



IMPACT UPDATE

Protecting, Preventing, Providing

Larry Hogan

Boyd K. Rutherford

Colonel Woodrow W. Jones III

Governor

Lt. Governor

Superintendent

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One Year Later: How MSP Has Adjusted In A Pandemic World

(PIKESVILLE, MD) — Over the past 100 years, the Maryland State Police have survived and thrived through everything the world has placed in front of it.

From World War II to countless natural disasters to the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attack, the men and women of the Maryland State Police have continued to work 24/7/365 to serve and protect the residents of the state. Arguably, never has the organization had to be more vigilant than it has been forced to be during the past year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

From the moment Gov. Larry Hogan declared a state of emergency last March, the approach the Maryland State Police took toward its work changed. At the same time, like other frontline workers, these adjustments were made while never taking a minute away from their respective jobs.

All of this also began just as Colonel Woodrow W. Jones III took over as Superintendent of the Maryland State Police. Col. Jones' first year in command was like no other in the department's history.

Troopers across the state played a leading role in not only enforcing Gov. Hogan's executive orders associated with the state of emergency, but also in working in partnership with local leaders, law enforcement, and other county officials with a focus on educating the public about the existing orders and protocols, helping to prevent super-spreader events and taking enforcement actions when necessary.

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PANDEMIC: Adjusting To A New World

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The pandemic also meant the department was forced to make major changes to annual events. The Fallen Heroes Ceremony was cancelled in May and replaced with a virtual ceremony and tribute video. Similar videos were produced for the 100th anniversary of the Maryland State Police and in celebration of Black History Month.

In June 2020, the 151st Trooper Candidate Class Graduation ceremony took place at the Maryland State Police Academy in Sykesville. Attendance was extremely limited, social distancing was practiced and the ceremony was streamed live for the first time to ensure friends and family members of the graduates could witness this accomplishment. A similar livestream broadcast was held on Sept. 30, 2020 for the Maryland State Police Employee of the Year awards ceremony.

A group of female high school and college students with an interest in a law enforcement career participated Aug. 21-23, 2020 in the first ever MSP Youth Leadership and Women In Law Enforcement Seminar. Attendees, who wore masks and practiced social



distancing, learned about Maryland law, military drill and ceremony, fitness and wellness, defensive tactics and explored the many facets of a career in law enforcement.

As expected, the pandemic also forced the department to alter its recruiting efforts. Over the past year, virtual recruiting events were hosted to attract new flight paramedics, pilots and cadets, among others.

Even with the adjustments required due to the pandemic, troopers worked to find proper ways to have positive interactions with the community.

This included over the summer when troopers worked with the Red Cross to seek much-needed blood donations.

In August 2020, while buying ice cream in Charlotte Hall, Trooper Jordan Barlow paid for everyone else who was in line behind him. A father posted a photo with Trooper Barlow and said his son would never forget the photo or the kindness shown by our trooper.

On Aug. 25, 2020 retired Second Lieutenant Leland Corbett and some of his family stopped by the North East Barrack so his extended Maryland State Police family could be a part of his 92nd birthday celebration.

Troopers across the state also found ways to practice social distancing while ensuring they continued to deliver gifts to children in need over the holiday season. Even the Polar Bear Plunge was forced to go virtual in 2020.

The past year has shown that regardless of world events, the Maryland State Police will continue to adjust to ensure its work toward keeping the state safe continues.



IMPACT UPDATE

MSP, Allied Agencies Launch Initiative To Address Speeding In Washington Region

(PIKESVILLE, MD) – The Maryland State Police, along with allied law enforcement partners, launched on March 15 the first of six traffic enforcement initiatives aimed at targeting excessive speeding, aggressive and impaired driving, with a goal of reducing vehicle-related fatalities in Prince George’s and Montgomery counties.

