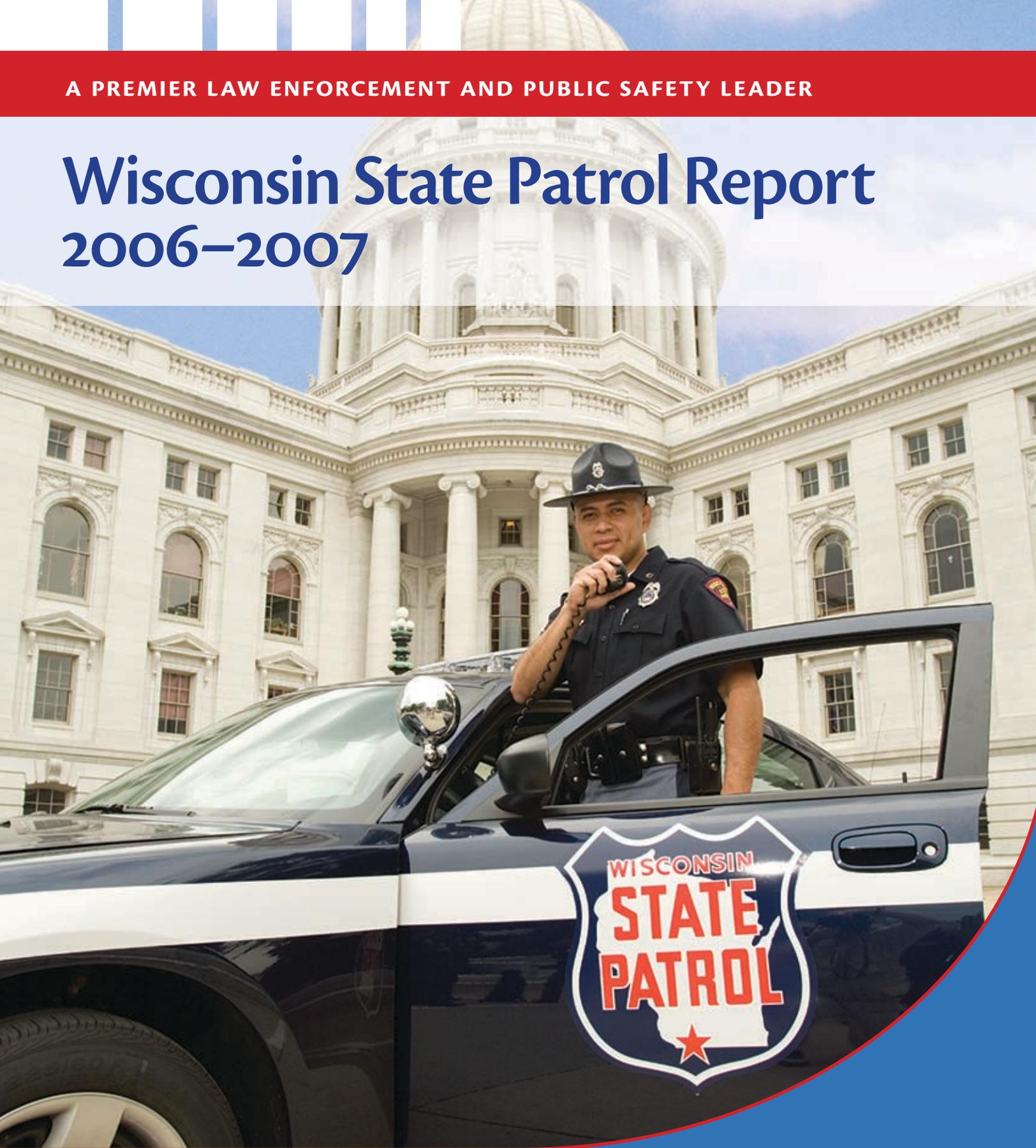


A PREMIER LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY LEADER

Wisconsin State Patrol Report 2006–2007



Governor Jim Doyle
Secretary Frank Busalacchi
Superintendent David L. Collins



THE WISCONSIN STATE PATROL

More fan mail:

As a long-time traveler between my Minnesota home and Illinois family, I have (like most Minnesotans) developed a healthy respect and fear of the Wisconsin State Patrol! So when I was pulled over at the rest area in Jackson County, I expected the worst. Instead, the encounter was quite pleasant...

