are the shift supervisors. The patrol division responds to all 911-generated complaints and conducts proactive enforcement to help reduce instances of traffic collisions and criminal violations within the Troop area. Patrol arrested 461 individuals for DUI. Of the 461 motorists detained, 336 were arrested before being involved in a collision. Our patrol assets' efforts helped the Troop see a reduction in shoplifting, burglary, thefts, shooting incidents, and pedestrian-related crashes.

Lieutenant Mark Dawson leads the Troop 3 Criminal Investigations Unit (CIU). CIU has an authorized strength of twenty-six investigators spread throughout multiple units, including Major Crimes, led by Sergeant William Miller; Property, led by Sergeant Paul Taylor; Youth Aid/School Resource/Fraud, led by Sergeant Jeremy Jones; and Evidence, led by Sergeant Colby Cox. These detectives investigate a myriad of severe or high-profile cases that occur in Kent County, including robbery, sexual assault, burglary, theft, child abuse, missing person, and death investigation cases. In 2024, our investigators achieved a 79% clearance rate in robberies, a 73%

clearance rate in non-family aggravated assaults, a 41% clearance rate in burglaries, and a 39% clearance rate in thefts, excluding shopliftings.

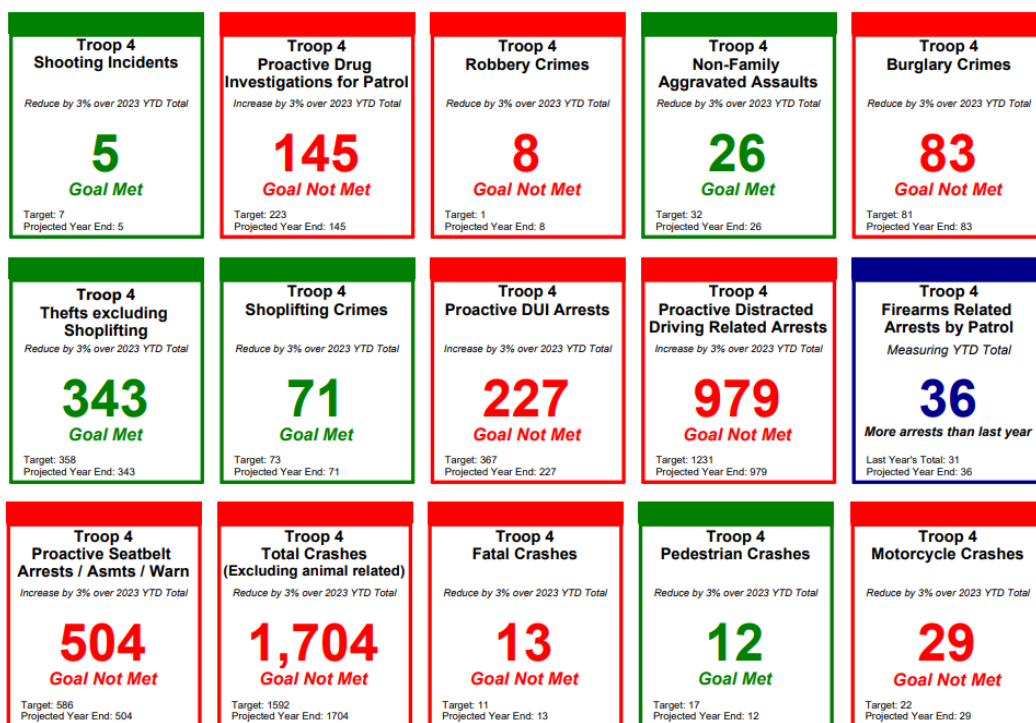
Lieutenant Dannaile Rementer leads the Troop 3 Special Investigations Unit (SIU) and the Collision Reconstruction Unit (CRU). SIU has an authorized strength of thirteen investigators divided into two units: the Drug Unit, led by Sergeant Talansky Jean, and the Governor's Task Force, led by Sergeant Mark Doughty. The Drug Unit investigates the distribution, cultivation, and storage of illegal drugs and narcotics. The Governor's Task Force is a unit that focuses on the identification and arrest of violent offenders, working with Probation and Parole to keep our communities safe from violence and repeat offenders. Collectively, the units seized 59 illegal weapons, hundreds of pounds of illegal substances, over \$260,000.00 in drug proceeds, and arrested numerous offenders in 2024. Sergeant Ken Wilson supervises the Collision Reconstruction Unit (CRU), consisting of three investigators. In 2024, CRU investigated 25 fatal crashes that occurred in Kent County.

The staff at Troop 3 work hand in hand with our local, state, and federal law enforcement partners, as well as other state agencies, to identify and address areas of community need. Troop 3 actively participates in the Delaware State Police and Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health collaboration known as the Police Diversion Program (PDP and DSAMH). This program identifies and refers citizens battling addiction and/or experiencing mental health crises to DSAMH counselors housed at Troop 3. The partnership allows resources to be made immediately available to citizens in need. The Troop 3 Administration and DSAMH conduct monthly outreach events to provide resources and support to vulnerable populations. The Troop Administration and personnel actively engage in community events throughout the year. Finally, in 2024, the Troop adopted three needy Kent County families for the holidays. This project was funded by the generosity of the men and women who serve at Troop 3.

Troop 3 looks forward to serving Kent County's residents and visitors with the same energy, compassion, and professionalism in 2025.

Troop 4 - Captain Gerald Windish Jr.

Troop 4 Annual Goals



During 2024, the Troopers of Troop 4 provided comprehensive police services to the citizens and visitors of Sussex County, Delaware. Located in Georgetown, Troop 4 is the only Delaware State Police Troop located in Sussex County that maintains both a patrol and criminal investigative function. Troopers assigned to Troop 4 serve our citizens by providing traffic enforcement, collision investigation, criminal enforcement and investigation, and community engagement.

During the 2024 calendar year, Troop 4 was led by Captain Gerald Windish. The Troop is staffed by 90 sworn Troopers and 4 civilian support staff employees. Troop 4 is home to a Patrol Division led by Lt. Mark Little, Criminal Investigations Unit led by Lt. J.S. Evans Jr., and the Special Investigations Unit led by Lt. Mentino DiSilvestro.

The Patrol Division is staffed by 38 uniform Troopers who actively patrol the central and southeast areas of Sussex County from

north of Georgetown to the Maryland line from Gumboro to Fenwick Island. These Troopers are tasked with traffic enforcement, collision investigation, calls for service, and the investigation of criminal incidents. Keeping our roadways safe remains a priority for Patrol. During 2024, the men and women of Troop 4 conducted 12,055 proactive traffic stops where motorists were issued citations or warnings for moving violations. 228 motorists were proactively arrested for Driving Under the Influence. Patrol Troopers handled 5,222 criminal investigations and 2,091 traffic collision investigations during 2024.

The Criminal Investigations Unit consists of 24 detectives assigned to the Major Crimes, Property Crimes, Fraud, and Evidence Detection Units. The detectives assigned to the Criminal Investigative Unit also support the criminal investigative function of Troop 5 and Troop 7. These detectives investigate a myriad of serious or high-profile cases that occur within Sussex County to include robbery, sexual assault, burglaries, theft, child abuse, missing persons, and death investigation cases.

The Special Investigation Unit is comprised of the Sussex County Drug Unit and Sussex County Governor's Task Force. These units are staffed by 15 detectives. The Drug Unit is tasked with the investigation and interdiction of illegal drugs and narcotics. The Governor's Task Force is a unit that focuses on the identification and arrest of violent offenders and works with Probation and Parole to keep our communities safe from violence, guns, and illegal drugs.

The Youth and School Resource Officer Section is staffed by 10 Troopers. Three Youth detectives conduct investigations into youth crimes and support 7 Troopers assigned as School Resource Officers (SROs) to Cape Henlopen, Indian River, Sussex Tech, and Woodbridge School Districts. In addition to these duties, this section is responsible for the operation and maintenance of Camp Barnes. Camp Barnes is a free summer youth camp provided by the Delaware State Police to campers ages 10-13 years who reside in Delaware. Camp Barnes provides leadership skills, self-confidence, and recreational opportunities to over 500 children each summer.

Each year, Troop 4 Troopers and Administrators focus on Divisional goals and objectives established through a Stratified Policing Model known as SPEAR. During 2024, the men and women of Troop 4 had an outstanding year, addressing 14,695 calls for service/self-generated complaints. Through analysis of emerging trends, early identification, and rapid deployment of resources, Troop 4 saw a positive effect on mitigating core crimes rates. The following statistics are a small sampling showing the success and dedication of the Troopers assigned to Troop 4:

- 979 traffic arrests for Distracted Driving were made to address inattention on our roadways. This is the second highest total ever recorded.
- 38% reduction in shooting incidents.
- Reported the lowest total of burglaries on record.
- Thefts were reduced by 7%.
- 16% increase in firearms related arrests.
- 44% reduction in pedestrian crashes.
- Large amounts of narcotics, 64 Firearms, and \$240,343 were seized by the Special Investigations Unit during the investigation of violent crime. Both totals were higher than 2023.

The staff at Troop 4 work hand in hand with our allied municipal policing partners, federal law enforcement, and other State agencies to identify and address areas of community need. Troop 4 actively participates in the Delaware State Police and Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health collaboration known as the Police Diversion Program. This program identifies and refers citizens suffering from addiction and experiencing mental health crisis to DSAMH counselors housed at the Adams State Service Center. This enables resources to be made immediately available to citizens in need.

During 2024, the Troop 4 staff participated holiday visits at local hospitals and schools. The men and women of Troop 4 also assist in supporting many community events throughout the State by providing uniform police services. These events include the Delaware State Fair, 4th of July Celebrations, Holiday parades, and other community events. The staff at Troop 4 partners with the Delaware State Police Community Outreach and Engagement Unit to facilitate open lines of communication with the public, and to foster relationships within our schools and strong communities.

This year the Administration would like to recognize the efforts of three Troopers assigned to Troop 4 who were recognized for their exemplary performance. Troop 4 is proud to acknowledge our Troopers of the Year for 2024.

Trooper Jonathan Jones - Patrol

Detective Zachary Spudis - Criminal Investigations Unit

Detective Douglas Schwartz - Special Investigations Unit

The Troopers and staff at Troop 4 look forward to providing the citizens and visitors of Delaware professional and compassionate service as we enter 2025.

Troop 5 Annual Goals

Troop 5 Shooting Incidents <small>Reduce by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 12 Goal Met <small>Target: 26 Projected Year End: 12</small>	Troop 5 Proactive Drug Investigations for Patrol <small>Increase by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 279 Goal Not Met <small>Target: 395 Projected Year End: 279</small>	Troop 5 Robbery Crimes <small>Reduce by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 11 Goal Not Met <small>Target: 3 Projected Year End: 11</small>	Troop 5 Non-Family Aggravated Assaults <small>Reduce by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 79 Goal Not Met <small>Target: 68 Projected Year End: 79</small>	Troop 5 Burglary Crimes <small>Reduce by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 80 Goal Met <small>Target: 85 Projected Year End: 80</small>
Troop 5 Thefts excluding Shoplifting <small>Reduce by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 379 Goal Met <small>Target: 384 Projected Year End: 379</small>	Troop 5 Shoplifting Crimes <small>Reduce by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 28 Goal Not Met <small>Target: 26 Projected Year End: 28</small>	Troop 5 Proactive DUI Arrests <small>Increase by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 269 Goal Met <small>Target: 266 Projected Year End: 269</small>	Troop 5 Proactive Distracted Driving Related Arrests <small>Increase by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 423 Goal Met <small>Target: 418 Projected Year End: 423</small>	Troop 5 Firearms Related Arrests by Patrol <small>Measuring YTD Total</small> 54 More arrests than last year <small>Last Year's Total: 33 Projected Year End: 54</small>
Troop 5 Proactive Seatbelt Arrests / Asmts / Warn <small>Increase by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 693 Goal Met <small>Target: 685 Projected Year End: 693</small>	Troop 5 Total Crashes (Excluding animal related) <small>Reduce by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 1,355 Goal Not Met <small>Target: 1297 Projected Year End: 1355</small>	Troop 5 Fatal Crashes <small>Reduce by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 8 Goal Met <small>Target: 16 Projected Year End: 8</small>	Troop 5 Pedestrian Crashes <small>Reduce by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 9 Goal Met <small>Target: 11 Projected Year End: 9</small>	Troop 5 Motorcycle Crashes <small>Reduce by 3% over 2023 YTD Total</small> 14 Goal Met <small>Target: 22 Projected Year End: 14</small>

In 2024, Troop 5 Troopers continued their commitment to excellence in law enforcement through the professional and compassionate services they provide to the citizens and visitors of Delaware. Located in Bridgeville, Troop 5 serves the population of western Sussex County by responding to calls for service, providing traffic enforcement, collision investigation, criminal enforcement, and community engagement. During the 2024 calendar year, it was my honor to once again lead Troop 5 along with Lieutenant Jon King, who was promoted to the Criminal Lieutenant's position in February. Lieutenant Robert Cowden was transferred to Troop 5 assuming the Traffic Lieutenant position in late summer replacing Lt. Lee Weller.

Troop 5 Troopers and Administrators focus on Divisional goals and objectives established through the State Police Enhanced Analytical Response (SPEAR) program. During 2024, the men and women of Troop 5 had another outstanding year, addressing 13,191 calls for service/self-generated complaints. Through analysis of emerging trends, early identification, and rapid deployment of resources, Troop 5 saw a fantastic reduction in core crimes rates. The following statistics are a small snapshot of the success and dedication of the Troopers assigned to Troop 5:

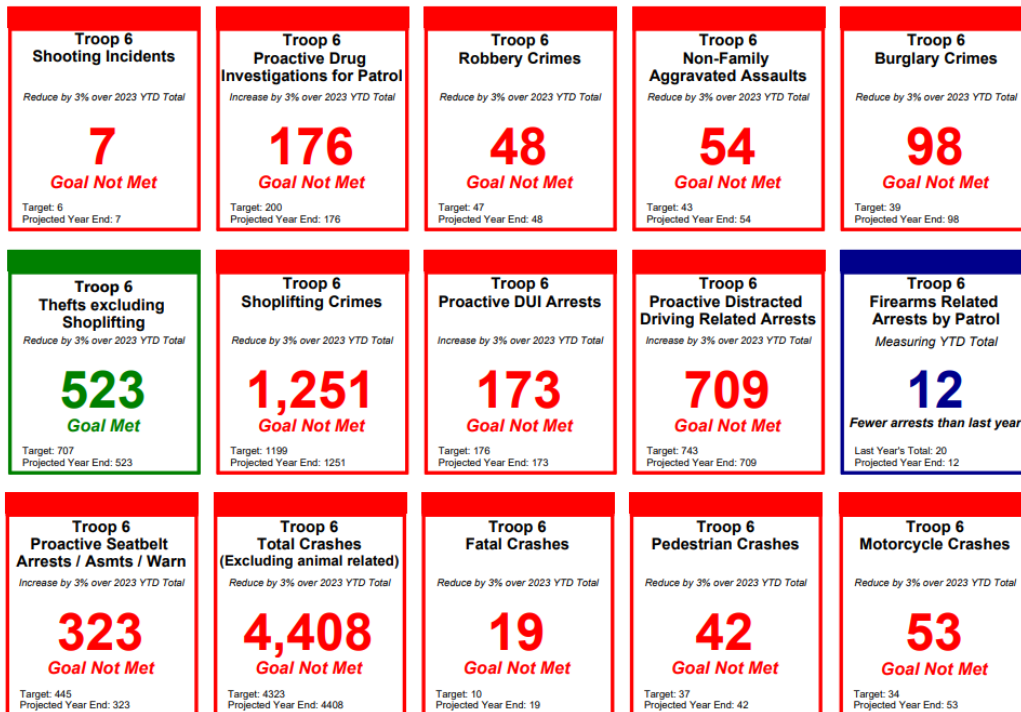
- Burglaries dropped by 18% for the lowest total on record.
- Thefts were reduced 6% to another record low.
- Troop 5 saw a 54% decrease in shootings from 2023.
- DUI arrests increased by 4% to another record high totaling 269 Proactive DUI arrests
- Distractive Driving arrests increased by 3% continuing a consecutive 4-year increase.

The hardworking men and women at Troop 5 work hand in hand with our allied municipal policing partners, federal law enforcement, and other State agencies to identify and address areas of community need. Troop 5 actively participates in the Delaware State Police and Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health collaboration (DSAMH). This program identifies and refers citizens suffering from addiction and experiencing mental health crisis to counselors housed at Troop 5 and throughout Sussex County where resources are made immediately available.

