



IMPACT UPDATE

Protecting, Preventing, Providing

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Lt. Governor

Colonel William Pallozzi
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Maryland State Police Honor Trailblazers At Black History Month Event

(PIKESVILLE, Md.) — During a February ceremony to celebrate Black History Month, the life of the late Captain Milton S. Taylor, who broke the color barrier and was the first African American trooper in the Maryland State Police, was remembered.

Captain Taylor accepted his appointment to the Maryland State Police on July 8, 1957 and worked his way through the ranks of the Investigation Division. He later worked in Planning and Research and then the Automotive Safety Enforcement Division before being promoted to captain in 1980 and assigned to the Field Operations Bureau staff, making him the highest ranking black trooper at that time.

Captain Taylor retired on July 1, 1982. He died on Feb. 3, 2016 at the age of 82.

In addition to the legacy of Captain Taylor, the accomplishments and experiences of other distinguished African Americans were highlighted and discussed during the ceremony. Those individuals included:

- Director Ida Williams, Central Records Division
- Major Roland Butler, Assistant Chief, Field Operations Bureau
- Major (Ret) Douglas DeLeaver
- Lt. Col. (Ret) Stewart Russell
- TFC (Ret) Charlie Lester
- Lt. (Ret) Ernest Leatherbury Jr.



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PHOTOS: Maryland State Police Celebrates Black History Month



Retired Lt. Col. Stewart Russell (center) was the last member of his class to retire, which he did in 2012, after a 35-year career with MSP.



Central Records Division Director Ida Williams began her career as a clerk typist for MSP in 1969.



In memory of Captain Milt Taylor



Maryland State Police Superintendent Col. William Pallozzi speaks during the ceremony.



Retired TFC Charlie C. Lester and Lt. Ernest Leatherbury Jr. sign Black History Month programs for fellow troopers after the ceremony.

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K-9 Unit Helps Locate Missing Special Needs Child In Washington, D.C.

Safety Tip of the Month

Cold weather can take its toll on a vehicle, so check the following before traveling:

- Check the tire pressure and tread;
- Check the battery;
- Check the car's fluid levels;
- Make sure you have a good spare tire;
- Keep jumper cables handy.



(WASHINGTON, D.C.) – An 11-year-old girl with special needs is home safe thanks in part to the work of the Maryland State Police K-9 Unit.

K-9 Charlie and his handler, TFC Bracken, were instrumental in the recovery of the girl who was reported missing on Jan. 21 in Washington, D.C.

The missing person's



K-9 Charlie and his handler, TFC Bracken

report was received by the Metropolitan Police Department. The girl had been missing since 1 p.m. that day and State Police were dispatched to assist at about 6 p.m.

K-9 Charlie, an MSP Bloodhound, tracked the young girl's trail for almost three miles to a bus stop.

The information was relayed to the scene commander and, based on this information, the girl was located on a Metro bus. She was safe and unharmed.

The primary mission of the K-9 Unit is to provide the Maryland State Police and allied police departments specialized canine support to assist them in their mission of protecting both the life and property of the citizens of Maryland.



This is achieved by advancing the primary purpose of the police service canine which is to "locate and indicate" whether it is for drugs, explosives or people wanted for either criminal acts or those reported missing.

Dogs really are 'man's best friend.' Thank you, K-9 Charlie and TFC Bracken for another job well done!

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IMPACT UPDATE

Maryland State Police Joins 'ADAPT' Initiative To Address Aggressive Driving

(PIKESVILLE, Md.) – The Maryland State Police were among the law enforcement agencies in the state in January who participated in an initiative to raise additional awareness about aggressive driving.