The officer was extremely professional as well as very personable and accommodating. He even offered to allow me to visit the rest area while he finished writing the citation.

I am writing to let you know that my opinion of the Wisconsin State Patrol has completely changed as a result of my encounter.

I commend your management for selecting and training officers who reflect so well on your department and the State of Wisconsin.

*Stephen E. Osman
Senior Historian,
Minnesota
Historical Society*

A SAMPLE OF SOME FAN MAIL FOR A JOB WELL DONE

The assistance of the Wisconsin State Patrol was invaluable to our investigation (arson fire) and we thank you. Your organization and the troopers involved should be commended for their professionalism and dedication to duty and are a reflection of the quality of service provided by the Wisconsin State Patrol. Such assistance is evidence of the vital role that the Wisconsin State Patrol plays in assisting local law enforcement.

*Thomas E. Czarnyszka
Chief of Police
Glendale Police Department*



To promote traffic safety, State Patrol Superintendent David Collins recorded a message along with Milwaukee Brewers players and fans that was featured in a public service telecast on the Miller Park scoreboard during games.

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



The State Patrol Report for 2006–2007 highlights important new initiatives and improvements designed to meet ever-changing traffic and public safety needs in Wisconsin.

With the support of Governor Jim Doyle and Wisconsin Department of Transportation Secretary Frank Busalacchi, we are well equipped and eager to continue to meet our statewide mission.

As Superintendent, I could not be more proud of the men and women of the State Patrol who consistently excel at meeting the demands of our profession. Included in this report are highlights and achievements during the past two years that exemplify the professionalism and dedication of members of the State Patrol.

We can be justifiably proud of what we accomplished and now can face the future with renewed optimism and confidence.

Sincerely,

David L. Collins
Superintendent
Wisconsin State Patrol

FORMATION AND GROWTH OF THE STATE PATROL

The Wisconsin State Patrol was established in 1939 when 46 inspectors were designated as traffic officers. In 1955, the modern State Patrol was created with an increase in strength to 250 state troopers. During the 1960s, the State Patrol became part of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, and it was designated a WisDOT division in 1977.



Throughout its history, the State Patrol has progressed and evolved into a statewide force of highly trained professionals.

State Patrol troopers and commercial motor vehicle inspectors are sworn law enforcement officers who spearhead the agency's traffic and public safety efforts. The State Patrol has an authorized strength (including management positions) of 382 trooper positions and 112 inspector positions.

The troopers and inspectors in the field are supported by non-sworn personnel, including police communications operators, who dispatch officers and monitor their safety. Other non-sworn personnel maintain computer networks, provide administrative support and carry out other functions necessary to accomplish the agency's mission.



ROLE OF THE STATE PATROL IN TRAFFIC AND PUBLIC SAFETY

As Wisconsin's premier traffic and public safety agency, members of the State Patrol provide an array of vital services and programs including the following:



TRAFFIC SAFETY LAW ENFORCEMENT:

To save lives and reduce injuries by preventing highway crashes, State Patrol officers firmly and fairly enforce traffic laws. When crashes or serious incidents occur, State Patrol officers have the training and expertise needed to respond effectively. Their response at crash scenes helps rescue the injured and minimizes disruption to the highway transportation system. Officers also assist motorists in times of need—with everything from changing a flat tire to obtaining emergency medical services.