The 2024 Troop 5 Needy Family Program once again helped provide much needed goods to needy families in Kent and Sussex County during the holiday season. Troop 5 proudly celebrated Bob Carey of Carey's Towing as our Honorary Troop Commander.

While proud of the efforts and dedication of all the sworn and civilian staff housed at Troop 5, the Administration is honored to recognize Cpl Nicholas Geannakakes as our representative for the Divisional Trooper of the Year, for his brave actions responding to a vicious dog attacked where he saved a man's life as he was being attacked by three vicious dogs.

Troop 6 Annual Goals



Delaware State Police Troop 6 continues to be one of the busiest troops in the state, covering an area of eighty-two square miles with an estimated population of 220,000 people. The troop area comprises a diverse socio-economic community, including citizens residing in the outskirts of Wilmington, Elsmere, Newark, Stanton, and Hockessin. This includes the busy I-95 corridor and the Christiana Mall and Fashion Center. On May 31, 2023, the Troop facility that served the area for over 50 years closed its doors to start a new chapter in the proud history of Troop 6, "Prices Corner." We look forward to moving into our new facility in 2025!

The Troop currently has forty-three uniformed patrol troopers, three administrators, and three professional staff. The command staff consists of Captain Jeremiah Lloyd, Lieutenant Douglas Deveney, and Lieutenant Brian Pixley. The Troop is supported by our administrative assistant, Mrs. Donna Newth-Showell, our Troop mechanic, Mr. Scott Ferguson, and a victim services specialist, Ms. Olivia Dickey. There are four patrol shifts, and a Sergeant leads each shift. Bringing 2024 to a close, the Troop 6 Sergeants were Sgt. Nicholas Terranova, Sgt. Richard Angelucci, Sgt. Scott Shelton and Sgt. Ryan Kirchenbauer.

The Troop 6 Administration aligned its goals for 2024 with those of the Division. We were steadfastly focused on the metrics needed to achieve these objectives. Throughout the year, Troop 6 was able to experience a reduction in thefts in the Troop area. In 2024, Troop 6 Troopers arrested 305 impaired drivers, with 173 being proactive enforcement. Troopers continued their focus on proactive distracted driving and seatbelt offenses. These results are a testament to the dedication, work ethic, and quality investigations and traffic enforcement conducted by Troop 6 personnel throughout the year.

In 2024, Troop 6's Honorary Commander was Mr. Steve Chambliss, the General Manager of the Christiana Mall. Mr. Chambliss actively participated in the Honorary Commanders Program, establishing a lasting friendship and collaboration. Troop 6 is excited to partner with a community member to be the next Honorary Commander for 2025.

In 2024, Troop 6 continued with the project of constructing a new facility for Troop 6 personnel. In 1971, when Troop 6 opened its doors, it was a state-of-the-art facility. For the first time in the history of DSP, a troop was temporarily closed for demolition and reconstruction of a new facility in the exact location. Technology in our patrol cars allows our Troopers to maintain a presence in the Troop 6 area while leveraging Troop 2 (Glasgow) and our local law enforcement partners for administrative and prisoner needs. The new building will be a state-of-the-art facility equipped for law enforcement services in the 21st century. The Delaware State Police is excited to bring a new facility equipped with technology and resources to serve our communities.

Throughout the year, Troop 6 troopers engaged community members at community events and civic association functions. The Troop is composed of highly motivated, energetic, and professional Troopers. They function in a demanding sector of the state, protecting Delaware's critical infrastructure, one of the state's most prominent retail shopping outlets, and handling an array of calls for service. The day after Thanksgiving holiday shopping at the Christiana Mall, they welcomed over 100,000 shoppers. The Troop area calls for

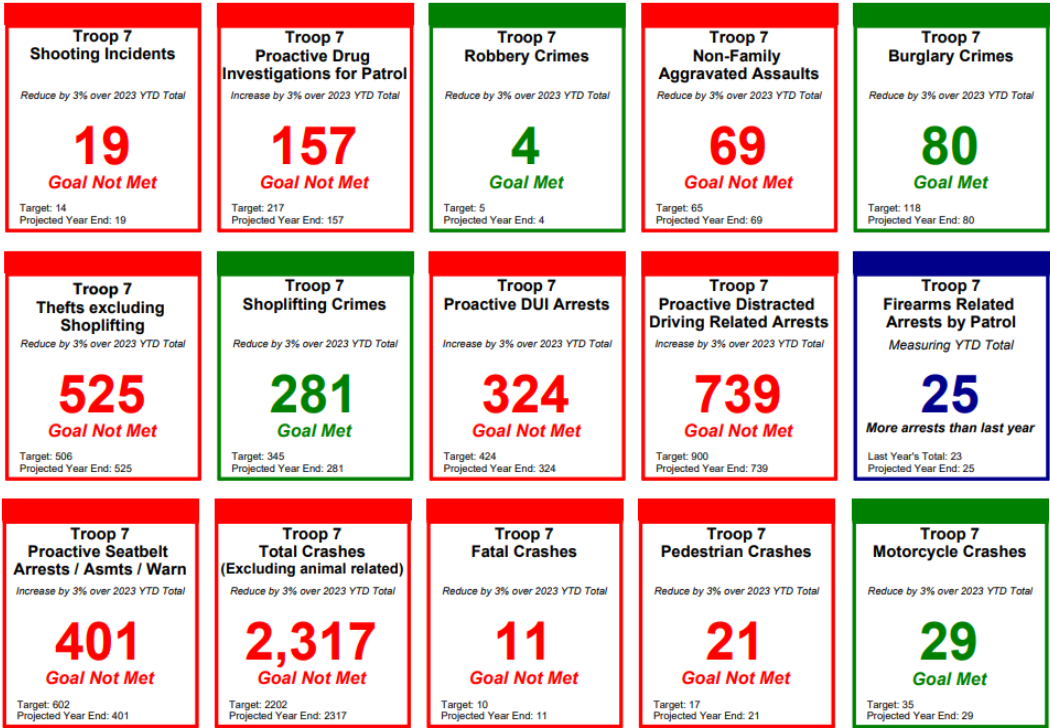
service range from traffic issues to criminal homicide.

Every month in 2024, Troop 6 partnered with the Department of Health and Social Services Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health to conduct initiatives in the Troop area. These initiatives focused on providing resources to our vulnerable communities. With our community partners Walmart and Target, Troop 6 was able to adopt three needy families in our Troop area for the holidays. Our community partners donated items ranging from meals to gifts to essential winter needs. It was a great partnership that delivered needed items to members of our community.

Troop 6 looks forward to continuing to build upon community relationships and delivering professional, competent, and compassionate law enforcement services to our jurisdiction’s residents and visitors in 2025.

Troop 7 - Captain Mary E. McGuire

Troop 7 Annual Goals



The women and men of Troop 7 met the diverse and challenging responsibility of providing full-service policing to the eastern third of Sussex County with outstanding success during the Division’s centennial year. Spanning 247 square miles, Troop 7’s jurisdiction is among Delaware’s fastest-growing regions, characterized by a striking contrast between affluent oceanfront communities and areas of significant economic disadvantage.

The State Route 1 corridor, stretching from Milford to the Indian River Inlet, serves as a vital artery for thriving tourism in the coastal towns of Lewes, Rehoboth Beach, and Dewey Beach. The jurisdiction also extends westward to farmland and densely populated retirement communities, including Long Neck. Positioned between the Atlantic Ocean and Delaware Bay, this area stands as a premier vacation destination, annually drawing hundreds of thousands of visitors.

In 2024, Troop 7’s 44 patrol troopers responded to over 18,000 calls for service, reflecting the region’s dynamic demands. This workload included the investigation of 2,600 traffic collisions, marking only a slight increase from the previous year.

Troop 7 is also home to the Sussex County Collision Reconstruction Unit (CRU), consisting of four highly trained troopers specializing in accident reconstruction. Serving the entirety of Sussex County, the CRU investigated 35 fatal collisions in 2024, one of which fell in the jurisdiction of a municipal agency. This number represented a 14% decrease from 2023. The unit also supported safety education efforts, including seatbelt awareness presentations.

Behind the scenes, Troop 7’s operational efficiency is bolstered by its dedicated professional staff, including two administrative specialists and a fleet maintenance specialist. Their contributions are indispensable to the successful execution of the State Police’s mission.

In 2024, Lt. Ralston seamlessly transitioned from the Traffic Lieutenant's position to spearheading criminal operations at Troop 7. His ability to foster partnerships with allied agencies and local businesses proved invaluable. Building on the foundation of the Coastal Business Coalition established the previous year, Lt. Ralston strengthened relationships with Tanger Outlets and nearby businesses. Quarterly meetings with management and asset protection teams focused on theft and shoplifting prevention strategies, resulting in a 21% reduction in shoplifting incidents.

Through Lt. Ralston's leadership, patrol troopers conducted meticulous investigations that propelled Troop 7's criminal clearance rates well above the national average. His guidance also played a critical role in achieving historic lows in robberies and burglaries, setting new records for Troop 7's success.

As Sussex County's eastern region continued to grow, infrastructure challenges required strategic action. Lt. Anthony Mendez returned to Troop 7 to oversee traffic safety initiatives, drawing on his extensive experience as a collision reconstructionist. A significant focus was placed on addressing safety concerns along the high-traffic segment of State Route 1, from Nassau to Rehoboth Beach, which accounted for a notable share of collisions in 2024.

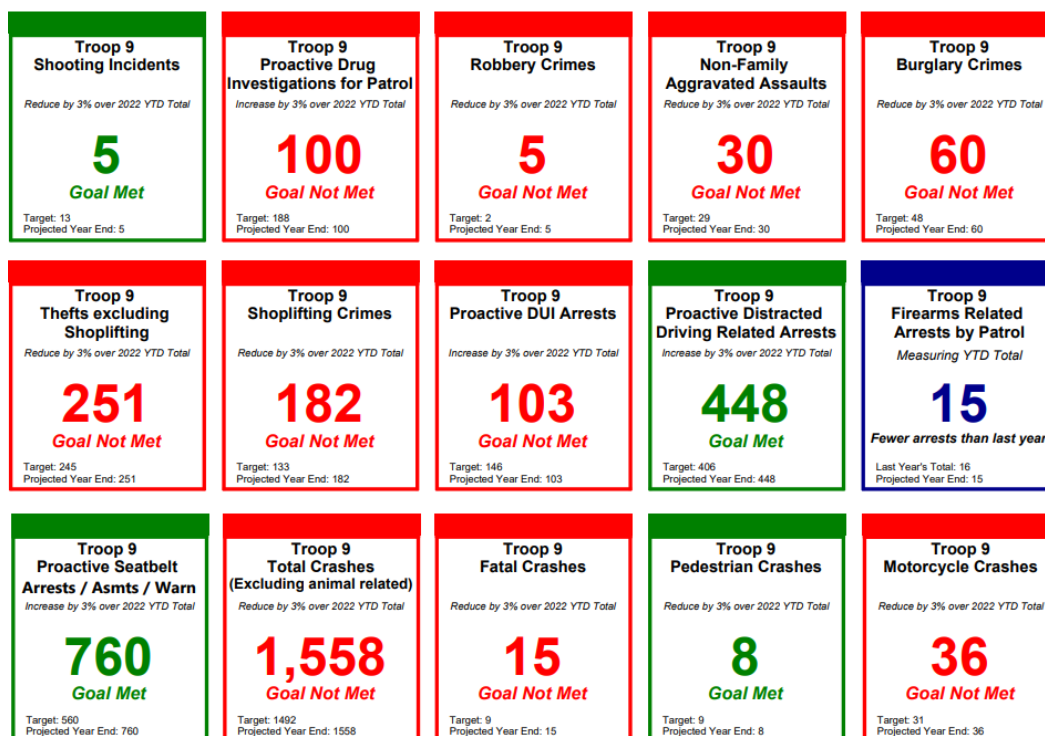
Lt. Mendez collaborated with the Office of Highway Safety to implement targeted solutions, including enhanced patrols, deployment of speed trailers, and educational outreach programs for pedestrians, moped operators, and seasonal workers. These efforts, combined with a strong emphasis on impaired driving prevention, led to a remarkable 30% reduction in DUI-related crashes, solidifying Troop 7's leadership in traffic safety and public protection.

Troop 7 played a pivotal role in coordinating with the U.S. Secret Service and local allied partners to ensure the safety and security of President Joseph Biden's visits to his beach house in Rehoboth Beach. Through meticulous planning and seamless communication, Troop 7 collaborated on comprehensive security measures while prioritizing minimal disruption to the public. Efforts included managing traffic flow along critical corridors, establishing secure perimeters, and maintaining safety in the surrounding area. The collaboration ensured that presidential visits were executed efficiently, balancing the need for heightened security with the community's ability to go about their daily lives with minimal inconvenience.

Troop 7 appreciates the communities unwavering support in our mission to provide professional and compassionate law enforcement services. The trust and collaboration with the community is invaluable as Troop 7 patrol Troopers work to ensure the safety and well-being of all who live, work, and visit the eastern third of Sussex County.

Troop 9 - Captain Kristopher Thompson

Troop 9 Annual Goals



Troop 9, located in Odessa's historic district, has proudly served as New Castle County's Southernmost Troop since 1971. Throughout 2024, the Troopers assigned to Troop 9 continued their dedicated service to the citizens and visitors of southern New Castle County and northern Kent County. Thirty-four uniformed troopers and four civilian support personnel are assigned to the Troop.

Captain Kristopher Thompson assumed the Troop Commander position in early 2024. Lieutenants Don Coleman and Gregory Earle serve as the Deputy Troop Commanders of Troop 9. Lt. Greg Earle serves as the Traffic Lieutenant after being transferred to Troop 9 in September after several transfers vacated the position. Traffic operations and enforcement have a major impact on keeping our roadways safe and saving lives. Traffic enforcement also has a favorable impact on reducing the number of collisions. Throughout the year, Troopers partnered with the Office of Highway Safety conducting several initiatives that focused on targeting speeding, aggressive driving, DUI, and pedestrian safety.

Lieutenant Don Coleman assumed the role as Troop 9's Criminal Lieutenant and oversaw criminal operations. Troopers responded to calls for service and focused preventative tactics to deter crime and search for signs of criminal activity to take enforcement action. Troopers were also vigilant in detecting less visible criminal activity while on patrol. Their efforts often resulted in the apprehension of criminals in the process of committing crimes. Troopers communicated daily with detectives assigned to Troop 3 CIU, Troop 2 CIU, Middletown Police Department and other specialized units sharing information for crime patterns and trends to aid in solvability factors as well as successful deterrent techniques.

The administration at Troop 9 were assisted by the four Patrol Sergeants, who provide daily oversight to Troopers under their supervision. The role Sergeants Mike Butkus, Christopher Martin, Bradley Stevens and Scott Barnett played were crucial to the success of Troop 9 throughout the year.

The Troop 9 administration was assisted daily by Administrative Specialist Theresa Daniels, Physical Plant Maintenance Specialist Richard Daniels, and Automotive Mechanic Kevin Spangler. Victim Service Specialist Angela Brown worked closely with both Troop personnel and Detectives to facilitate the post-incident needs of our victims. The civilian staff is truly part of the DSP family and serves as the backbone for the success of the members of Troop 9 patrol.

Troop 9 is also fortunate to have two members of the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services Police Diversion Program, Glenda Bailey and Shaleeyah Rose, working side by side with our Troopers to ensure those with substance abuse and mental health diagnosis receive treatment and care they need to improve their quality of life. These two ladies have become part of the Troop 9 family and we are pleased to be partnering with a great organization and great people.

Troop 9 continues to maintain a proactive working relationship with the community. Troopers regularly attended community meetings in Odessa, Townsend, and the Kent County Crime Watch meetings. The interaction with citizens and local politicians is a key element in creating and maintaining a partnership and establishing trust through communication. Troop 9's administration held several Community Café's with community members and politicians.

Troop 9 is fortunate to have so many hardworking men and women willing to work around the clock to protect our citizens and those visiting Delaware. The Troop 9 area is large and presents many diverse challenges. The Troopers at Troop 9, along with the civilian staff, consistently and professionally meet the demands and challenges that are presented to them by providing excellent service to all.