The traffic enforcement detail concentrated on I-495 (Capital Beltway) and I-270 and included 35 law enforcement personnel representing troopers from the Maryland State Police Washington Metro Troop (College Park, Forestville and Rockville barracks), along with members of the Montgomery County Police Department, the Prince George’s County Police Department and Virginia State Police.

The enforcement detail led to law enforcement issuing 226 citations, 196 warnings, a warrant arrest and a drug arrest. The Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration’s Highway Safety Office provided grant funding for the operation. The other five combined initiatives are set to take place once a month between April and August.

According to Automated Crash Reporting System data provided



by the MDOT MVA’s Highway Safety Office, more than 17,100 crashes were reported in Prince George’s County and more than 9,700 crashes were reported in Montgomery County in 2020. Between 2018 and 2020, the Forestville Barrack responded to 7,645 crashes while the College Park and Rockville barracks responded to 5,365 and 4,791 crashes, respectively.

Over that time, the Washington Metro Troop has conducted dozens of initiatives, with the goal of reducing traffic crashes in the area. This is especially true around the Capital Beltway, which has represented about 50 percent of those reported crashes. These targeted and direct enforcement

efforts have yielded significant results in reducing the number of reported crashes.

In addition to the combined police department traffic enforcement operations, Maryland State Police in the Washington Metro Troop will be conducting ongoing traffic safety initiatives throughout the coming months. These initiatives are data-driven and will be focused in areas where crash data indicates they are most needed.



IMPACT UPDATE



Josh Smith, a Special Olympian and the son of a retired state trooper, cheers on Class 152 in support of them raising \$29,000 for Special Olympics Maryland. (Frame captured from Class 152 plunge video available in its entirety on MSP Facebook page.)

MSP Academy Class Raises \$29,000 To Support Special Olympics Maryland And Sets All-Time Record

(SYKESVILLE, MD) — The members of Maryland State Police Training Academy Class 152 began raising funds to support Special Olympics MD through the Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge even before they began their training in January.

Incredibly, in just weeks, the four dozen members of the class and their instructors raised a police academy record-setting total of more than \$29,000 for Special Olympics.

As they wrapped up their eighth week of training on March 5, the members of Class 152 took their virtual plunge together at the Academy in a water holding tank, kindly provided by the Howard Co. Fire Department.

Before they plunged, Class 152 heard from Jim Schmutz, president and CEO of Special Olympics MD and from Josh Smith, who has been a Special Olympics athlete for 30 years. Josh is the son of a retired Maryland state trooper and his wife.

The programs provided free-of-charge by Special Olympics have helped Josh and thousands of other children and adults with intellectual disabilities live lives of inclusion and fulfillment, while helping them reach their full potential through the power of sports.

Josh is also a guest instructor at the Academy. He teaches troopers and other police recruits about how to assist people with disabilities as part of his job with Pathfinders for Autism. Thank you, Josh, for your

enthusiasm and the important knowledge you provide to our trooper candidates. We are very proud that you are a part of our Maryland State Police family.

Congratulations to the members of Class 152, their instructors, and their command staff, Captain Smith, Lt. Chatfield and First Sergeant Cottman.

Thank you for your willingness to participate and your incredible fundraising efforts. Even as you train, you are upholding the proud tradition of “Maryland's finest.”



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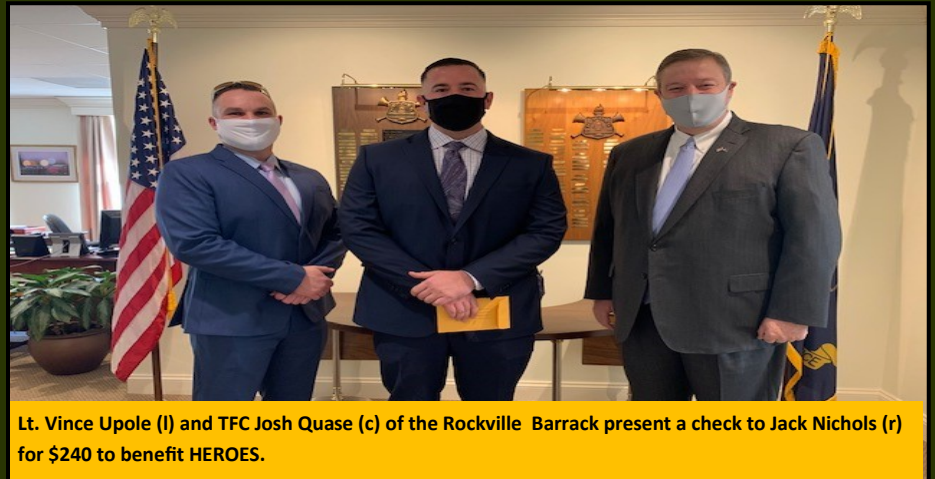
Rockville Barrack Mustache Men Support Important Cause