CRASH RECONSTRUCTIONS:

Using specialized skills and equipment, State Patrol technical reconstructionists can determine the causes of fatal and serious injury crashes. Because of their qualifications, reconstructionists can provide expert testimony during legal proceedings concerning crashes. They also produce maps and diagrams of homicide and other crime scenes for evidence in trials.



STATE PATROL ACADEMY: The Academy at Fort McCoy offers comprehensive training for new recruits and experienced officers in the State Patrol, as well as other federal, state and local law enforcement personnel. Academic courses and hands-on training at the Academy build the mental, physical and emotional fitness as well as the knowledge and skills required for complex and challenging law enforcement duties.



EQUIPMENT FOR DETECTING DRIVERS' ALCOHOL LEVELS: State Patrol technicians repair and maintain breath-alcohol testing equipment for law enforcement agencies statewide. The State Patrol also provides training and guidance about alcohol testing equipment and procedures for law enforcement officers and prosecutors.



CRIMINAL INTERDICTION AND HOMELAND SECURITY:

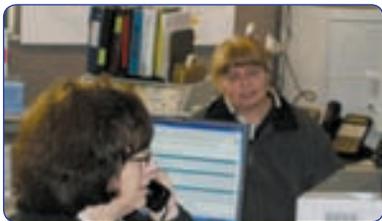
When a motorist is stopped for a violation, State Patrol officers use their training to identify any suspicious behavior or signs of criminal activity, such as smuggling drugs, illegal weapons or other contraband. Officers use these same observational skills to detect signs of potential terrorist activity. As part of the State Patrol's rapidly expanding homeland security mission, inspectors closely monitor commercial motor vehicles that transport hazardous materials, which might be used in a terrorist attack.



K-9 UNIT: With the implementation of the K-9 program in January 2007, the State Patrol now has highly trained dogs and handlers strategically stationed around the state primarily for criminal interdiction involving commercial motor vehicles. The dogs are trained to detect illegal drugs, such as marijuana, cocaine (powder and crack), heroin, and methamphetamine, which may be concealed in motor vehicles.



TRAFFIC SAFETY LEADERSHIP, TRAINING AND RESOURCES: Working closely with government agencies, law enforcement agencies, non-profit organizations and businesses, the State Patrol designs, implements and evaluates education and enforcement programs that protect drivers, passengers, commercial motor vehicle operators, motorcyclists, bicyclists and pedestrians.



COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK: Local, state and federal agencies use a statewide communications network for voice and data managed by the State Patrol. With this network, police communications officers can dispatch officers in the field for a coordinated law enforcement response. With mobile computers in their vehicles, which are linked to the network, officers can obtain vehicle registration records, driver's license records, criminal histories, and other information needed for enforcement actions.



AIR SUPPORT UNIT: Approximately 10 officers are licensed pilots who fly specially equipped State Patrol aircraft based in Madison, Oshkosh and Eau Claire. From the air, they monitor highways for traffic enforcement and control. They also help protect officers by observing motorists' actions during traffic stops and can follow fleeing vehicles during pursuits. When requested, pilots fly search and rescue missions to help locate lost or missing people. In case of a threat to homeland security, pilots can gather intelligence information from the air by photographing or videotaping infrastructure. And in case of an evacuation due to release of hazardous materials, they pinpoint problems that obstruct the efficient movement of traffic while monitoring the migration of the hazard.



COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTIONS: As sworn law enforcement officers, State Patrol inspectors focus on safety requirements for large trucks and other commercial motor vehicles. Inspectors check brakes, lights and other safety equipment on commercial motor vehicles, as well as drivers' logbooks and records to ensure they meet legal requirements. At Safety and Weight Enforcement Facilities (commonly called roadside scales), trucks are weighed to prevent damage to roads and bridges from overweight vehicles. Inspectors also examine every school bus in Wisconsin every year. In addition, they inspect motor coaches, human service vehicles and salvaged vehicles. State Patrol investigators also conduct on-site compliance reviews and new entrant audits of commercial carriers based in Wisconsin.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE STATE PATROL

The State Patrol is a division of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. The State Patrol Office of the Superintendent supervises three bureaus and the Office of the Academy.