Aviation - Captain Jeffrey Whitmarsh



The Delaware State Police Aviation Unit had an exciting and fulfilling 2024 where 4994 calls for service were logged in by duty crews. The section saw the acquisition of two new aircraft, while two new Troopers joined the unit, one as a pilot and the other a paramedic. Also, significant progress was made towards the anticipated whole blood field transfusion program.

The Aviation Section consists of 31 paramedics, pilots, administrators and support personnel. Working in teams of two, the crews provide 24-hours coverage from two locations that are strategically positioned at either end of the state. Aviation Operations North is based out of Summit Aviation and serves as the administrative hub for the unit. Aviation Operations South is stationed at the Delaware Coastal Airport. Captain Jeff Whitmarsh and Lt. Jason Baxley maintained command of the unit and worked to foster a cohesive group who were focused on their mission and goals.

The Aviation Unit provides rapid transport of critically sick or injured persons to medical facilities. Last year, 559 trauma patients were flown to area hospitals, an increase of 15% from the previous year. "Search and Rescue" is another area of focus, and in 2024, the unit conducted 84 of these missions, supporting the USCG and Delaware State Fire Service searching for missing or overdue persons or vessels. In October, the Aviation Section conducted a successful hoist mission for an injured and stranded fire service member in

Kent County. Supporting law enforcement ground personnel in locating and apprehending criminal suspects rounds out the three primary missions. The unit conducted 503 criminal related search and surveillance missions which include: conducting airborne security for visiting dignitaries, conducting homeland security operations, participating in narcotics interdiction, providing support for criminal searches, vehicle pursuits and maritime security operations. The section also conducted 40 missions assisting the US Secret Service Counter Assault Team with protecting President Biden while in the state.

Pilots and Medics receive significant training throughout the year. For pilots, this training helps to strengthen their skills, increases safety, and enhances their skills. This year, initial and re-current Bell 429 training was conducted at Bell Training Academy in Texas. For paramedics, the training they received helps them to provide excellent patient care and employ the latest in trauma intervention and lifesaving approaches. This year, training was conducted via DelTech as well as UMBC in Maryland.

Five paramedics also serve as specially trained Tactical Medics that support specialized units throughout the state such as the Wilmington Police and New Castle Police Department SWAT Teams, the FBI and DSP SORT Team, the Underwater Recovery Team, and Bomb Squad. In 2024, there were 111 activations for this discipline.

The Aviation Section plays an integral role in both emergency response and community engagement. In addition to our primary mission of providing critical care and medical services, our teams are dedicated to enhancing public safety and education period over the past year. We have conducted more than 130 public demonstrations, raising awareness about our operations and the importance of emergency preparedness. Additionally, we have taught over 30 CPR courses, empowering community members with lifesaving skills.

Our commitment to professional development extends to local healthcare providers as well. We actively participate in the orientation of HEMS (Helicopter Emergency Medical Services) training for new 'Medical Residents' at local hospitals, and we offer specialized training for newly hired paramedics from surrounding departments. This equips them with the knowledge and hands on experience needed to excel in critical care transport situations.

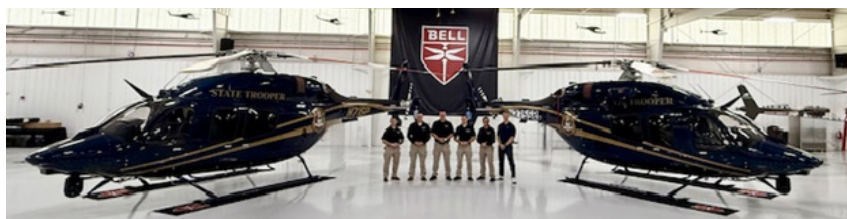
Through these efforts, the Aviation Section is not only enhancing the capabilities of emergency responders, but also fostering a safer, more informed community.

In late November of 2024, the Delaware State Police Aviation Section completed the acquisition of two new Bell 429 Global Ranger helicopters. This project took over 2 years to bring to fruition. Being a multi-mission aviation unit, these aircraft will prove to be true lifesaving vehicles by allowing our Trooper Medics to provide medical intervention in the sky, delivering patients in rapid time to definitive care at area hospitals, finding lost and missing persons on the ground and assisting law enforcement overhead. The aircraft are equipped with the latest technology and takes a multi-discipline approach in providing support for all of Delaware's first responders and citizens. Hanging from the nose of the helicopter, the latest generation L3 Harris Wescam MX10 camera system can zoom in on specific objects or locations from miles away, while locating heat sources in assisting fire departments at the front line. Off the starboard side, one will notice a Goodrich Hoist system, giving the crew the ability to lift patients or stranded citizens to safety. Inside, these new Bell 429's resembles a flying emergency room with blood warmers, infusion pumps, medicine, and heart monitors/defibrillators. Our Trooper Medics have the tools at their disposal to assist patients and give them the best possible chance for survival.

In the beginning of 2025, the DSP Aviation Section will be concluding the validation phase of the whole blood program and will start carrying blood to every trauma call, again, giving patients the best chance for a favorable outcome. This program underscores a true partnership with the Blood Bank of Delaware who will be supplying the DSP Aviation with blood, helping to ensure protocols are followed and that we have the support necessary to be successful.

Many unit members are proud to support the Delaware State Police, and the State of Delaware, in a variety of different ways. This includes their participation in part time units and the military. Several members are a part of the Honor Guard. Others are on the Underwater Recovery Team, Motorcycle Unit and Tactical Control Unit. Three are pilots in the Delaware National Guard and all three spent time deployed in various capacities in 2024.

The DSP Aviation Unit stands ready to fulfill its mission and provide critical support from the sky.



CJIS Security, Audit & Training Unit - Mr. Eric McNatt

The Delaware State Police CJIS Security, Audit & Training Unit oversees the compliance of the division's role as the Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Systems Agency (CSA) for FBI CJIS Systems and as The Nlets Systems Agency (NSA) for the International Justice and Public Safety Network (Nlets). Eric McNatt manages the CJIS Unit representing the State of Delaware as the CJIS Systems Officer (CSO) and Nlets Representative and serves as a member of the FBI CJIS Advisory Process's Northeastern Working Group and Nlets Member Region B respectively. The unit supports over 5,000 users from over 200 agencies statewide that access FBI CJIS systems and other state databases in support of criminal justice and non-criminal justice functions. The CJIS Unit consists of an Audit Team and a Training Team that are both supervised by Tracy Henderson.

The audit team oversee the CSA's responsibility of conducting the required triennial state audits of all agencies that access FBI CJIS systems to ensure compliance with state and FBI CJIS Division policies and regulations. This includes quality control and validation functions, to make sure that all agencies in Delaware are maintaining accurate, timely and complete records in FBI CJIS System, as well as ensuring dissemination of information is released in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. The audit team is also responsible for ensuring that all agencies in the state are meeting the minimum requirements established by the FBI's CJIS Security Policy (CJISSECPOL).

The training team is responsible for meeting the CSA's requirement that all terminal operators of FBI CJIS systems statewide are trained and functionally tested every two years to affirm their proficiency and to maintain training records. They are also responsible for making sure that all terminal operators, other agency personnel, and contracted vendor personnel have completed the necessary background checks and are annually Security and Privacy trained based on their roles within their agencies as required by the CJISSECPOL.

In 2024, the audit team completed 206 various CJIS system audits of 40 agencies across the state. The training team facilitated Delaware to become an Nlets Certified (N-Cert) State by having all members of the unit complete over 50 N-Cert online modules and passing the N-Cert Test created by Nlets and incorporating all relevant materials into Delaware's training curriculum.

Additionally in 2024, the CJIS Unit welcomed the addition of a new CJIS Systems Auditor, Tracy Henderson, and a new CJIS Systems Trainer, Rebekah Lee, and welcomed back former CSO Renee Rigby in the new casual seasonal position, Record Audit Technician. The unit is also staffed by Linda Johnson as the Record Validation Technician.

Communications Section - Mrs. Stacey Slover



The Communications Section consists of three 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), the Headquarters Communications Center and a Management Team. The section is staffed by ninety-six employees and is responsible for:

- Answering 9-1-1 emergency lines and dispatching law enforcement personnel and equipment.
- NCIC & NLETS control, alarm monitoring and alerting on-call teams.
- Telecommunications administration including statewide radio, telephone, cellular and pager systems.
- Mobile command center operations.

The DSP 911 Center operations are co-located in each of the County Centers. Here is a breakdown of the activities for 2024:

RECOM (Staffing 24 Full time and 1 Casual Seasonal Position)

• Total Incidents Dispatched	76,386
• Total Incidents Handled Without Dispatch	35,750
• Total Incidents Handled	112,136
• Total 9-1-1 Calls Received	304,129
• Total Admin Calls	1,941*

**Recom moved to Kent in July 2022. Totals are combined with Kent after that.*

KENTCOM (Staffing 24 Full time and 1 Casual Seasonal Position)

• Total Incidents Dispatched	104,649
• Total Incidents Handled Without Dispatch	19,116
• Total Incidents Handled	123,765
• Total 9-1-1 Calls Received	97,621
• Total DSP Admin Calls	115,841*

*Total combined with Recom**

SUSCOM (Staffing 24 Full time and 1 Casual Seasonal Position)

• Total Incidents Dispatched	109,511
• Total Incidents Handled Without Dispatch	29,188
• Total Incidents Handled	138,699
• Total 9-1-1 Calls Received	109,912
• Total Admin Calls	94,084

HQ Communication is located at the DEMA building in Smyrna. There are 14 Full time Center personnel. Some of the Center's responsibilities are for State-wide data entry into DELJIS and monitoring the 24x7x365 NCIC Inlets position. The center personnel monitor the Salem Nuclear plant, State Building Alarm systems, and are the State center for the RISSafe program. They also take after hour calls for the Medical Examiner's office and Victim Services.

2024 HQComm Totals	TOTAL
RISSafe Conflicts	9
RISSafe Operations by DE Agencies	221
RISSafe Operations entered by HQComm	261
ME Calls	3,156
Victim Services Calls	419

The Mobile Command Center consists of 11 Section members and responds to Critical incidents for scene communications support. The CP is requested for scheduled events. It is also requested to attend Community Events throughout the year. CP operators provide Comm support for all POTUS movement to/from Delaware.

During 2024, the CP made the following responses:

Call outs:	4
Community Events:	5
Training Events:	5
POTUS Movements:	21



The Communication Management Team consists of the Chief of Communication, Asst. Chief of Communication, and a Manager for each Center. (6 Full-time)

The Communications Section is currently involved with the following project.

800MHz Radio system upgrade

The State of Delaware continues the process of doing a technical upgrade for the entire 800MHz radio system. As a result of this new technology, all current XTS portables and Spectra Mobile radios will need to be replaced by May 2025. The communication section is working with DivCom and Motorola to finalize radio replacements and Divisional Radio Talk groups. We are currently still working with DivCom to remove the old radios and have them replaced with new ones. The overall system upgrade is expected to occur by May 2025.

Conflict Management Team - Sergeant Stephen Yeich



The Delaware State Police Conflict Management Team is a part time unit composed of 16 dedicated troopers specially trained in hostage negotiations, de-escalation, kidnap mediation, and suicide prevention. Through the application of crisis intervention skills, team members assist subjects in crisis to defuse their emotions, lowering the potential for violence. It is the primary goal of the Conflict Management Team to resolve these situations without injury or loss of life. The foundation of negotiations relies on the proficiency of active listening skills used to establish a rapport with the subject in crisis and ultimately affect change for a positive outcome.

Monthly trainings are used to sharpen negotiation skills through the cooperative efforts of its own members, other special operations units, and our partners from allied agencies. In recent years, the Delaware State Police Conflict Management Team has enriched relationships with the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI - Baltimore), Department of Corrections, New Castle County,

and other in-state and out-of-state agencies, to ensure a contingency of competent, well-trained negotiators throughout the state. Constant review and analysis of incidents involving persons in crisis is conducted to identify potential areas of training. The Conflict Management Team is working to ensure all members have also received training in Crisis Intervention (CIT) and for those eligible Veterans Response Training (VRT). This training assists in diversifying our personnel in communication and negotiation skills. The team, with the assistance of New Castle County Police Department Negotiators hosted the five-day basic hostage negotiations course open to all state agencies May 20th-24th, 2024.

Beyond monthly training efforts, the Delaware State Police Conflict Management Team usually is afforded the opportunity to the FBI's three-day hostage negotiations conference in Baltimore County MD. In 2024, four members of the team attended the 43rd Annual Hostage Negotiation Seminar scheduled for March 5th - 7th, 2024 in Owings Mill, MD.

In 2024, members of the Conflict Management Team maintained availability on a 24-hour basis and were utilized on two total incidents, only one of these were full team activations. For the other incidents, various team members provided specific direction during patrol responses to persons in crisis, eliminating the need for full scale responses. During 2024, the CMT's NCOIC, Sgt. Kristin Smith, retired from the team and Division. Sgt. Stephen Yeich was assigned as the new unit commander. In October 2024, the team added three new members.

Entering 2025, the Conflict Management Team will continue to remain dedicated to developing knowledge and resources to mitigate situations of persons in crisis. This goal will continue to be pursued through the continued training amongst the team and other area negotiations teams, as well as continuing the working relationship between other special operations units within the division.

Criminal Intelligence Section + DIAC - Captain Joshua A. Bushweller



The Delaware State Police Criminal Intelligence section, Homeland Security section and Real Time Crime Center are statewide support units under the overall command of Captain Joshua A. Bushweller. The Homeland Security Unit, which includes the Delaware Information and Analysis Center (DIAC), is supervised by Lt. David Hake, the Criminal Intelligence section, which includes various investigative and support units is supervised by Lt. Matt Fuski and Lt. Dale Toomey is responsible for oversight of the Real Time Crime Center (RTCC), which encompasses special projects and the Delaware State Police Enhanced Analytical Response (SPEAR) Program. Each of these units have statewide operational responsibility and provide investigative and technical assistance to the patrol and criminal investigative troops as well as other law

enforcement agencies across the state.

The Criminal Intelligence section is comprised of the Electronic Surveillance Unit (ESU), the High Technology Crimes Unit (HTCU), the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICACTF) as well several task force officers. These officers work in partnership with several federal agencies such as the United States Marshalls Service, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. We also continue a state partnership dedicated to the investigation of firearm violence in Delaware.

In 2024, the section continued a program to deploy three sworn members of the Division as "Criminal Intelligence Officers." These Troopers are designed to fully take advantage of information available through a variety of methods and leverage that information in the furtherance of solving crime. These Troopers also provide ongoing training to assets in the field regarding responsible intelligence collection and the value of that information. This program has been a great success contributing to increased clearance of crime through partnership with criminal investigators. These Troopers have also been instrumental in providing reports to DSP leadership to aid in the deployment of resources in response to crime events and trends.

The Homeland Security Unit consists of the state designated fusion center, Delaware Information Analysis Center (DIAC), the DSP/FBI JTTF component and the DSP Maritime Unit. DIAC provides analytic and intelligence services to law enforcement partners, public safety, and government partners as well as private sector partners throughout the state and region. DIAC also works with the Delaware Emergency Management Agency in our state's prevention, preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation to natural, biological, and technological hazards.

The Delaware State Police Intelligence Terrorism Liaison Program is managed by Master Corporal Christopher Nicholson. Chris was instrumental in providing training and education to a wide array of private and public sector disciplines on matters of homeland security on numerous occasions throughout the State of Delaware. This information includes specific information about the various threats that face our homeland. He has also been vigilant in training law enforcement, first responders, and private sector partners in the pre-operational indicators prior to a terrorist event. In today's climate, considering the significant increase of adverse events in the United States and abroad, this role is vital to the safety and security of our state and nation.

The Criminal Intelligence Unit and Critical Infrastructure Unit made valuable contributions to ensuring the safety of the critical

infrastructure sites in Delaware. Mr. Bradley Iseminger coordinated these efforts and was a dedicated professional conducting vulnerability assessment and managing special projects.

The DSP Maritime Unit was created to protect the critical infrastructure and key resources along Delaware's waterways. The unit is currently staffed with three troopers on a full-time basis. Additionally, three additional troopers have been outfitted and trained in the unit's operations and assist the full-time members in addition to their current road patrol assignments. The unit focuses on critical infrastructure protection, high visibility patrol and prevention, emergency response with allied agencies and units, recovery operation support and outreach to the maritime community. The unit is co-located with the Delaware Information Analysis Center (DIAC) and works regularly with a specially trained intelligence analyst. This allows unit members to tailor proactive patrols based on the current threat picture and vulnerability assessments. This "intelligence-led" model allows for more effective patrol of a large area of responsibility.