(ROCKVILLE, MD) — There was a time in Maryland State Police history when troopers were not permitted to wear mustaches. That changed decades ago, without bringing too much disruption to Maryland State Police traditions.

This past winter, Lt. Vince Upole and troopers at the Rockville Barrack decided to celebrate that flexibility in appearance and sponsored a ‘best mustache’ contest. In order to enter the contest, troopers paid an entrance fee. Whoever was determined to have the best mustache would win the opportunity to choose the charity the money would be donated to.

After the established growing period had expired, contestant judging was held and a winner declared. The winner of the Rockville Barrack Best Mustache Contest was determined to be TFC Josh Quase. He provided no secrets to growing an award winning mustache but, more importantly, he did choose an outstanding organization to receive the contest earnings.

TFC Quase decided the money should be donated to HEROES, Inc. (Honor Every Responsible Officer’s Eternal Sacrifice), which is an organization dedicated to the support of the families of law enforcement officers and firefighters who made the ultimate sacrifice



Lt. Vince Upole (l) and TFC Josh Quase (c) of the Rockville Barrack present a check to Jack Nichols (r) for \$240 to benefit HEROES.

while serving in the Washington, D.C. region. Lt. Upole and TFC Quase presented a check for \$240 to Mr. Jack Nichols, the president of HEROES.

Unfortunately, COVID precautions struck again and those involved in the presentation all had to wear masks. Therefore, we have no photographic evidence of the award winning nature of TFC Quase’s mustache. We must rely on the endorsement of Lt. Upole, who confirmed it was award winning.

Mr. Nichols recently provided an update on a member of the Maryland State Police family his organization is helping in a significant way. Taylor Toatley was just a toddler when her father, Corporal Edward Toatley, was shot and killed in the line of duty on October 30, 2000.

Mr. Nichols reported HEROES is paying 100 percent of the cost of Taylor’s college education at Kaiser University in Florida. She is nearing completion of her degree in forensic science and is described as an excellent student with outstanding motivation. Mr. Nichols reports HEROES helped Taylor obtain an internship for this summer with the D.C. Department of Forensic Science, about which she is very excited.

To learn more about HEROES, visit <https://heroes.org/>.



IMPACT UPDATE



The North East Barrack targeted drug-related impaired driving along Route 40 in Cecil County. The Cecil County Sheriff's Office, the Perryville Police Department, the Elkton Police Department, the Harford County Sheriff's Office and Delaware State Police joined troopers in this effort.

Troopers Increase Patrols In Response To St. Patrick's Day

(PIKESVILLE, Md.) — With COVID-19 restrictions being lifted across the state and with St. Patrick's being celebrated last month, Maryland State Police urged those who planned to celebrate with alcohol to be safe and smart and avoid impaired, distracted and aggressive driving.

With an increase in impaired drivers expected throughout, state police conducted saturation patrols at each of the 23 barracks with a focus on impaired, aggressive and distracted driving. Enforcement over those two weeks was supported by impaired driving saturation patrol funds from the Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration's Highway Safety Office.