THE BUREAU OF COMMUNICATIONS

provides engineering, installation and maintenance for the statewide voice and data communications networks. In addition to the State Patrol, approximately 175 other law enforcement agencies use these communications networks. The bureau also manages the statewide microwave network and vehicular communications systems for the State Patrol and other agencies.



THE BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

administers the statewide commercial motor vehicle enforcement and inspection program. The bureau also manages both federal and state grants for traffic safety programs, conducts research and policy analysis for safety initiatives, and sponsors traffic safety education and outreach efforts for the development of behavioral countermeasures. The bureau's Chemical Testing Section provides breath alcohol testing equipment, subject matter expertise and training for law enforcement agencies throughout the state.

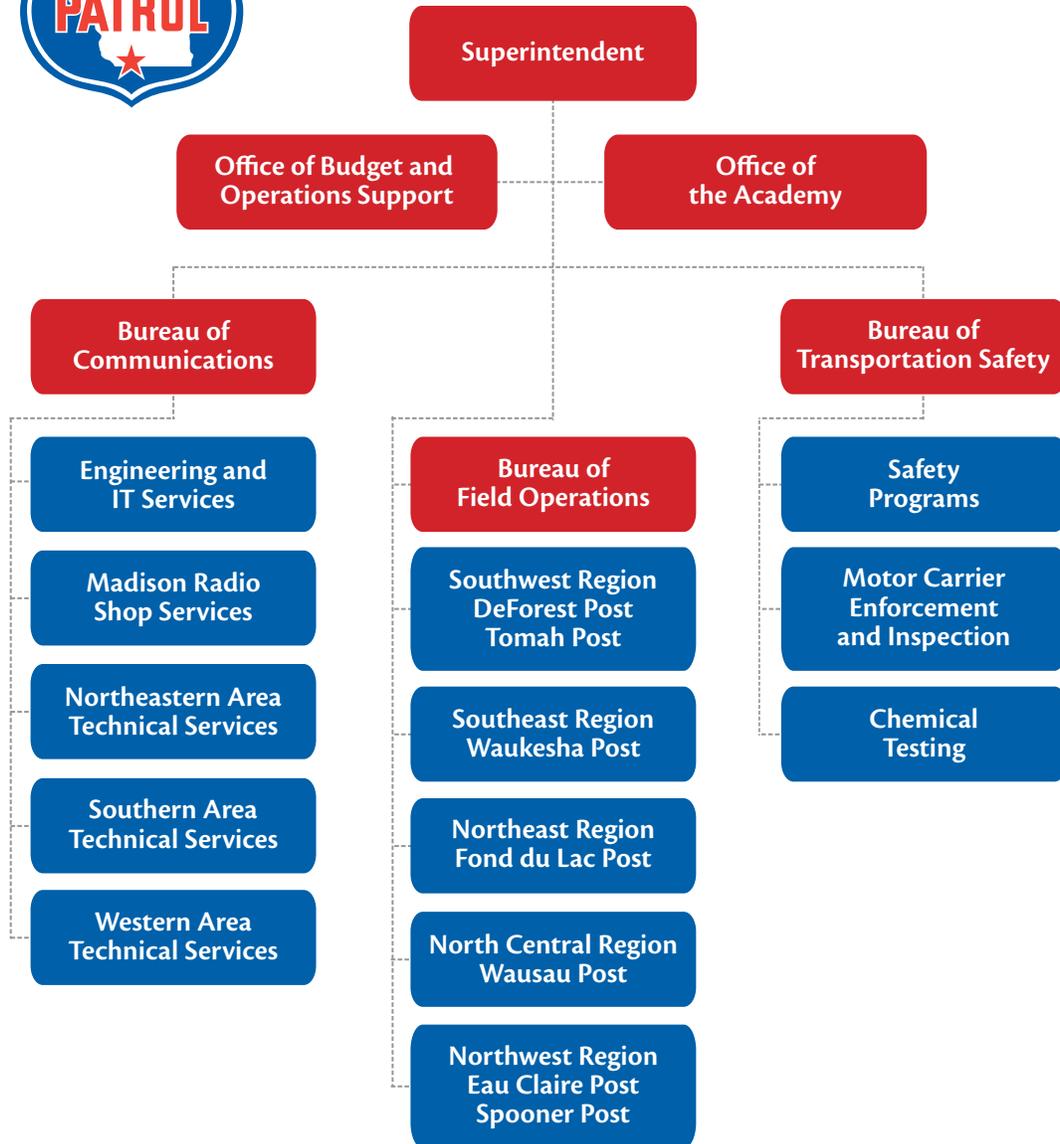


OFFICE OF THE STATE PATROL ACADEMY

guides training initiatives designed to increase the tactical skills and leadership abilities of State Patrol personnel and members of other agencies. All State Patrol recruits undergo a rigorous 21-week training program at the Academy before they are sworn in as troopers or inspectors. The Academy also provides in-service training for State Patrol personnel as well as a variety of courses to increase the technical proficiency and decision-making abilities of federal, state and local law enforcement officers.



DIVISION OF STATE PATROL ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING 2006–2007



State Patrol officers assisted with crowd control at the annual Halloween party on State Street in Madison.



State Patrol sponsored Desert Snow training that combats drug smuggling and potential terrorist activities by instructing law enforcement officers how to “look beyond the traffic stop” for signs of criminal behavior and to search vehicles in areas where drugs, explosives and other contraband may be concealed.



A State Patrol K-9 team seized more than 1,000 pounds of marijuana from a semi-tractor trailer stopped for an inspection in La Crosse County in November 2007.