The Criminal Intelligence Section was proud of the ability to provide proactive criminal investigations, valuable case support, and the facilitation of an information sharing environment in 2024. The DIAC will continue to evaluate the standing information needs and priority intelligence needs of our stakeholders in Delaware. We will continue to evaluate the threat environment and how it applies to Delaware. The DIAC will continue to work toward its core mission of detecting, preventing, investigating, and responding to criminal and terrorist activity. We will continue to disseminate intelligence and facilitate communications between state, local, federal agencies, and private sector partners, to help them act on threats and public safety issues.

The Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) is responsible for developing and maintaining software solutions to support the State Police Enhanced Analytical Response (SPEAR) program. This program is an evidence based policing model exhibited after the Stratified Policing Model. This model is rooted in defined accountability established through policy and the utilization of evidence based policing models to address crime and traffic safety issues.

In 2024, the RTCC continued the SmartForce software program in support of the SPEAR program. The SmartForce technology is an organizational management system tailored for the Stratified Policing Model. SmartForce technology leverages the Microsoft SharePoint system to collect and analyze key data sets that are essential to the evaluation of Troop Commanders evidenced base operational deployment plans.

Division of Gaming Enforcement - Lieutenant Philip Dzielak



The Delaware Division of Gaming Enforcement (DGE) falls under the Department of Safety and Homeland Security and is comprised of civilian and sworn investigators under the direction of Director Gregory D. Nolt.

DGE is responsible for ensuring the operational security and integrity of the Delaware State Video Lottery, Sports Lottery, Interactive Fantasy Sports Contests, and Table Game Operations as required by Delaware Title 29, Chapter 48. DGE utilizes a three pronged organizational structure which include; Casino Background Investigations, Criminal Investigations and Intelligence. These three components, working together, provide a comprehensive approach to ensuring the integrity of the gaming industry.

The Casino Background Investigators consist of one supervisor, seven background investigators and two administrative assistants. The purpose of the background investigations is to ensure that casino employees, companies, and vendors meet the requirements of Delaware licensing and possess the financial responsibility, honesty, and integrity required by a licensee.

The Criminal Investigations and Intelligence model consists of eight Delaware State Troopers and one agent from the Division of Alcohol and Tobacco Enforcement. The primary function of criminal investigations is to investigate and prevent gaming crimes, promote public safety, gather intelligence information about criminal activity and develop actionable plans to facilitate effective and efficient policing activities. There is also one full time Deputy Attorney General assigned to the unit for the administration and enforcement of DGE objectives.

In 2024, Division of Gaming Enforcement detectives investigated a total of 291 complaints. Four of the highest crime drivers for complaints in 2024 were larceny, trespass, gambling, and vandalism offenses. In addition to these types of offenses, the investigations conducted by the detectives also involved numerous other types of offenses including assault, disorderly conduct, robbery and money laundering. Many of the investigations involve working in collaboration with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies in order to solve the cases and arrest the appropriate individuals.

Individuals that are arrested and convicted of crimes committed in the casinos may be placed on an involuntary exclusion list. Individuals may also place themselves on a voluntary exclusion list. Individuals on an exclusion list are not permitted to gamble in any

of the three Delaware casinos. If an individual on the exclusion list is caught gambling in the casinos, the individual will be arrested and must forfeit any winnings.

Executive Protection Unit - Sergeant Mark Ivey



2024 at-a-Glance

Governor/Governor Elect In-State Events:	1,426	Out of State:	374
First Lady/First Lady Elect In-State Events:	382	Out of State:	469

Places Visited

Washington DC, Minneapolis, MN, Boston, MA, Seattle, WA, Detroit, MI, Miami, FL, Villanova, PA, Philadelphia PA, New York, NY, Dublin, Limerick, and Galway Ireland, London and White Cliffs of Dover England, Paris, Normandy, Bayeux, Le Mont-Saint-Michel, and Rouen France, Annapolis, MD, Hanover, NH, Salt Lake City, UT, Estes Park, CO, Chicago, IL, Princeton, NJ, Charleston, SC, Denver, CO, Meredith, NH, Los Angeles and Malibu, CA

The primary mission of the Executive Protection Unit is to provide security for the Governor/Governor Elect and First Family/Family Elect of Delaware. This security includes, but is not limited to, protection against assassination, assault, and accidental death or injury. This protection applies to travel occurring within the continental United States and internationally. Additionally, the Executive Protection Unit is tasked with:

- In-depth knowledge and constant monitoring of the Governor/Governor Elect's schedule.
- Perform advance work at every location that the Governor/Governor Elect will be in attendance. This includes interior and exterior floor plans, emergency exits, staging locations, employee threats or concerns, knowledge and notification made to the local, state and/or federal police jurisdiction where the Governor's event is being held, location of the closest emergency/Level-1 trauma center, on-site emergency care and primary and secondary routes of all events.
- Investigate threats made against the Governor/Governor Elect, First Family/Family Elect, staff and any other dignitary that could be relevant to the safety of the First Family/Family Elect.
- Liaison between our law enforcement counterparts (local, state and federal) in order to ensure the safety and efficiency of the Governor/Governor Elect's responsibilities and endeavors.
- Provide assistance and protection for visiting dignitaries at the request of their respective protection agencies or at the direction of the Governor/Governor Elect.

The Executive Protection Unit is staffed by sworn members of the Division with the highest ranking Trooper designated as the Non Commissioned Officer-in-Charge (NCOIC) and reporting directly to the Special Operations Major.

As anticipated, 2024 saw the Governor/Governor Elect's calendar increase substantially in comparison to previous years. The 1,426 in state events that the Governor/Governor Elect attended represented a 42% increase over 2023. The 374 out of state events were 50% increase over 2023.

The First Lady/Lady Elect's calendar also increased considerably. The 382 in state events were a 22% increase over 2023. The 469 out of state events were a 68% increase over 2023.

2024 Highlights

Training: In February all Unit members attended the National Resuscitation Academy, an 8-hour advanced life-saving and cardiac resuscitation training course sponsored by the Sussex County Emergency Management System. In November Sgt Ivey and Cpl/3 Helen Zane conducted an 8-hour protection training course for the TAD's assigned to the Executive Protection Unit during the transition phase with the Governor Elect.

Out of State Travel: The Governor/Governor Elect and First Lady/Lady Elect completed a significant amount of out of state travel in 2024. EPU coordinated visits and provided security for trips ranging from the remote wilderness of Utah and Colorado to the bustling cities like New York and Los Angeles, to foreign countries including Ireland, England and France, and high-profile visits to places such as the White House and US Capitol Building. These trips included a wide variety of events including complex sporting venues, National Governor's Association meetings, trade missions, and Presidential visits. All these trips required substantial planning and coordination with local and federal partners, as well as constant communication with the Governor's office.

Governor Elect Protection: Following the election of Governor Matt Meyer, EPU assumed protective responsibilities for him and the family. During this period between election day and inauguration, EPU was responsible for protecting what was effectively two Governor's and their families. This required extensive planning, coordinating, and the establishment of new relationships with the Governor Elect's staff. Two TAD's were added to help with the additional workload. All members of EPU worked extended hours throughout this period in order to accommodate the additional workload.

Current EPU Members

Sgt. Mark Ivey
Cpl/3 Helen Zane
Cpl/3 Phil Jackson
Cpl/3 Tom Gaul
Cpl/3 Matt Owens
Cpl/1 Owen Cocolin

Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit - Sergeant Francis L. Fucellaro II



The Delaware State Police Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Team is the longest serving bomb squad in the State of Delaware and the only unit responsible for all hazardous device calls outside the City of Wilmington and neighborhood areas of New Castle County. The units twelve bomb technicians (11 certified and 1 non-certified) are strategically based throughout the state to cover the 1,954 square miles within our borders 24 hours a day, every day. With Delaware being the 6th most densely populated state in the nation and the base of over 50 percent of all U.S. publicly traded corporations, maintaining a strategic response plan is crucial.

In calendar year 2024, the DSP-EOD team was called to service 375 times; this does not include the FBI mandatory (36 hour monthly) training plus 40 hours of Advanced Training for each team member. This is approximately 51 % increase in calls from the previous year. This increase of calls for service is likely due to assisting the United State Secret Service with Presidential details, as well as assisting municipal agencies with Counter Terrorize Preventative during special events.

DSP-EOD hosted the FBI weeklong Advanced Electrics Course, FBI Manual Technique Course, as well as Dr. Ian Vabnick, retired FBI, from Disablement Technologies and Consulting LLC for an 8-hour course on new render safe tools.

In 2024, DSP EOD had two senior Bomb Technicians retire, Jerold Huber, the Administrative Assistant Bomb Squad Commander and Brian Crisman. One bombe tech was selected for the ATF Criminal Explosive Specialist Program which is a two-year process. Also in 2024, three-unit members graduated from the FBI Hazardous Device School, making them certified bomb technicians.

One of the highlights for the Delaware State Police and Bomb Squad Community was the David Pulling Commemoration and Bomb Technician Memorial Ceremony held on November 19, 2024, at FBI Hazardous Device School. Cpl Pulling was a 6-year Delaware State Trooper attending the FBI Hazardous Device School when on November 18th, 1987, a training accident occurred which claimed Corporal Pulling's life at the age of 31. Delaware State Police sent several members of Honor Guard and members of the Special Operations section to the Ceremony.

All members of the team, except for the officer in charge are part time. Team members keep their skills honed by attending three days of intense technical training each month and at least 40 hours of advanced training per year. Maintaining this level of proficiency and operational tempo in addition to their full-time assignment is a testament to their dedication and commitment to the team, the division, and the citizens of Delaware.

Since 9/11, the mission for the public safety bomb technician has evolved immensely. The sophisticated equipment and special skills that the team possesses has applications well beyond the traditional bomb disposal role. Whether it's using our sophisticated equipment to assist with drug and weapons investigations, providing an explosive entry in a tactical operation, or providing two-way communication and video surveillance during suicidal subject or hostage /barricade incidents.

As a special section within the Delaware State Police, unit members proactively evaluate evolving technology to determine if and how new tools can be used to perform this mission set safer and more efficiently. Such is the case the addition of drones. Eleven members of DSP bomb technicians hold a FAA Part 107 Remote Pilot Certification which is required for all commercial and government drone operators. These drones will be a game changer not only for traditional law enforcement but for special operations units as well. Whether it is surveying damage following a natural disaster, looking for survivors in residential areas inaccessible by conventional vehicles or helping to locate a missing child or lost senior citizen, drones can be deployed quickly and efficiently by certified operators leaving the Delaware State Police helicopters available to respond to life threatening emergency situations.

The Delaware State Police EOD Team has shown adaptability and ingenuity by growing with this continuously evolving field and using the technology in our arsenal to assist law enforcement with protecting the citizens and visitors of this state. In 2024, our team aided both State and Local, uniformed patrol, both State and Local Special Operation Teams, United State Air Force EOD, as well as the United State Secret Service. Today's threats are more alarming than ever before due to the ingenuity of our adversaries and easy

access to explosive materials worldwide. In fact, DSP has been recognized as a leader in our profession by using techniques outside of the traditional EOD paradigm. By continuing to update our specialized equipment and attending advanced training, our EOD Team will remain prepared to face threats against our communities and critical infrastructure facilities at a moment's notice. Our motto of "Initial Success or Total Failure" is a constant reminder to our technicians of the perilous challenges they must successfully conquer with every mission. Failure is not an option.

Fiscal Control Section - Mrs. Irene McDonald

The Fiscal Control Section's goal is to provide efficient and professional financial services to the division. To that end, members of the section strive to:

1. Pay all bills in a timely manner and in accordance with all laws, rules, regulations, and policies.
2. Make recommendations to the Administrative Officer - Budget concerning the appropriate internal allocation of funds to the division's cost centers.
3. Provide expertise to the Executive Staff for the development of the division's annual budget.
4. Provide the Executive Staff with expertise in the determination of the fiscal impact of various proposals.
5. Coordinate the fiscal implementation of those proposals.

In conjunction with the Administrative Officer – Budget (Major), the section assists in the overall development, management, and administration of the division's budget within the framework of all prevailing state and federal law, as well as divisional rules, regulations, and policies. Fiscal Control ensures compliance with all Generally Accepted Accounting Principles as promulgated by the Delaware Department of Finance and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), pre-audits all financial obligations for the division, ensures authenticity before processing, and ensures compliance with all purchasing procedures.

During 2024, members of the section continued to support the Delaware State Police Executive Staff by supplying cost estimates associated with current recruit classes, advising senior management on the budgetary impact of increased overtime usage, and the monitoring of the division's finances as they relate to the State's economic situation. Fiscal Control continues to remain cognizant of all federal funding and spending guidelines.

Homicide Unit - Captain Darren Short



The Delaware State Police Homicide Section is comprised of three distinct and unique units, the Homicide Unit, the Forensic Firearms Services Unit, and the Crime Lab. These units are staffed by talented civilian and sworn divisional employees with specialized training and advanced education allowing them to detect crimes, identify suspects and prosecute the offenders in court.

The Homicide Unit Commander is Captain Darren Short with Sergeant Steve Yeich assigned as the first line supervisor. Sgt. Yeich is complimented with Detective Roy Lowe, the Evidence Technician, and Detectives Alan Bluto, Brian McDerby, Dan Grassi and Mark Csapo. Retired Homicide Unit Investigator Michael

Maher works as a civilian cold case investigator. Retired Evidence Technician Troy Frey works as a civilian evidence technician. Administrative Assistant Ashley Torbert rounds out the team and provides invaluable assistance to a cohesive unit that is committed to providing justice for our victims and closure for their families.

Established in 1989, the DSP Homicide Unit is comprised of seven sworn members and one civilian administrative assistant. The primary responsibilities of the Homicide Unit include the investigation of homicides, suspicious deaths, and missing persons in which the victim is suspected to be deceased. The Homicide Unit also investigates officer involved uses of deadly force, attempted murders, and selected assaults. In addition to new investigations, the Homicide Unit is responsible for investigating "cold case" homicides.

During 2024, the Homicide Unit investigated 37 new cases and 12 cold cases. The unit provided investigative assistance to all DSP criminal troops and 8 allied law enforcement agencies in numerous death and missing person investigations to include Baltimore County Police Department, Maryland State Police, Manatee County Sheriff's Department, Millsboro Police Department, Texas Department of Public Safety, Laurel Police Department, and the United States Marshals Service. Of the 37 new cases investigated, 18 were homicide investigations, involving 18 victims. The Homicide Unit was able to clear 14 of these cases and additional clearances are forthcoming as investigators continue to piece together evidence. The unit also investigated 4 police officer involved use of force cases, 2 death investigations, and 2 aggravated Menacing cases.

This year the Homicide Unit hosted the 29th Annual Homicide Conference in Rehoboth Beach. This annual event is recognized as one of the premiere conferences in the nation dealing with the investigation of suspicious deaths. Several nationally recognized speakers

presented on topics including crime scene management, domestic related homicides, cellular phone evidence analysis as well as overviews of several nationally known cases.

Within the DSP Homicide Section is the Forensic Firearms Services Unit (FFSU). The FFSU was created in November 2006 to assist all law enforcement agencies in Delaware with the investigation of gun related and other violent crimes by examining firearms and ballistic related evidence collected during criminal investigations. The FFSU is staffed by Detective Geoffrey Biddle and retired Detective Nick Lano as the IBIS technicians and Mr. Steven Hearn and Mr. Gregory DiConstanzo who are certified forensic firearms examiners. Contractors Stephen Deady and James Storey also assist in the lab as Forensic Firearms Examiners.

From November 2006 through December 2024, 13,979 firearms related investigations have been submitted to the FFSU for examination. During 2024, an additional 911 firearms related cases were submitted for evaluation. This included 32 murder investigations, 948 firearms, 1777 fired cartridge cases and 435 bullet specimens. The FFSU provided forensic firearms services to 28 Delaware, federal and out of state law enforcement agencies. In addition to the submissions received by the FFSU, IBIS/Brasstrax ballistic case matches were confirmed by the forensic firearms examiners. The examiners provided expert witness testimony regarding the results of the forensic ballistics examination and offered services such as firearm serial number restoration, gunshot residue testing, bullet trajectory work and tool mark examinations to Delaware investigative agencies.