Troopers participated in the state's ADAPT – Aggressive Drivers Are Public Threats – initiative. The ADAPT Program is an aggressive driving enforcement campaign designed to curb dangerous behaviors and make Maryland roads safer for everyone. Among the highlights for troopers during the initiative, which ran from Jan. 18 to 27:

- The Golden Ring Barrack concentrated on educating the public and enforcing Maryland's "Move Over" laws during an initiative along Interstate 83 near Shawan Road in Baltimore County. The effort resulted in 140 traffic stops, 68 citations (53 Move Over citations) and 82 warnings (77 Move Over warnings).
- The College Park Barrack conducted 47 traffic stops and issued 15 citations and 39 warnings in Prince George's County.



- The College Park Barrack, along with Prince George's County Police conducted an aggressive driving enforcement effort along I-495 and US 50. A total of 53 traffic stops were conducted, which resulted in the issuance of 42 citations and 44 warnings while also serving two arrest warrants.
- The Bel Air Barrack conducted 29 traffic stops and issued 15 citations and 27 warnings on US 40 between the Baltimore County line and MD 543 in Harford County. The Bel Air Barrack conducted another enforcement initiative on MD 24 near Ring Factory Road and on US 1 near MD 543. During this initiative, troopers conducted 60 traffic stops and issued 29 citations and 41 warnings.

According to the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration, aggressive driving crashes fell from about 6,000 in 2011 to 3,311 in 2015. However, the MVA has reported an increase in such crashes recently with 4,526 aggressive driving-related crashes in 2017.

Aggressive driving violations involve a combination of behaviors that endanger people or property. Maryland law dictates that at least three of the following violations are observed:

- Traffic light violations;
- Overtaking and passing another vehicle;
- Illegally passing on the right;
- Violation of laned roadway law;
- Tailgating, or following another driver too closely;
- Failing to yield when other drivers have the right-of-way;
- Exceeding the speed limit.

Drivers charged with aggressive driving violations will receive five points on their license and a \$370 fine.

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IMPACT UPDATE

Maryland State Police Raise Awareness On Safer Internet Day Urging Digital Safety For All Ages

(PIKESVILLE, Md.) – Investigators from the Maryland State Police Computer Crimes Unit raised awareness on Safer Internet Day with advice on how to exercise digital safety for all ages.

Safer Internet Day, a global rally that aims to raise awareness of emerging online issues as people of all ages surround themselves with a myriad of digital devices, took place on Feb. 5.

Safety on the Internet includes the use of any device that has access to online activity. Investigators from the Maryland State Police Computer Crimes Unit remind all ages to be vigilant about Internet safety. Children and senior citizens are often the target populations for online criminal activity.

Internet Safety Tips for Parents:

- Continuously monitor all of your child's online activity
- Be aware of who your children are communicating with online
- Talk with your children about online content
- Remind children to avoid



Safer
Internet
Day 2019 | Tuesday
5 February
Together for a better internet

- communication with strangers
- Avoid the release of personal information in an unsafe forum
- Maintain control of apps downloaded on your child's device
- Maintain adequate internet security
- Be aware of what children see and hear and who they meet
- Avoid any requests for remote access to your computer
- Know what information your child is sharing

Complaints involving the exploitation of children should be filed with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) at www.missingkids.com or 1-800-THE-LOST. If a child is believed to be in imminent danger, citizens are urged to contact their local police or call 9-1-1 immediately.

Internet Tips for Senior Citizens:

- Use extreme caution when sharing personal information online
- Avoid suspicious emails that ask for personal information

The Maryland State Police Computer Crimes Unit works closely with the Internet Crime Complaint Center in the investigation of these crimes.

MSP urges people to take into consideration the vulnerabilities associated with online activity.

The Computer Crimes Section operates and administers the Maryland Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force, which is comprised of police agencies statewide who work tirelessly to target offenders of child sexual exploitation.