The initiatives, which took place on various days between March 11 and 20, included saturation patrols

in areas known to have a higher number of DUI crashes or arrests. Those efforts in many cases included collaborating with allied law enforcement and other state agencies to both enforce the law and offer outreach to the community through social media and electronic billboards. Over those days, troopers recorded 163 DUI arrests and issued 6,624 citations and 7,941 warnings. Troopers also made 67 drug and 60 criminal arrests

Among those initiatives:

- The Maryland State Police North East Barrack targeted drug-related impaired driving along Route 40 in Cecil County. The Cecil County Sheriff's Office, the Perryville Police Department, the Elkton Police Department, the Harford County Sheriff's Office and Delaware State Police joined troopers in this effort. The MDOT MVA's Highway Safety Office

provided funds for this effort.

- The MSP Salisbury Barrack also worked with allied agencies throughout Wicomico County and the lower Eastern Shore as part of the area's "Border to Border" unity enforcement effort.
- Troopers from the Bel Air Barrack worked with the Harford Traffic Task Force to saturate the Bel Air area.

According to the Maryland Department of Transportation 151 people died on Maryland's roads from impaired driving crashes in 2019. Impaired drivers injured more than 3,200 in 2019. These deaths and injuries were preventable.



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MSP Patrols Address Concerns Over Aggressive Driving In Wicomico County

(SALISBURY, MD) — In February, the Maryland State Police Salisbury Barrack received a complaint of aggressive driving and reckless operation of motorists in a rural portion of Wicomico County, namely Nanticoke Road from Salisbury to Bivalve Maryland.

Residents of the community noted the behaviors of motorists have only become more aggressive and detrimental to transiting the area. Using High Visibility Enforcement (HVE), statistical enforcement principles and responding to the needs of the community, troopers initiated a mandatory speed enforcement and aggressive driving effort in the area.

Troopers were to provide a visible presence throughout the corridor when weather conditions and calls for service allowed for such an effort. Over the course of 30 days, troopers conducted 12 High Visibility Enforcement (HVE) patrols, utilizing 18 different troopers .

During the operations, troopers conducted 78 traffic stops, issuing 33 citations, 34 warnings and two Safety Equipment Repair Orders (SEROs). Also conducted were two DUI arrests, four vehicle searches recording two civil citations for CDS. Many of those stopped for speeding were cited for driving more than 20 miles per hour over the posted speed limit.

Paired with violations of negligent and distracted driving, the effort by the Salisbury Barrack led to a drop in crashes, both impaired and non-impaired, and in reports of distracted driving in the area.

Initiatives like this re-enforce the mission charged to the Maryland State Police since 1921: to reduce crime and highway tragedies through statewide patrol and enforcement of state traffic laws.



IMPACT UPDATE



Traffic Stop Leads To Pair Charged With Possession With Intent To Distribute Heroin/Fentanyl

(GLEN BURNIE, MD) – Maryland State Police arrested and charged two suspects with drug violations after a traffic stop on March 15 in Anne Arundel County.

James P. Linkous, 31, of Lothian, Maryland, and Josephine B. Tippet, 25, of Florida, were both placed under arrest for various drug charges.

They are each charged with two counts of possession with intent to distribute heroin/fentanyl, two counts of possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of marijuana. The driver, Linkous, was

also charged with numerous traffic citations including driving with a suspended and revoked license.

At approximately 10:45 a.m. on M, a trooper from the Glen Burnie Barrack stopped a Chevrolet Malibu for a safety equipment violation in the area of the outer loop of I-695 at Ritchie Highway. During the traffic stop, evidence was developed that led to a probable cause search of the vehicle.

The search resulted in the recovery of 337 capsules (120 grams) of suspected heroin/fentanyl indi-

vidually packaged, along with a pill bottle containing additional capsules of suspected heroin/fentanyl. The trooper also reported finding two packages of marijuana weighing a total of 14.8 grams, as well as a large amount of cash in a grocery bag on the back floor of the vehicle.

The vehicle and cash were taken into police custody and both suspects were arrested.

The incident remains under investigation.