Since its inception, the Delaware State Police Crime Lab has provided services for numerous local and municipal police departments, federal agencies, and the Delaware State Police. Under the direction of Ms. Julie Willey, the Crime Lab is staffed by three additional civilian employees. The lab is comprised of units specializing in blood alcohol analysis, breath alcohol analysis and hairs and fibers analysis.

Crime Lab chemists conduct the alcohol analyses of all DUI/alcohol and DUI/drug cases (except fatal accidents) statewide. In 2024, they received 1,753 blood evidence kits for review and analyzed all those samples for blood alcohol content. The DSP Crime Lab is the sole state lab responsible for the calibration checks of the Intoxilyzer instruments utilized for breath alcohol analysis as well as the training of Intoxilyzer operators. The Crime Lab completed a yearlong project that upgraded and replaced all the Intoxilyzers in the state. As a result of the statewide services provided by members of the Crime Lab, the staff received 500 subpoenas to appear in Delaware courts during 2024.

As cost center manager, Director Willey also manages funds allocated for the purchase of supplies used by the Forensic Firearms Services Unit, the Homicide Unit, the Crime Lab and the three statewide DSP evidence detection units and crash reconstruction units. Director Willey also serves as the DSP forensic microscopist and conducts hair and fiber analysis upon request.

As we move into 2025, the members of the Delaware State Police Homicide Section remain committed to serving the residents and visitors of our state with the highest quality of service possible. Unit members worked tirelessly amid the many challenges of 2024 and look forward to meeting the new challenges in crime fighting through continued and specialized training as well as the utilization of the latest advanced technology in forensics.

Honor Guard Unit - Captain Jeffrey Whitmarsh



During 2024, the Delaware State Police Honor Guard Unit was comprised of 45 active members statewide performing a variety of duties such as serving as color guard, participating in funerals, parades, community and DSP recruitment events. They did so with pride and professionalism, embodying the core values of the Delaware State Police.

Membership in the Honor Guard requires a commitment to training and a willingness to serve at a moment's notice to represent the Division in honorable fashion. Members must demonstrate exceptional care of their uniforms and equipment. They must also cross train to perform as members of color guards, to serve as pallbearers and as urn/casket watch, to conduct flag folds and to conduct rifle volleys. Several recurrent events occur each year where members of the DSP Honor Guard participate. These include Police Week in Washington, Delaware State Police Academy Graduation Exercises, the Saint Polycarp's Memorial Service, and the Law Enforcement Memorial Candlelight Vigil in Dover. These occasions offer unit members the opportunity to stand reverently together, oftentimes alongside other Honor Guard operators from Delaware and throughout the country.

Members of the DSP Honor Guard train throughout the year to sharpen their skills. During the summer of 2024, several unit members attended a week's long training in Lee County, Florida. This training also offered participants the opportunity to showcase their skills during a variety of competitions. DSP Honor Guard members excelled, bring home top scores in several disciplines. Many of the lessons learned will be implemented in the biennial Sgt. Rodney H. Bond National Honor Guard Conference taking place in Delaware in 2025.

Unit members were called upon to participate in 13 funerals in 2024 for retired divisional members, dignitaries, and police officers from other states. Unit members did their best to honor their service and sacrifice with reverence and pride.

2024 was a special year for the Delaware State Police and for the Honor Guard. With several special events already on the calendar for 2025, the DSP Honor Guard is poised to serve with pride and distinction while living up to their motto- "Honora Vitam Reverenter."

Human Resources Office - Captain J. Paul Doherty

The Delaware State Police Human Resources and Recruitment Section provides a full array of critical services to 723 Troopers, 268 full-time civilian employees, and 48 casual seasonal employees. These services include:

- Onboarding activities:
 - Recruiting, application processing, testing, pre-employment background investigations including polygraph examinations, and new employee orientation
- Benefits and payroll:
 - Extra duty monitoring and workers' compensation
 - Employee assistance and wellness programs
 - Separation and retirement processing
- Labor relations:
 - Early Warning System compliance
 - Equal Employment Opportunity Commission compliance
 - Internal transfers
 - Promotional competitions
 - Career development
 - Wellness programs and fitness monitoring

The Delaware State Police Human Resources Section ("DSP-HR") is committed to excellence and anchored by a small team of dedicated Troopers & civilians providing administrative support for over 1,000 employees. Our Recruitment and Polygraph-Background Investigative Unit is led by our Deputy Director Lieutenant Daniel DeFlaviis. Eight part-time retired Delaware State Trooper Investigators comprise the unit. These Investigators conducted comprehensive investigations on all potential employees of the Division. In 2024, 161 (76 sworn, 85 civilian) pre-employment background investigations were completed that underwent multiple levels of review to ensure impartial employment decisions.

The Polygraph Unit Detectives are all nationally certified examiners assigned to DSP-HR and are embedded within criminal investigative Troops across the state. This placement facilitates utilization of their skillset by Detective Units and Patrol Troopers who apply polygraph analysis to support criminal investigations. The Polygraph Unit is comprised of three full time examiners and two part-time examiners. Collectively, this work group conducted 182 applicant polygraph examinations and 10 criminal investigatory polygraphs in 2024.

DSP Trooper Recruiters, with the aid and support of part-time Trooper Recruiters, participated in 151 recruiting events in 2024. A total of 500 applications for position of Trooper were processed in 2024 (103rd, 104th and 105th), leading to the selection of 41 Recruit Troopers for the 102nd (18) and the 103rd (23) recruit classes. These 41 new Troopers brought DSP closer to its full complement of authorized positions.

DSP-HR processed 525 applications to hire 50 full-time or casual seasonal civilian employees into various roles replacing those who separated or retired from the Division. The 911 Communication Centers and State Bureau of Identification experiences the highest turnover of employees, which keeps the section busy with testing, backgrounds, and interviews.

DSP-HR continues to progress with JobAps, which is an online application process. This software increases management efficiency with the labor-intensive application process while providing a user-friendly environment for DSP applicants.

Additionally, DSP-HR is responsible for managing internal transfer screening processes. When special unit positions for Troopers become vacant, eligible Troopers submit required paperwork to HR for screening. Deputy Director Lieutenant DeFlaviis assisted by HR Associate Ms. Sara Nash, select a diverse and demographically applicable review panel to provide advisement to the Executive Staff regarding each candidate. This panel reviews the submitted paperwork, endorsements, and evaluations to ensure the candidate meets all prerequisite qualifications. In some circumstances, oral boards are also utilized to evaluate the candidate. In 2024, a total of 42 oral board / review panels were conducted to fill operational needs. The Human Resources Unit extends a sincere thank you to the dozens of Delaware State Police employees and retirees who continue to actively recruit, test, investigate, and hire future generations of Troopers.

Information Technology Section - Mr. James Cashnelli



The Information Technology Section is comprised of 5 Teams - Helpdesk, Network Operations, Applications Support/Programming, Mobile Technologies and Digital Evidence. There are 32 full-time employees, 6 casual-seasonal employee and 3 contracted hires, all civilians, working for DSP IT.

IT is organized into 2 areas of expertise - End User Services and Infrastructure Services. End User Services, managed by Marissa Warren, consists of the Help Desk, Digital Evidence Support and the Mobile Tech Team. Infrastructure Services, managed by Ken Allen, consists of the Network Operations Team and Applications Support Team. Jim Cashnelli oversees the entire IT section, serving as the Director of IT for

DSP.

End User Services is comprised of 3 teams. The first team is the Helpdesk, which consists of 2 full time employees, 3 casual-seasonal employees and one contracted employee. There are 2 vacant casual/seasonal positions at the time of this report. The contracted position is also currently vacant. The second team is the Mobile Technologies team. This team is comprised of 2 full time employees and 3 casual/seasonal employees. All of the casual/seasonal positions for this team are vacant at the time of this report. The third team is Digital Evidence, which consist of 15 full time employees and 2 Supervisors that are split into two groups. The first group supports Digital Evidence for DSP and falls under Ryan Smith as the Supervisor. The second group supports Digital Evidence for municipalities that fall under OSEC. Paul Cookson is the supervisor for this group.

The Network Operations team is comprised of 5 full time employees and one contracted employee.

The Applications Support/Programming team is comprised of 3 full time employees, one contracted position and one casual/seasonal position.

Ken Allen, Marissa Warren, and Jim Cashnelli comprise the Leadership team for IT.

In 2024, IT completed 28 projects, closed out 3681 support tickets and processed 11,003 digital evidence requests. Digital evidence requests increased 14.45% from 2023 while support tickets increased 9.2% the same period. Completed projects for 2024 include Windows 11 rollouts, numerous server migrations and upgrades, Axon Performance Pilot, Axon in-car retro fits, refresh of the Isilon file storage system, and the upgrade/refresh of the DSP RMS servers.

IT has several key initiatives for 2024. There are several Axon related initiatives coming up including continued testing of Axon Performance, migration of legacy in-car data to Evidence.com and, migration of Photo Evidence Pro data to Evidence.com. There are also numerous server hardware refreshes and PC refreshes upcoming over the next few months. We will also be refreshing our virtual desktop environment in 2024 and we will continue to work with SBI and other state agencies to coordinate the upgrade of our AFIS system. This was started in 2023 and will continue to be a major system hardware and software refresh requiring coordination between multiple agencies. The initiative is anticipated to be completed in June of 2025.

Technology continues to be more and more complex and new technologies allow for new ways to assist law enforcement in performing their jobs safely and professionally. As these technologies mature and become available for everyday use, IT will be tasked with integrating them into effective solutions that will enhance the Division's ability to keep Delaware's population and our Troopers safe. This will occur thanks the efforts of the men and women of DSP IT who regularly go above and beyond to make sure all the Division's IT needs are met as quickly and seamlessly as possible, thus, allowing the Division to focus on its primary responsibility of Law Enforcement.

K-9 - Master Corporal Michael Cahall



The Delaware State Police K-9 unit was initially established in 1925. By the late 1950's, the program proved to be such an asset to the Division growth and expansion was inevitable. Today, the section is housed on the grounds of the Delaware State Police Headquarters complex located in Dover, DE. The unit is under the direction of senior trainer Cpl/3 Michael Cahall and Cpl/3 William Brennan. Cpl/3 Cahall and Cpl/3 Brennan are responsible for conducting monthly update training and annual recertification for 29 DSP K9 teams and 11 Municipal K9 teams. Members of the K-9 section are instrumental in providing a myriad of services, including drug enforcement, search and rescue, fugitive apprehension, explosive recognition, and public relations.

To date, the DSP K-9 units (29) handlers are comprised of the following training disciplines:

- Dual Purpose Patrol / Explosive K-9 Teams: 6
- Dual Purpose Patrol / Narcotics K-9 Teams: 10
- Single Purpose Explosive K-9 Teams: 6
- Single Purpose Narcotics K-9 Teams: 3
- Single Purpose Patrol: 4

During 2024, several K9 teams participated in training courses to stay up to date with current trends and best practices. All K9 teams completed the National Police Canine Association (NPCA) Certifications: National Police Canine Association certifications for Patrol / Explosive K9 teams - 05/13/24 through 05/16/24 and National Police Canine Association certifications for Patrol / Narcotics K9 teams - 05/20/24 through 05/23/24.

Along with their normal duties and responsibilities, K9 Troopers and their partners responded up and down the state for a variety of special events to assist not only local and state agencies, but Federal agencies as well. Here are a few of the more notable events; Dover Downs NASCAR race, Delaware State Fair, DSU Homecoming, Wilmington Train Station Amtrak Detail for Homeland Security, President Biden's Motorcade and Return's Day.

The DSP K-9 unit anxiously awaits the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead in 2025. Through training and on-going self-assessment, the section will continue to meet and exceed the expectations of the citizens and visitors of the state by providing unparalleled police service.

Legal Section - Mr. Joseph Handlon, Deputy Attorney General

Starting in 2023, the Legal Section comprises a total of three Deputy Attorneys General and a Division paralegal. One Deputy provides advice, generally, to the Division, while the other two Deputies assist the State Bureau of Identification (SBI). The paralegal assists the Deputies, primarily as the Freedom of Information Act Coordinator (FOIA), responding to FOIA requests, and also with respect to responding to civil subpoenas served upon the Division and its members.

A Deputy Attorney General assists the Office of Professional Responsibility in prosecuting disciplinary matters before Trial Boards and, where needed, with its investigations and case reviews. The Deputy also represents Internal Affairs in any disciplinary appeals to the Department of Safety and Homeland Secretary. Another Deputy may be assigned to represent and assist Trial Boards.

The Deputies review and draft legislation. They review and provide advice on contracts and Division policies and also assist in writing new policies. A Deputy advises Human Resource on a variety of federal and state matters, including issues arising under the Fair Labor Standards Act, Family Medical Leave Act, Uniformed Services Employment and Re-Employment Rights Act, Americans with Disabilities Act, and federal and state anti-discrimination laws. One of the Deputies assists Human Resources in responding to charges of discrimination filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and Delaware Department of Labor. That Deputy also provides general advice on a wide range of topics to all the Division's sections and units.

The Deputies assigned to SBI provide advice on the recently-enacted Clean Slate bill and the Firearm Transaction Approval Program. Those deputies also provide a wide range of advice on all matters affecting SBI, including the Sex Offender Registry, expungements, and issues involving Professional Licensing.

The Deputies provide various training, including Crisis Intervention Training, use-of-force training and other in-service training. The Deputies assist with litigation against the Division.

A Deputy assigned to the Division also acts as counsel to the recently created Police Officer Standards and Training Commission (formerly the Council on Police Training). Assistance is also provided to the Board of Examiners of Constables, the Board of Examiners of Private Investigators and Private Security Agencies, and Bail Enforcement Agents.

With respect to Freedom of Information Act requests and civil subpoenas, the Deputy Attorneys General are assisted by the Division's Paralegal and FOIA Coordinator. The Paralegal/Coordinator serves an essential function in facilitating FOIA requests and subpoena responses.

Legislative Liaison - Sergeant Michael Ripple

The Division remained active with the legislature throughout the second half of the 152nd General Assembly, working closely with various stakeholders on legislative priorities. One important piece of legislation focused on the Civil Asset Forfeiture Program under both Title 11 and 16 of the Delaware Code. Initially, the Assembly looked to move all asset forfeitures into the General Fund and, thus, divert the monies from SLEAF funding. DSP worked closely with the bill sponsor, Representative Kim Williams, to modify the burden of proof requirement in such cases requiring the State to prove the nexus for the seizure to a criminal act. However, and more importantly, DSP successfully convinced the Assembly to remove the General Funding provision and maintain the present system for the transfer of seized assets into SLEAF.

Otherwise, DSP worked with the Assembly on several firearm or firearm-related bills to include new requirements on the sale of ammunition, weapon possession in school zones, and the new definition of “firearm” which aligned Delaware closely with the Federal definition. These bills built on the recent enactment of the Firearms Transaction Approval Program as significant areas of focus for the legislature.

The Legislative Liaison continues to work closely with the Office of the Secretary for Homeland Security during the upcoming leadership transition. In doing so, this section would like to thank the outgoing Secretary, Nathaniel McQueen, for his guidance and dedication to the Division throughout the 152nd General Assembly.

Mounted Patrol Unit - Sergeant Alison Meadows



The Delaware State Police Mounted Patrol Unit (DSP MPU) is a division of the Delaware State Police Special Operations Unit. The unit was established in July 2012 and its efforts are coordinated by NCOIC Sergeant Alison Meadows and Cpl/2 Andrew W. Jones. The MPU honors requests for service throughout Delaware in areas of community outreach, crowd management at specialized events, conducting state-wide patrols and terrain searches for missing persons or evidence. The additional police presence in this capacity captures the attention of residents and citizens of all ages, ultimately improving relationships based on trust. In 2024, the unit honored over 130 requests for service throughout Delaware.

The MPU's mission is to augment and enhance the traditional function of the Delaware State Police during public events and specialized patrol activities, as well as pay formal respect to fallen comrades. Participation in the MPU is a collateral assignment to the Troopers' regular duty. The unit currently consists of eight draft horses, eight field riders and two full time Troopers. The draft horses trained and utilized by the DSP MPU consist of diverse breeds and sizes. The weight of the DSP's horses ranges from 1,600 to 2,250 pounds and stand 17.0 hands tall (approximately 5'8" at the shoulder) to 19.0 hands tall (approximately 6'3" at the shoulder.) While quite large in stature, our "gentle giant" horses help diminish barriers in our communities by inviting community interaction and communication with their presence.