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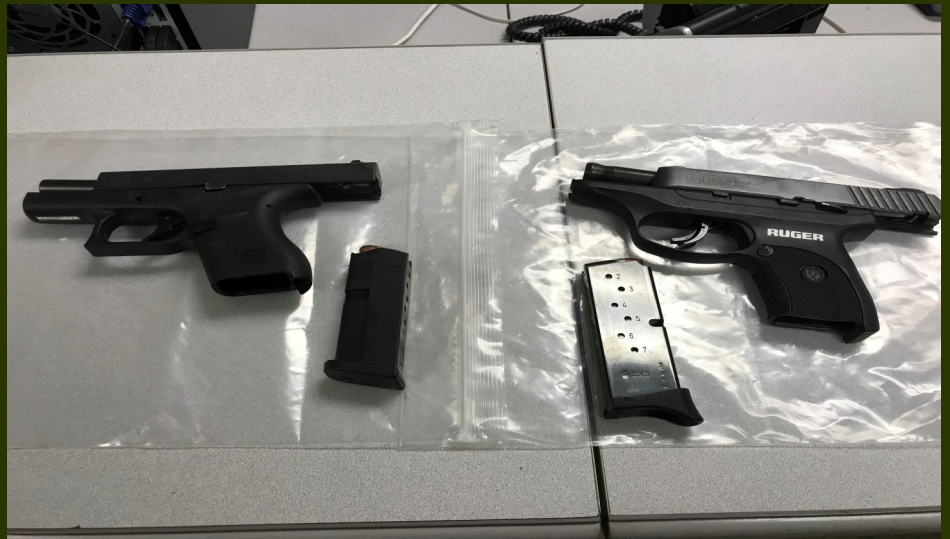
Traffic Stop Results In Recovery Of Two Loaded Handguns, Two Arrests In Prince George's County

(CHEVERLY, Md) - A traffic stop in Prince George's County resulted in two arrests and the recovery of two loaded handguns, one of which was stolen.

The accused are identified as Deandre M. Thomas, 21, of Brandywine and Carlson L. Wilson, 23, of Washington, D.C. Thomas is charged with second degree assault, possession of a regulated firearm after being a fugitive from justice, and other criminal charges. Lamont is charged with carrying and transporting a loaded handgun. Both were transported to the Department of Corrections in Hyattsville after their arrest.

Shortly after 5:30 p.m. on Feb. 4, a trooper from the College Park Barrack conducted a traffic stop for a speed violation on westbound Route 50 at Maryland Route 410 on a Nissan Altima in Cheverly. The motorist moved to the left shoulder on westbound Route 50, where the trooper approached and advised her of the speed violation.

While speaking to the driver, the trooper observed two men in the rear passenger seats without their seatbelts. The driver and the three occupants were subsequently asked for their identification.



One of the rear seat passengers, later identified as Wilson, provided his driver's license along with the driver and the front seat passenger. Thomas, the other rear seat passenger said he did not have his license and provided the trooper his alleged name, later found to be false.

The trooper asked Thomas to exit the vehicle and then escorted him to his marked patrol car on the scene to verify his identity. Moments later, Thomas pushed the trooper, jumped over the jersey wall, and ran through traffic across Route 50 to the eastbound side.

A subsequent foot pursuit ensued before Thomas was shortly apprehended without incident near the tree line of Route 50.

Thomas was found carrying a loaded 9mm Ruger LC9s, which was reported stolen through Virginia. Further investigation at the scene indicated Thomas was also wanted by the Prince George's County Police Department.

Witnesses near the scene advised police that the other passenger in the vehicle, identified as Wilson, had thrown a handgun across Route 50 into the brush. Police conducted a search of the area and found a loaded Glock 42 handgun.

Both Thomas and Wilson were arrested on scene.

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Troopers Rescue Child After Father Passes Out With Drugs In Truck In St. Mary's County

(LEONARDTOWN, Md.) - A two-year-old child is safe after a trooper found him crying in a truck while his father was passed out in the vehicle in St. Mary's County.

Maryland State Police arrested Brandon M. Gohl, 35, of Hollywood, Md. on Jan. 27.

He is charged with possession of drugs with intent to distribute and child neglect. He was taken to the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center, where he is was held without bond.