In February, the Unit assisted Rehoboth Beach Police Department with patrol during the Special Olympics Polar Bear Plunge in Lewes. March yielded an appearance at the Milton's St. Patrick's Day Parade as well as assisting the Delaware State Police Training Academy Staff with welcoming the newest Recruits on Day One. In April, the unit honored several requests for demonstrations and community outreach initiatives were honored in our schools, neighborhoods, and businesses throughout the state.

In May the MPU supplemented patrol at Winterthur's Point to Point races, as well as attended Delaware's Police Memorial Service in Dover. Moreover, the MPU represented the DSP in Washington D.C. during National Police Memorial Week, honoring those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. As May led into June, the unit expanded its' state-wide demonstrations and patrols to our schools and neighborhoods. These patrols focus on community outreach wherein the presence of the horses break down barriers, creating curiosity among residents and invite interaction and open dialogue. On various occasions during these patrols, the unit either received pertinent criminal intelligence from citizens or responded and handled incoming 911 calls. Any relevant information received by the MPU was turned over to respective DSP investigators for further follow up. In July, the unit also supplemented patrols for Rehoboth and Bethany Beach Police Departments during the Fourth of July celebrations. The unit further conducted patrols during the Delaware State Fair for ten days. Visits to Camp Barnes in August proved to be a highlight for both the horses and camp goers.

As the Fall approached, the MPU conducted patrols at various High School Football games in New Castle and Kent Counties and patrolled the Sea Witch Festival in Rehoboth Beach. In November, four Field Riders accompanied Sergeant Meadows and Cpl/2 Jones to a five-day, multi-agency tactical training initiative along with their respective mounts. This training seminar was hosted by the Cape May County Sheriff's Office.

Also, during this past fall, four Delaware State Troopers participated in a sixteen-hour introductory course on the function of Mounted Patrol Procedures, conducted at the DSP Barn, and instructed by the MPU staff. Areas of instruction included equitation, stimulus training, patrol/arrest procedures, formations, and terrain searches. This course services as a prerequisite requirement for a Trooper desiring to try out for the Mounted Patrol Unit when openings arise. Closing out the year, the unit augmented patrols of the exterior lot at the Christiana Mall throughout the holiday season and assisted with various calls for service.

The members of the mounted patrol unit honorably provide professional, competent, and compassionate law enforcement services for the citizens and visitors of Delaware. We also proudly augment and enhance the traditional function of the Delaware State Police during public events and specialized operational activities in this unique capacity. The MPU looks forward to 2025 by continuing to provide professional, competent, and compassionate law enforcement services to our communities and business districts.

Office of Professional Responsibility - Captain William Thompson

The citizens of Delaware hold the Delaware State Police in high regard. Members of the Delaware State Police must set the tone for all law enforcement agencies in our state. The public expects members of our agency to act with honor, integrity, reliability, and trustworthiness. To accomplish and maintain the esteem placed upon its members, Delaware State Troopers must acknowledge, uphold, and revere the core values of the Delaware State Police: Honor, Integrity, Courage, Loyalty, Attitude, Discipline and Service.

The citizens we serve have an expectation that those who are vested with the responsibility of enforcing the laws of this state, as well as civilian employees, will hold fast to the standards of professional and individual conduct to preserve the respect, confidence, and cooperation of society.

The public image of the Delaware State Police is, to a large degree, determined by the way the Office of Professional Responsibility responds to allegations of misconduct of its employees. The Office of Professional Responsibility is an essential function designed to maintain professional conduct, integrity, and discipline of each employee. The office is responsible for investigating allegations of misconduct and conducting investigations to ensure compliance with Divisional rules and regulations and the Code of Ethics. The Office of Professional Responsibility is readily accessible to citizens via telephone, letter, Internet or in person. In 2024, Captain William Thompson, Lieutenant Dermot Alexander, Lieutenant Joshua Scaramazza, Sergeant William Harris and Mrs. Stephanie Sanchez were assigned to the office.

In addition to its primary duties, the Office of Professional Responsibility maintains an active role in training supervisors and recruits. Supervisors are instructed on the proper handling of citizen complaints and investigative protocol in accordance with the Police Officers' Due Process, Accountability, and Transparency Law. Recruits are also acquainted with the function of the unit, including an overview of rules, regulations, and job performance standards.

In 2024, the Office of Professional Responsibility investigated 37 citizen's complaints and 25 administrative complaints.

Office of Strategic Development (OSD) - Captain Lance Skinner

In 2024, the Office of Strategic Development (OSD) continued to play an important role in the overall operation of the Division as it conducted analysis of agency policies and procedures where annual, monthly, and quarterly reports were generated because of these analyses.

The Office of Strategic Development (OSD) Section unit was led by Captain Lance Skinner who worked to maintain a cohesive group who were focused on their mission and goals.

The Office of Strategic Development (OSD) Section consists of three distinct work groups within, namely Community Engagement Unit, Staff Inspections and Accreditation and Planning and Research. This section continued reporting directly to the Deputy Superintendent while providing support throughout the year to the Executive Staff, as well as a variety of organizations within and outside the Division for use in making informed decisions regarding the allocation of personnel and material resources, budgetary requests, allocations, and policy decisions regarding the operation of the Division.

Community Engagement Unit

In 2024, the Community Engagement Unit continued to provide meaningful engagement to the citizens of the First State. The Unit is under the supervision of Sergeant Nicholas DeMalto, Master Corporal Alfonso Jones III, Senior Corporal Patrick Jackson and Senior Corporal Mark Malloy.

The Delaware State Police believes that building partnerships and relationships with stakeholders throughout the State is vital to our organization's success. Whether the stakeholders represent communities, industry, or faith-based organizations it is critical that the

Division and its members build strong alliances with those who support us as well as those who will offer honest feedback and, if necessary, criticism of the organization in the hopes of making it better.

Since the Unit's inception in 2015, Unit members have consistently strived to not only build relationships but to also maintain them. The Unit has developed long-standing, symbiotic relationships with members of the community who have similar goals.

In 2024, the Unit continued to lead several programs that were paused due to the COVID-19 pandemic, including the Trooper Youth Program. This program exposes high-school aged youth with direct exposure to the Division and provides service opportunities to needy families and the community. Additionally, the Police Accountability Committee was established. These members of the community are given an opportunity to provide feedback and recommendations on policies and procedures within the Delaware State Police to better serve transparency to the citizens of Delaware. During the Fall, the Community Engagement Unit also held a seven-week Citizen's Police Academy in Kent County with twenty-one graduates. In 2024; the Community Engagement Unit participated in nearly 800 community contacts.

The Honorary Commander Program also welcomed fourteen new members for 2024:

Mr. Ed Mulvihill - Troop 1
Pastor Chris Akhimien - Troop 2
Mr. Dave Betts - Troop 2 CIU
Mr. Michael Fennemore - Troop 3
Mr. James Hitchens - Troop 4
Mr. Robert Carey - Troop 5
Mr. Steven Chambliss - Troop 6
Mr. Jacques Bowe - Troop 7
Dr. Edmond Gurdo - Troop 9
Mr. Chris Hainsworth - Aviation Section
Mr. David Repass - Academy
Mr. Todd Culotta - Office of Strategic Development
Mr. Danny Aguilar - State Bureau of Identification
Mr. Michael Rivera - Traffic Section
Mr. Brian Brubaker - Human Resources

In 2025, the Community Engagement Unit looks to continue to provide services and outreach to the citizens and visitors of Delaware, while developing meaningful relationships through various programs and initiatives.

Staff Inspections and Accreditation Unit

The Inspections and Accreditation Unit is comprised of Sergeant William Nottingham and Master Corporal Patricia Sennet-Wysock.

The Unit's primary responsibility is to assure that the Division's policies and procedures comply with the roughly 1,500, very specific, standards established by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). CALEA was formed to establish a body of standards designed to promote "best practices" in policing. In addition, the commission was formed to develop an accreditation process that provides agencies an opportunity to voluntarily demonstrate that they meet an established set of professional standards.

In 1988, the Delaware State Police became the first police agency in Delaware to attain CALEA accreditation. Maintenance of that accreditation is an on-going commitment consisting of a self-assessment, annual reviews by CALEA and a comprehensive on-site assessment by CALEA assessors every four years. During this "Advanced Accreditation" process the Division must demonstrate compliance with all of the standards, at every facility, and be able to prove we have complied with all standards during the previous four years to 'on the ground' assessors.

Sergeant Nottingham and Master Corporal Sennet-Wysock manage the CALEA process by maintaining files and proof for each standard. That involves, in part, the continuous updating of written directives, review of all new policies for compliance and the initiation of Troop, vehicle, and evidence storage locker inspections as required.

In addition to their external collaboration with CALEA, Sergeant Nottingham and Master Corporal Sennet-Wysock are also responsible for maintaining, reviewing, revising/updating, and distributing all Divisional policies and standard operating procedures as needed.

Planning and Research Unit

During the year, Sergeant John Wheatley served as the sole, full-time member of the Planning and Research Unit.

In simple terms, the Planning and Research Unit exists to support the Delaware State Police Executive Staff, whether that be through internal/external research, Divisional policy review/development or event coordination. In 2024, the Planning and Research Unit was able to support a multitude of Divisional events, to include our Divisional Award Ceremony held in March, our annual Memorial Service held in May, and our St. Polycarp Memorial Service in December.

Sergeant Wheatley also managed the Division's long-standing 'Trooper and Civilian Forums.' These forums offer members of the Division with opportunities, on behalf of the larger rank and file, to bring issues of concern directly to the members of the Executive Staff. The overall goals of these forums are to improve the overall effectiveness of the Division while at the same time increasing employee satisfaction. Meetings were held in both April and October.

Sergeant Wheatley also remained active in the State & Provincial Police Planning Officers Section of the International Association of Chiefs of Police during 2024. His involvement in that organization, and others like it, allow the Division to share its successes nationally and allows us to learn from other agencies across the continent.

Sergeant Wheatley was also responsible for generating a year end Citizen Satisfaction Survey. This affords the Executive Staff an opportunity to assess feedback given from members of the public. The report discusses calls for service, safety concerns from the public, and affords citizens the opportunity to rate their experiences with DSP Troopers. This survey, which is made available to any member of the public, is one of the mechanisms that allow the Division to engage in agency-wide self-reflection where necessary.

Lastly, Sergeant Wheatley was also responsible for establishing funding and purchases of the Division's first ever all electric vehicles. The Division is now equipped with two Ford Lightning marked patrol vehicles which are assigned to Community Engagement and Human Resources. Three charging stations were also installed throughout the state.

In conclusion, the members of the Office of Strategic Development Section played an important role in the success of the Delaware State Police in 2024 and look forward to the challenges that will be presented in 2025.

Pipes & Drums - Lieutenant Patrick Stock



The DSP Pipes and Drums currently consists of 8 sworn pipers. The pipers are supplemented by 2 retired members and our civilian instructor Honorary Trooper Mr. Robert Galloway. The drum section consists of 2 sworn tenors, 4 sworn snare drummers, and 1 bass drummer. The drumming section is supplemented by 1 civilian and 1 retired employee. The band continues to grow its ranks after falling from a peak of 27 performers. Currently, the band has 4 troopers learning the pipes as well as 1 trooper learning the snare drum.

The band in 2024 had several distinctive performances. We performed at the Marine Corps Ball, the opening of the summer and fall Special Olympics, 9/11 ceremonies in Pennsylvania and Delaware, funerals for retired members of the Division as well as friends and families of the Delaware State Police. In 2024 the band or its members publicly performed at 90 events.

The band is administered by LT. Patrick Stock. Honorary Trooper Mr. Robert Galloway continues to volunteer as the pipe instructor and our Pipe Major, which he has been since the band's inception in December of 2001.

We are hopeful we can expand and grow our numbers to keep the tradition moving forward. We will continue to serve and represent the Delaware State Police with pride and distinction.

Public Information Office - Lieutenant India Sturgis

Operating 24/7, the Delaware State Police Public Information Office upholds the time-honored tradition of effectively using real-time communication channels to promote transparency, build public trust, and educate the public about DSP's mission.

Lieutenant India Sturgis, Director of the Public Information Office, leads the unit, overseeing daily operations and administrative duties while also serving as the statewide Delaware Amber Alert coordinator. Lt. Sturgis' primary role is to amplify the hard work of DSP troopers and professional staff.

In addition to Lt. Sturgis, the PIO unit is staffed with the following troopers:

- Master Corporal Lewis Briggs III - serves as the primary Sussex and Kent County Public Information Officer (PIO),
- Corporal Grade One Amina Ali - serves as the primary New Castle County PIO, and
- Senior Corporal David Huynh - serves as the Public Affairs Officer by leading the social media, digital photography, and video content for the division.

Beyond their primary public information roles, they actively participate in statewide community service events, including Memorial Services, Sign and Building Dedication Ceremonies, Promotion Ceremonies, Community Engagement Ceremonies, Wreath-Laying Ceremonies, Trooper Youth Week Graduation, and Award Ceremonies.

As a multifaceted unit, the responsibilities of the Public Information Office include:

- Drafting news releases and public service announcements
- Communicating with local, regional, and national media outlets on police-related matters
- Providing internal media relations support, such as interview preparation for DSP personnel
- Hosting and coordinating internal and external events and ceremonies
- Serving as a liaison with other local and federal government agency public relations offices
- Coordinating the statewide Delaware Amber Alert Program
- Serving as the central point of contact to local law enforcement for Delaware Gold Alert Program announcements
- Support and showcase DSP's community engagement efforts
- Engaging with members of the public
- Analyzing data to enhance the division's social media strategy
- Crafting and publishing Nextdoor.com posts tailored to communities to increase public safety awareness
- Crafting and publishing real-time traffic advisories on X
- Creating and maintaining a social media strategy
- Creating and publishing social media posts to address public safety issues, increase recruiting efforts and community engagement efforts
- Attending professional development trainings to ensure the PIO unit continues to stay current on law enforcement brand communication trends
- Providing on-call contact information to divisional personnel and media to facilitate timely communication during critical incidents.

In 2024, the Public Information Office demonstrated remarkable outcomes, disseminating 1022 news releases on the DSP Newsroom and approximately 2,447 posts on Facebook and X.

In 2024, DSP's social media efforts resulted in 10,668,922 impressions, which measures how many times DSP social media posts were displayed on a user's screen. These outcomes highlight the PIO unit's dedication to informing and engaging the community with timely and relevant content. As the public representatives of the Delaware State Police, the Public Information Office commits to representing Troopers with excellence, upholding the pride and tradition embedded in the Delaware State Police since its establishment in 1923.

Purchasing and Supply Section/Graphics Office - Mrs. Kimberly Cuffee

The Purchasing and Supply/Graphic Section aims to provide professional, efficient, and accurate service, supplies, and equipment to all DSP employees and sections. By utilizing State and Federal resources, this section ensures that division members have everything they need for their day-to-day business operations. The section is comprised of five civilians who work together to streamline operations and meet the growing needs of over 1000 employees in the Division. These employees include Kimberly Cuffee - Director and Fiscal Manager, Deborah Dennis - Purchasing Services Coordinator, Robin Semans - Supply Technician, Meghan Caskey - Graphics Artist, and William Wright - Supply and Transportation Clerk.

The section's FY 24 combined budget purchased supplies, equipment, and services for patrol and administrative personnel as well as covered contractual needs during the fiscal year. On the Purchasing and Supply side of the section, some of the responsibilities include reviewing and approving purchases to ensure they meet the state purchasing laws, tracking purchases made using grant funding, reviewing specifications for new contracts, inventory control, ordering necessary supply items; to include patrol related gear and asset management for the division. In addition, this section oversees the division's purchasing cards, reconciling /maintaining budget information, monitoring grant spending, and the distribution of supplies to the various troops and sections. The Purchasing and Supply/ Graphics Sections are also instrumental in supplying the needs of the Academy recruit classes.

The responsibilities of the Graphics Section are continuously changing and expanding to meet the needs of the division. The main tasks of this section include creating and designing printed materials, managing the State Police website, taking identification photos, and various other related duties. By incorporating advanced printing equipment, the division can now produce vehicle graphics internally, resulting in time and cost savings. Combining the Purchasing and Supply and Graphics Sections ensures ongoing access to printing supplies and equipment, enabling a quicker turnaround for printed materials.

The division's Purchasing and Supply/Graphic Sections serve as a central ordering location for municipal departments and state

agencies in the state. By utilizing this section, they can save money and ensure uniformity in the use of reporting forms across all law enforcement agencies. In addition, to maintain fiscal responsibility, the sections regularly conduct cost analysis on stock items, review estimate costs, perform inventory audits, and update the online inventory and assets tracking system. This ensures optimal utilization of allocated funds and accurate equipment inventory. By using strategic sourcing, it enables the section to review and analyze what and how we acquire supplies and services with the objectives of reducing waste and lowering costs to the taxpayers.

Special Operations Response Team (S.O.R.T.) - Sergeant Edwin Justiniano



The Special Operations Response Team (S.O.R.T.) serves as a highly specialized tactical unit within the division, dedicated to responding to a variety of high-risk situations. These operations include, but are not limited to, hostage situations, armed barricade incidents, high-risk warrant executions, tactical vehicle stops, dignitary protection, surveillance support, and other crisis scenarios as deemed appropriate by executive leadership.

In 2024, S.O.R.T. responded to 309 calls for service, representing a 22.6% increase from 2023. This total included 170 tactical missions and 139 dignitary protection assignments. The tactical missions consisted of 130 search warrants, 20 tactical vehicle stops, 10 QRT missions, 5 sniper observer missions, 2 hostage barricade situations, and 3 assists for patrol. These operations were carried out to assist all three drug units, Internet Crimes Against Children, Governor's Task Force, Major Crimes, as well as other units and agencies around the state. Each mission was completed with the highest level of professionalism and dedication, thanks to the team's continuous investment in training, cutting-edge equipment, and operational expertise. The team's success is underpinned by an ongoing commitment to excellence, which is nurtured through rigorous training and practical application of skills in real-world scenarios.

The current S.O.R.T. unit comprises 26 members, including 9 full-time and 17 part-time personnel. The full-time members are responsible for mission planning, threat assessments, outreach activities, and the design and delivery of training curricula. They also play a key role in divisional in-service training and academy-based recruit instruction.

S.O.R.T. continues to foster collaborative relationships with law enforcement agencies both statewide and nationally. In 2024, the team hosted tactical training courses for various county special investigative units, facilitated the first of an annual refresher course for the Governor's Task Force (including DSP, Probation & Parole, and other agencies), and launched a two-day tactics course focusing on exterior movements outside structures. Additionally, the unit conducted a 3-week Basic SWAT Course, instructed patrol shield operations, and provided training on less-lethal impact munitions.

A significant milestone in 2024 was the establishment of a partnership with the FBI Hostage Rescue Team, New Jersey State Police T.E.A.M.S. unit, and the NYPD's Alpha Team. This collaboration has enriched S.O.R.T.'s capabilities, especially in maritime operations, high-angle rappelling, woodland operations, active shooter response, and advanced firearms training. S.O.R.T. members have shared their expertise by providing training to various police agencies, including Dover PD SORT, Newark PD SWAT, and Salem County NJ SWAT.

S.O.R.T.'s primary deployments focused on high-risk warrant executions and violent offender apprehensions, working closely with investigative sections to ensure these operations were resolved safely. Additionally, sniper-observers provided valuable surveillance support for both the Special Investigations Units and Criminal Investigation sections statewide, using advanced optics and night-vision equipment to gather critical intelligence.

In 2024, S.O.R.T. introduced the Special Equipment Operator (SEO) position. Six Troopers were selected to serve as essential support personnel, handling specialized equipment such as the LRAD (Long Range Acoustic Device) and vehicle-mounted ram during critical incidents. This development allowed SORT operators to concentrate on tactical operations, maximizing the team's effectiveness and efficiency.

Since late 2020, the team has been called upon to support the United States Secret Service with tactical assistance for President Biden's movements throughout the state, including operations at his personal residences. This collaboration highlights the team's critical role in high-profile security operations.

Training remains the cornerstone of S.O.R.T.'s success. The team's training regimen is both intensive and comprehensive. Entry teams train three consecutive days each month, totaling 288 hours annually, focusing on advanced firearm proficiency, dynamic entry techniques, live-fire threat assessment, and close-quarters combat skills. Additionally, sniper-observers undergo four consecutive days of training each month, accumulating 384 training hours annually. These training hours ensure S.O.R.T. is always prepared for the diverse and unpredictable challenges faced in the field.

S.O.R.T. also cross-trains with the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team, specializing in explosive breaching, IED identification, robotic operations, and other advanced tactical skills. This multi-disciplinary approach enhances the team's overall capability in responding to complex and high-stakes scenarios.

S.O.R.T.'s operational tempo in 2024 was consistent with the demands faced by full-time special operations teams across the nation. With 2025 on the horizon, the team anticipates continued high levels of activity. Regardless of the challenges ahead, S.O.R.T. remains committed to its mission of delivering tactical support with unwavering enthusiasm, dedication, and professionalism. Guided by the motto, "Everybody In...Everybody Out," the team will continue to conduct training and operations with the goal of ensuring the safety and success of every mission.

State Bureau of Identification - Captain Kristin Willard

Captain Kristin Willard serves as the State Bureau of Identification (SBI) Director, while Lisa Voss served as Assistant Director until her retirement November 1, 2024. Lieutenant Christopher Popp serves as the Deputy Director of the Firearm Transaction Approval Program (FTAP). Lieutenant Lee Weller serves as Deputy Director of the Professional Licensing Section and Sex Offender Apprehension and Registration Unit.

SBI provides the state with a central repository for collecting and accurately organizing criminal arrest records, crime reports, missing person reports, firearms transaction approvals, among other duties. The SBI Leadership, along with troopers and professional staff, work in the following separate but interrelated sections: Expungement, Clean Slate, Criminal History, Biometrics, Front Desk, Professional Licensing, Quality Control, Sex Offender Apprehension and Registration (SOAR), and Firearm Transaction Approval Program (FTAP).

SBI offices are located at:

- Main office: 600 S. Bay Road, Suite 1, Dover
- Satellite office South: Thurman Adams Center, 546 S. Bedford Street, Georgetown
- 12 partner locations throughout the state

Mrs. Crystal Brooks supervises the Expungement Section, which is the starting point for all adult and juvenile expungement and pardon requests. The review of expungement requests determines if they can be completed at SBI or referred to the appropriate court for further consideration. In 2024, the Expungement Section processed 4,280 expungement histories; 656 immediate orders; 1,093 mandatory expungement orders; 606 pardon processes; 115 commutation processes; and 95 juvenile orders.

Ms. Charlene Young supervises the Clean Slate section. This is a newly legislated position that became effective August 1, 2024. Clean Slate expunges eligible cases from an adult or juvenile's criminal history pursuant to legislation. DELJIS provides an updated list of eligible cases to SBI on a monthly basis. Clean Slate employees manually review each eligible case to ensure it is eligible under the legislation. There have been 1,314 eligible cases expunged since the unit was launched.

Mr. Doug Hegman supervises the Criminal History Section, which is responsible for the research and completion of criminal history background checks for employment and other purposes. This section processed 84,925 criminal history requests in 2024.

Mr. Anthony DiNardo supervises the Biometrics Unit, which is responsible for maintaining and overseeing the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) and Biometrics for all of Delaware's law enforcement. The section is also responsible for maintaining fingerprint records on arrested criminals and applicants whose intended employment requires criminal history checks. The unit processed 69,055 ten-print cards and conducted comparisons on 3,360 criminal summonses in 2024. 1,001 latent print cases were analyzed, resulting in 1,077 positive hits. Utilizing advanced fingerprint analysis algorithms 634 unsolved latent print cases were identified. Our Facial Recognition Experts fielded 1,553 cases involving photo-facial analysis resulting in 510 investigative leads.

Ms. DeAndria Morris supervises Front Desk Operations at both SBI locations. Employees provided fingerprinting services to over 90,000 customers requesting criminal history background documentation for various professions and expungement requests in 2024.

Sergeant Heather Pepper and Mr. Frank Kaleta supervise the Professional Licensing Section. Employees assigned to this section are responsible for the licensing and monitoring of private security agencies and their employees, private investigative agencies and their employees, security system and protective services agencies and their employees, non-state constables, bail enforcement agents, pawn brokers, scrap metal processors, and secondhand dealers. The section monitored 677 companies and 7,126 licensed employees in 2024. This data includes 1,669 alarm employees, 325 armored car guards, 71 bail enforcement agents, 410 constables, 341 private investigators, 3,902 security guards, and 240 HR 218 Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act permit holders. Professional Licensing is also required to monitor the automated pawn industry, second-hand dealer, and scrap metal information database.

Ms. Cheryl Jones supervises the Quality Control Section. Employees are responsible for the quality control review of crime reports for the majority of Delaware's law enforcement agencies. The review aims to ensure proper coding for reporting purposes to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Once this section has completed its examination, incidents are documented as criminal occurrences for statistical and crime-tracking purposes. 65,230 crime reports were reviewed and approved by this section in 2024.

Sergeant Dana Berry supervises the Sex Offender Apprehension and Registration Unit (SOAR). The SOAR unit is responsible for registering and tracking sex offenders as required by the Delaware Sex Offender Registry Law (Megan's Law). Currently, 4,73 individuals are registered as sex offenders in the State of Delaware. The sworn detectives are assigned to conduct criminal investigations of offenders who fail to follow Delaware's Megan's Law requirements and conduct notifications for all registrants residing in State Police jurisdiction. This investigative unit performed 893 Megan Law notifications and conducted 990 sex offender related criminal investigations.

Lt Christopher Popp oversees the Firearms Transaction Approval Program (FTAP) which is a newly legislated unit. From July to December, detectives conducted 77 investigations which resulted in 38 Felony and 39 Misdemeanor arrests. They also seized 12 illegal firearms. It is anticipated the unit will be fully operational in the first quarter of 2025.

The State Bureau of Identification will continue to focus on providing the best possible service to Delaware's citizens and law enforcement agencies.

Tactical Control Unit - Lieutenant Michael Wysock

The Tactical Control Unit (TCU) is currently made up of 40 sworn Troopers who staff the Unit on a part-time basis in addition to their regular duties. The mission of TCU is to provide the Division with a trained response to mass protest events, civil disturbances, labor strikes, mass arrest events and to provide an added police presence at large scale events throughout the state. TCU is also responsible for providing security for any CDC Strategic National Stockpile deployments.

The Tactical Control Unit trains monthly in tactical formations, cordon operations, delivery of chemical and less-lethal munitions, and specified security details for large events. Training also consists of qualifying with all Divisionally issued firearms after donning gas masks and other issued protective equipment. During 2024, TCU conducted specialized training for the Delaware Air National Guard 166th Airlift unit, New Castle City Police, and Wilmington Police. Throughout, 2024 TCU, SORT and MPU continued to integrate all units into one functioning unit during times of need. This integration has enhanced the capabilities and mission effectiveness of all three teams.

During 2024, TCU was deployed a total of 18 times across the state. These deployments included providing security at several large events and protests. One activation of significance is deploying to Presidential Quad Summit at Archmere Academy. By forging partnerships and embracing available training opportunities, TCU members remain focused on excelling in a continually challenging environment.

Traffic Operations - Captain Michael Reader

With 17 troopers and thirteen civilian employees, the Delaware State Police Traffic Operation Section (TOS) performed an array of diverse functions with the overall mission to reduce motor vehicle collisions. Led by Captain Mike Reader and Lt. Mike Wysock, the traffic section's personnel coordinate divisional traffic enforcement while conducting statewide crash recordkeeping. The section also provided proactive and reactive enforcement using the Commercial Motor Vehicle Enforcement Unit (CMVEU). The Traffic Section's ability to enforce rules of the road and aid the motoring public was enhanced in March 2024 by the creation of the newly formed Highway Patrol Unit. Sgt. Mike McCann was selected as the NCOIC with the primary mission to impact driving behavior through enforcement, education, and engineering with the end goal of collision reduction to promote safe and responsible driving behavior. The results of this newly formed unit have been nothing short of spectacular with a marked and noticeable visibility presence on our roadways. The expansion of the Highway Safety Unit will only increase our commitment to highway safety.

There was a 9% reduction in fatal crashes on Delaware Roadways in 2024. This decrease was in large part to the overall enforcement and collective efforts of our Troopers. Fatal crashes in Delaware resulted in the deaths of 130 people in 125 crashes in 2024. The inputting and tracking of all fatal crashes were completed by the traffic sections Administrative Specialist/FARS Analyst Michelle Koprowski. Her commitment to timely entries and follow up requests was a direct result of the Traffic Section being recognized as the "Gold Standard" in fatal crash investigations by our Federal Partners. All requests for traffic collision reports were handled by the sections data entry technicians, Cathy Brown and Amy Warfield. In 2024 they processed and responded to over 20,000 report requests providing copies to the public, attorneys, insurance companies and others.

The Delaware State Police participated in numerous traffic enforcement campaigns, many of which were funded through Delaware's Office of Highway Safety (OHS). Additionally, the TOS specifically targeted crash producing behaviors, via weekly and monthly traffic action plans. All eight patrol troops implemented their monthly action plan based on collision trends, dangerous driving behavior, and citizen complaints, specific to each troop's area of responsibility. The OHS also assisted with DUI, Aggressive Driving, Child Restraint, Pedestrian, Motorcycle, and Seatbelt violation enforcement funding. These initiatives focused on holidays, summer months, special events and identified problem locations.

The Electronic Red Light Safety Program (ERLSP) began operations in February of 2004. It has been another integral part of enforcement for intersection safety across the state. The ERLSP technicians mitigate the results of red-light violators captured on camera at various intersections throughout the state and represent the Delaware State Police in court to prosecute violations. The formation of the Electronic Speed Safety Program began in January 2024 to provide an additional layer of enforcement to active construction zones on high speed and high traveled roadways. With the ongoing road construction occurring in the State, this unit was developed in partnership with DelDOT and utilizes state of the art technology to record speeding vehicles in active construction zones.

Commercial vehicle safety is another mission of the Traffic Operations Section. The Commercial Motor Vehicle Enforcement Unit (CMVEU) personnel work jointly toward efforts in height, weight, length enforcement as well as Motor Carrier Safety regarding both moving violations and infractions found during commercial vehicle inspections. Personnel are responsible for the operation of the U.S. 13 Blackbird and RT 301 weigh facilities. They also utilize portable scales to conduct commercial vehicle weight checks and ensure size regulation adherence throughout the state. In conjunction with DelDOT, Virtual Weigh Stations, which include Weigh in Motion Sensors, LPR systems, DOT readers and over-height sensors, have been installed at each of the weigh stations. These technologies dramatically increase the number of commercial motor vehicles that can be screened at the weigh stations and increases the efficiency of truck enforcement operations. In addition, a Virtual Weigh Station has been installed on Rt. 1 n/b prior to the Blackbird Weigh Station, to detect commercial motor vehicles that may be in violation and to direct them to the scale house for further screening. An additional virtual weigh station with the capability to be monitored remotely is located on Warwick Rd in Middletown. CMVEU personnel conduct inspections of commercial vehicles and their operators at various locations throughout the state and at the Division's two weigh facilities.

Training Academy - Captain Kerry Reinbold



The Delaware State Police Training Academy, nestled within the Headquarters complex in Dover, stands as the state's only residential police training facility. This iconic building, established in 1969, continues to be a cornerstone of law enforcement excellence 56 years later. Every trooper who walks through its halls experiences a profound "first impression" that sets the tone for their career. For uniformed personnel, the Academy holds a special place of reverence and pride. Its operations also include the Firearms Training Unit/Facility located north of Smyrna.

2024 Training Academy Staff

The success of the Academy hinges on its dedicated team of professionals who bring unparalleled expertise to the table: Lacey Neeld (Administrative Specialist), Mr. James Howard (Culinary Specialist), Master Corporal Larry Walther (T.A.C. Trooper), Master Corporal Donald Kukan (T.A.C. Trooper), Sergeant Brett Cordrey (Senior T.A.C. Trooper), Lieutenant Edward Larney (Assistant Director of Training) and Captain Kerry Bruce Reinbold (Director of Training).

Training Accomplishments

In 2024, the Academy played a pivotal role in shaping the next generation of law enforcement professionals. Seventy-eight men and women completed rigorous training through the 101st DSP/97th Municipal Class (graduated February 22, 2024), the 102nd DSP/98th Municipal Class (graduated August 22, 2024), and the 103rd DSP/99th Municipal Class, set to graduate on February 20, 2025. These recruits, representing both the Delaware State Police and allied agencies statewide, navigated over 1,400 hours of intensive training.