Shortly after 6 p.m. on Jan. 27, a trooper from the Leonardtown Barrack responded to a report of a child welfare check. According to investigators, the mother of the suspect's son contacted police after her son video chatted her apparently upset and crying while inside of Gohl's truck.

The mother told troopers that the child was unable to provide any information on their location. A phone ping was conducted on Gohl's phone, which revealed the phone was in the area of Forest Park Road in Lexington Park, Md.



Several police units responded to the area and began to actively search for the truck.

A trooper located the vehicle and observed two males passed out inside of it. The trooper then saw the child, who was in the back seat of the truck screaming and crying, and immediately

A trooper located the vehicle and observed two males passed out inside of it. The trooper then saw the child, who was in the back seat of

the truck screaming and crying. The trooper immediately removed the child from the vehicle. Gohl was arrested at the scene.

A search of the vehicle revealed 23 capsules containing suspected heroin, cash and several bags containing suspected marijuana, totaling 889 grams. Investigators also located a suspected drug /price ledger. The other male passenger in the truck, Zackery T. Ricker, 23, was charged with possession of marijuana. He was issued a civil citation and released at the scene.

The child was examined by EMS personnel and returned safely to his mother.

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Maryland State Police Warns Public About Phone Scams

(PIKESVILLE, Md.) – Maryland State Police are warning the public about a reported telephone scam in which the caller cloned a state police number and requested personal information from people as part of a criminal investigation.

A woman called the Maryland State Police and reported she had received a call in which the caller ID on her phone showed “Maryland State Government” and the number 301-475-8955, which is the number for the Maryland State Police Leonardtown Barrack.

When she answered the call, the person on the other end told her she was a suspect in a drug trafficking investigation and that she needed to provide them her Social Security number and other identifying personal information.

This is just one of several phone scams recently reported to Maryland State Police. The Salisbury Barrack reported that some of the scams reported include victims receiving telephone calls where they are threatened with arrest or the continued detention of family members if they do not provide money, account numbers or purchase a reloadable gift or credit cards.

Another telephone scam includes the victim being called by a repre-



sentative of the Internal Revenue Service and threatened in the same fashion. The Salisbury Barrack reported that other victims have had their computers infected with a computer virus and were prompted to take immediate action in order to salvage the computer, which included purchasing up to \$2,000 in gift cards to pay the company to correct the issue.

This came after the Maryland State Police Cumberland Barrack was recently inundated with numerous telephone calls regarding a scam in which a man or woman claiming to be from the Social Security Administration requested information and threatened to have the police respond to their address to arrest them.

These scammers are using scare tactics and sophisticated technology to attempt to take advantage of the public. If you are a senior citizen,

or have a family member who is a senior citizen, please be aware and ensure they are aware of these scams so they are not victimized.

The Maryland State Police, along with government agencies like the Social Security Administration or the Internal Revenue Service, would never solicit such information or services over the phone from any citizen.

Never give any personal information over the phone, and only allow a qualified reputable computer technician the ability to repair your computer should it become infected with a virus. Many of these telephone scams are disguising themselves by utilizing local telephone number prefixes.

Anyone who receives such a phone call should hang up and then contact their local state police barrack. Callers may remain anonymous.

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MSP/NRP Deep Creek Dunk Raises \$161K For Special Olympics Maryland

(CUMBERLAND, Md.) – The Maryland State Police were front and center at the 21st annual MD State Police/Natural Resources Police Deep Creek Dunk on Feb. 23, 2019 in Garrett Co.

More than 1,000 dunkers braved the frigid cold and took a daring dip into the frozen Deep Creek Lake to help raise money for Special Olympics Maryland.



Overall, the Deep Creek Dunk raised more than \$161,000 to benefit this great cause. The Dunk funds

the entire Special Olympics program in Garrett Co. and helps ensure the 8,000 athletes of Special Olympics Maryland are able to compete for free in one or more of 27 different sports offered by the organization.

All year long, Special Olympics Maryland athletes train in all 23 counties and Baltimore City in hopes of bringing back a gold medal to their home town.

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