Beyond recruit training, the Academy staff demonstrated exceptional commitment to the ongoing development of sworn and civilian personnel. They delivered 80 elective courses addressing the evolving challenges of modern law enforcement, ensuring meaningful and impactful training opportunities. In total, the Academy trained an impressive 1,907 police students in 2024.

Firearms Training Unit Highlights

The Firearms Training Unit (FTU), another critical division of the Academy, comprised the following skilled instructors in 2024: The 2024 Firearms Training Unit Staff consisted of Master Corporal Jeffrey Ballinger (Firearms Instructor), Cpl/1 Ray Tartal (Firearms Instructor), Master Corporal David Myers (Firearms Instructor), Sergeant Phil Kebles (Senior Firearms Instructor) and Lieutenant Scott Slover (F.T.U. O.I.C.).

This unit specialized in both foundational and advanced firearms training for recruits and incumbent personnel. They ensured certifications across multiple weapon systems and championed the use of ALERRT principles for active shooter response. The FTU also managed LEOSA (HR 218) qualifications for retired personnel and provided Taser training and recertifications. Notable 2024 programs included force-on-force and de-escalation training, certified firearms instructor courses, and statewide instructor recertifications.

Looking Ahead

The Training Academy and Firearms Training Unit remain steadfast in their mission to deliver professional, relevant, and innovative training. Upholding the Division's Core Values—Honor, Integrity, Courage, Loyalty, Attitude, Discipline, and Service - these teams are poised to carry their passion for excellence into 2025. Their unwavering commitment ensures that Delaware's law enforcement officers are among the best-trained professionals in the world, ready to serve the residents of the First State with distinction.

Transportation - Mr. Jason Webb

The Transportation Section is the largest cost center for the division with an annual budget of \$8.5M, all funds go towards providing and maintaining the Fleet for Delaware State Police Troopers. The Transportation Section is comprised of a Director, Administrative Assistant, and 13 mechanics who are responsible for maintaining and repairing approximately 1000+ vehicles and pieces of equipment. The section was able to hire 2 new mechanics, one starting in March and the other starting in September. We are currently working on adding a Mechanic Supervisor to the section as well. Also, there were 2 mechanics out for extended periods during periods of 2024 calendar year due to injury. Even with the shortages in staffing, the Transportation Section worked diligently to keep the fleet safe and operational.

The Transportation section is responsible for testing and evaluating vehicles and vehicle related equipment, upfitting all vehicles, and scheduling and conducting 4000-mile preventive maintenance service/inspections. This service includes repairing and replacing vehicle components as needed and ordering all parts as necessary. Under the Director, the employees also oversee fuel tanks at each troop as per EPA/DNREC requirements, coordinate repairs, order and receive all new vehicles and decommission/strip old vehicles going to the state public auction.

Due to some ongoing supply chain issues, there have been delays in obtaining equipment and parts. In some cases, this has caused vehicles to be down and out of service longer than expected. This has affected vehicles being repaired in-house and external repairs, including body repairs due to departmental accidents, warranty repairs and recalls.

Additionally, this has also caused delays with upfitting and deploying new vehicles. DSP did not receive vehicles for almost 2 years due to the Covid pandemic. This has resulted in vehicles being left on patrol for a longer period of time, requiring more maintenance with a reduced staff. Staffing issues at Div Com and upfitting vendors have also caused delays in new vehicles being upfit and put into service.

Transportation maintains a strong working relationship with outside vendors as well as with other state agencies (i.e. Division of Communications). Working in unison with all, Transportation continues to maintain the fleet and replace as many vehicles as possible to provide the safest operational fleet possible.

Underwater Recovery Team (Formerly SCUBA Unit) - Master Corporal Brian Greene

The Delaware State Police SCUBA Unit currently consists of 16 Troopers (11 divers, 5 tender/sonar operators) throughout the state. The unit's primary responsibility is to support the Delaware State Police with search and recovery missions involving aquatic environments. Each member of the unit is a graduate of the United States Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center in Panama City Beach, Florida. The SCUBA Unit had a total of 23 official callouts during the 2024 year. Some of the highlights of 2024 included evidence recoveries (cellphones, weapons) for multiple Troops in both the Southern and Northern parts of the state as well as multiple vehicle recoveries ranging from automobile accidents to stolen vehicle recoveries. Delaware State Police divers were also called upon by multiple Federal agencies including Homeland Security Investigations and U.S Customs to assist with large scale narcotics investigations and recoveries.

The SCUBA Unit continues to train and utilize the newest equipment and techniques in performing their duties. Each fall, the unit conducts deep water diving in Alexandria Bay, New York with the New York State Police. Members work alongside New York Troopers as well as Troopers from surrounding states (Rhode Island, Maine, Vermont, Maryland, New Jersey) taking part in deep-water body and vehicle recovery. Unit members also attend the New York State Police Ice Diving Certification course in Albany, New York. Unit members conducted 5 days of under ice diving to become familiar with the dangers and challenges of ice diving. Members also performed above ice rescue operations and cold-water survival.

The SCUBA Unit continues to advance in the use of surfaced supplied diving. The SCUBA Team currently has a total of three Kirby Morgan KM37SS Dive Helmets in rotation and have become efficient in both their use and maintenance. The Delaware State Police SCUBA Unit currently has four members that are certified through Divelab located in Panama City Beach, Florida. These four technicians are certified in the proper technique and skills needed to break down and rebuild the Kirby Morgan Dive Helmet. The use of this equipment in various evolutions provides both efficiency as well as safety to the divers.

The unit continues to provide services to both the citizens of the State of Delaware as well as fellow law enforcement agencies. The SCUBA Unit continues to provide water survival classes to both State Police recruits as well as local municipal agencies in the State Police Academy. The unit also supports the State Police Special Operations Response Team in both their initial testing as well as their preparation course. In the summer of 2024, the Delaware State Police SCUBA Unit grouped with the State Police K9 Section to introduce the division's K-9's to the maritime and aquatic environments. State Police K-9's and their partners were deployed from vessels into varying aquatic situations to familiarize themselves with the challenges of water apprehensions. The SCUBA Unit also continues to provide rescue swimmers for the Lewes Polar Bear Plunge, which raises funds for the Delaware Special Olympics.

Early in 2024, the unit started the process of changing both the name and uniform pin of the team to better accommodate all aspects of our dive program. With the introduction of our Tender/Sonar Operations members the unit decided to move to URT (Underwater Recovery Team). With the use of surfaced supplied and the addition of various forms of sonar and ROV, the unit felt this was a better representation of the actual work performed every day. The new uniform pin our URT Divers will wear maintains the military background and tradition while focusing on new technology and equipment. The custom pin blends the best of both worlds.

The URT also welcomed its newest member to the unit, graduating from Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center class 25-20-SC in December. Training consists of 6 weeks of grueling training with U.S Navy Divers and will return to the State of Delaware ready to continue gaining experience and knowledge in all areas of public safety diving.

The URT looks forward to the challenges ahead in 2025 and will continue to train and evolve in the field of diving and recovery. URT members are committed to their practice and remain confident in their abilities to respond and successfully complete all missions.

Victim Services Section - Mrs. Veronica Colombo

The Victim Services Section is responsible for providing quality service to the citizens of Delaware, as well as visitors to our state, who may become a victim of crime or to those who have lost a loved one due to a sudden tragic death. The services may be in the form of crisis intervention, information and/or referrals. Our unit provides assistance to cases within the Delaware State Police jurisdiction as well as to over 35 other municipal departments throughout the state (Delaware Victim Center).

In 2024, the unit held steady in providing services to 3,815 unduplicated clients. All cases are provided with contact for up to one year and sometimes beyond. The services included immediate response to crime scenes, follow up contacts, information, and referral for appropriate resources.

The Victim Services Specialists continue to be a tremendous asset to the Division of State Police as well as the citizens and visitors of our state who enter our criminal justice system by issues beyond their control. The unit is under the direction of Veronica Colombo, with the help of Assistant Coordinator, Nancy Will, both located at Headquarters. Located at various offices throughout the state, our advocates include Nina Brown, Mayra Cruz-Chavez, Angela Brown, Sabdi Bull, Micheline Scott and Bi-lingual advocate Viviane Sanchez. Viviane provides direct service and support to cases which have been identified as high risk and/or underserved such as human trafficking, homicide, hate crimes, overdose deaths etc. Ms. Rebekah Lee is the Administrative Specialist, at Headquarters, providing supportive services to all advocates statewide as well as crisis services through answering our 24-hour toll-free hotline. Also in 2024, we welcomed a new advocate, Olivia Dickey who will work from Troop 6. Rebekah Lee has taken a new position within the State Police but continues to provide much needed support until a replacement can be found. Rebekah will be missed.

The Victim Specialists are in an "on call rotation" to respond to requests for service 24 hours a day. The Specialists are available to respond to crime scenes, hospitals, homes, court hearings and/or to provide support by telephone. The unit also operates a 24-hour toll free hotline. In addition to the civilian staff, approximately 25 sworn members of the division (School Resource Officers) are cross trained to assist with victim service "call outs" throughout the state. In 2024, there were 333 requests for immediate assistance or "call outs" with over 14,000 follow up contacts and 824 calls to our hotline.

Beyond the assistance to crime victims, the unit members are often utilized as subject matter experts to provide guidance and input regarding victim related topics including training, policy, legislation and other. They are also actively involved in many committees, task forces and victim related projects such as The Human Trafficking Interagency Council, The High-Risk Domestic Violence Team Pilot Project, Victim Rights Task Force, Domestic Violence Task force and several others.

Members of the Victim Services Section continue to be committed to the mission of providing quality service and support to crime victims as well as guidance to police and outside agencies. For information or assistance regarding victim services, you can call 1-800-VICTIM-1 (1-800-842-8461).

Wellness - Mrs. Marissa Warren & Captain Andrew Lloyd

Delaware State Police Wellness grew exponentially in 2024 and is under the leadership of Mrs. Marissa Warren and Captain Andrew Lloyd. In addition to our Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) team, we have formalized a peer-to-peer program and a comprehensive resiliency training curriculum. DSP Wellness assists divisional members, both sworn and professional staff, and their immediate family members experiencing professional or personal distress. This program will provide Divisional members with tools to enhance and maintain their general wellness. The Wellness Program contains individuals specially trained and approved by the Executive Staff to carry out the program. Captain Jonathon Packard administers and manages the comprehensive resilience training program.

The Delaware State Police teaches the FBI National Academy Associates Comprehensive Resilience Training curriculum. We currently have 15 employees who can teach the curriculum. The instructor cadre teaches the curriculum to all police recruits who attend the Delaware State Police Training Academy. In addition, we offer an annual opportunity for any Delaware law enforcement officer to attend through our academy elective training program. Finally, the program and instructors teach resiliency segments during troop meetings, annual in-service training, and at the request of any allied first responder agency. After the initial or elective training, employees continue receiving support through our agency wellness application. The application provides access to self-assessments, self-help tools, agency chaplains, human resource services, peer-to-peer supporters, and more.

After the Delaware State Police wellness personnel successfully pursued legislative change to protect peer-to-peer first responder communication, we were the first law enforcement agency in the State of Delaware to implement a formal peer-to-peer program. We have 23 employees, comprised of professional staff and sworn members trained as peer supporters. These employees provide emotional and practical support to fellow employees experiencing stress, trauma, and other challenges. The diverse group of men and women offers much-needed support to an industry that is exposed to a significant amount of trauma. For critical incident-based stress, the Delaware State Police utilizes the Critical Incident Stress Management Team.

The Delaware State Police Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Team continues to provide services to law enforcement and emergency service personnel for state and municipal agencies throughout the State of Delaware. The team assists officers and other emergency service personnel with minimizing the harmful effects of job-related, traumatic, and personal stressors associated with a critical incident. Sgt. Francis L Fucellaro II and team assistant Cpl/3 Takisha Williams-Snipes lead CISM, consisting of 20 sworn and two professional staff members who have received training endorsed by the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation. The team responded to approximately 54 incidents, which included police-involved shootings, military re-integration, fatal accidents, CPR on children, as well as other traumatic events for law enforcement and emergency service personnel. The most significant responses for the team in 2024 were the tragic deaths of children from fatal motor vehicle accidents and drowning events. Dr. Ellen Marshall retired as the Head of the Psychology Department for Delaware Technical and Community College, Owens Campus, and is now practicing at Delaware Psychological Services. She works closely with the Delaware State Police CISM team and other Teams in the State. She previously was the team's Mental Health Coordinator, where she volunteered her time. She has conducted numerous one-on-one CISM sessions, not including the responses she gave to the team.

Delaware State Police Wellness is proud of its accomplishments in 2024 and looks forward to continuing to prioritize our workforce's well-being in 2025.

2024 Civilian of the Year - Viviane Sanchez, Troop 3 Victim Services



Victim Services Specialized Case Coordinator Viviane Sanchez is the 2024 Civilian of the Year. Viviane has a strong will and dedication when it comes to victims of crime. As a specialized case coordinator, Viviane has worked with victims of the most vulnerable and underserved victims, including Human Trafficking, Overdose Deaths, High-Risk Domestic Cases, Homicides, and Hate Crimes. Viviane is compassionate, kind, and understanding of what victims need.

Viviane is familiar with the whole state and often travels across county lines to assist victims in need. Viviane is also a Spanish-speaking advocate who usually takes on a higher caseload due to her ability to speak Spanish and English.

There was a specific case that Viviane worked tirelessly on starting in May of 2024. Viviane was tasked with finding Next-of-Kin for the deceased and being a caretaker for the children. Next-of-Kin was found and Viviane made arrangements with the Violent Crimes Assistance Program to assist with travel and moving expenses for the children. Viviane remained in contact with the family to provide services to them. In August of 2024, the Next-of-Kin reached out to Viviane, stating they were moving back to Delaware, citing Domestic Violence in their hometown in Texas. Once the family arrived in Delaware, Viviane assisted with safety planning, lock changes, and security cameras. In November 2024, Troop 3 decided to provide Christmas for the family. They were moved beyond words by what Viviane and the Troopers had done. Viviane's initiative positively impacted this family during the holiday season.

Viviane continues valuing her training opportunities to become more knowledgeable in her field. In 2024, she attended a Hate Crime Presentation in Dover and training on Collaborating on Developing Standard Operating Procedures for Human Trafficking Victims/Survivors and Collaborative Approaches to Stalking. Viviane attended the Statewide Victim Services Conference: Connecting the Dots to Reach all Crime Survivors, Interdiction for the Protection of Children, and Strangulation Prevention Training. Viviane also serves on various state committees, including the Delaware Anti-Trafficking Action Council, the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council Immigration Sub Committee, and the DATAC Public Awareness Sub Committee. Viviane is often seen as a mentor to new staff and has grown to be respected by the Troopers, Officers, and fellow advocates she works with.

2024 Trooper of the Year - Trooper First Class Robert McCormick, Troop 3 Patrol



TFC. Robert McCormick of Troop 3 Patrol's is the 2024 Trooper of the Year because of his strong work ethic, teamwork-based mentality, and overall dedication to the Delaware State Police, its mission, and the citizens of the State of Delaware. TFC. McCormick has been with the Delaware State Police since October of 2021. He was previously employed by the New Castle County Police from 2018-2021. In his short time with DSP, TFC. McCormick has demonstrated that he is the epitome of what one would think of when you hear the term "Trooper of the Year". He exudes our core values in all aspects of his work and is the consummate professional. He works tirelessly to make Kent County a safer and better place to live for all who reside there.

TFC. McCormick has a knack for criminal work revolving around quality-of-life issues (guns, drugs, and violence). He is highly respected as a Trooper and even with all his successes; he is an excellent shift mate making time to assist his shift mates with their cases and teach them his ways of policing. They seek his guidance and input on a regular basis. The other members of B-Shift have benefitted from his efforts leading to significant arrests and cases of their own along the way. He consistently produces a body of work that is unparalleled by many other Troopers. He writes an exceptional report that leads to the successful prosecution of the offenders that he arrests. He is regularly requested by special units (KDU, K-GTF, and Kent CIU) to assist them in their missions. They have recognized that he can be counted on to "get the job done". He has a great investigative acumen and an understanding of criminal activity that most Troopers will never obtain, and these qualities are what helps enable his success. He currently serves as an FTO for the Division and takes pride in training new Troopers in the ways of DSP. Based on his overall abilities, his commitment to the Division, its mission, and the citizens of the State of Delaware, we can think of no better example to train the future of this Division.

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