During a routine traffic stop, Trooper Larry Brown confiscated about 60 pounds of Khat, an illegal drug grown in Africa and the Middle East.

DECLINE IN FATALITIES COMPARED WITH FIVE-YEAR AVERAGE:

Traffic deaths in Wisconsin in 2006 and 2007 were substantially below the five-year average of 788 deaths in 709 crashes. In 2006, there were 712 traffic deaths in 659 crashes, which was the lowest number of fatalities since 1998. In 2007, there were 741 deaths in 659 crashes.

NEW OFFICERS HELP REPLENISH STATE PATROL'S STAFFING LEVELS:

The 54th Recruit class, which graduated in August 2006, was the first class of new officers since 2002. With the graduation of the 55th and 56th Recruit classes, the State Patrol is near its full complement of sworn officers.

REINVIGORATED CRIMINAL INTERDICTION AND HOMELAND SECURITY:

To fulfill its public safety and homeland security mission, the State Patrol was directed to reinvigorate its commitment to criminal and terrorist interdiction in 2005 and to make it a statewide priority. Significant progress was made in 2006 and 2007 particularly in training officers to recognize and react to indicators of criminal activity while performing routine traffic stops.

As part of its training initiatives, the State Patrol, along with the Milwaukee High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Program, sponsored the Desert Snow advanced criminal and terrorist interdiction program in West Bend in 2006 and 2007. Law enforcement officers from numerous agencies around the state and nation also attended. Desert Snow is recognized as the nation's premier program for highway criminal and terrorist interdiction training.



WisDOT Secretary Frank Busalacchi spoke to reporters at the Click It or Ticket kick-off.

Just a few days after completing Desert Snow training in 2006, Wisconsin State Patrol Trooper Steven Lindemann of the Southeast Region-Waukesha Post uncovered approximately 19 grams of crack cocaine concealed in a vehicle during a routine traffic stop. "I stopped the vehicle my first day back on the road after completing the Desert Snow program. Without this training, I would have never found the drugs in that vehicle," Trooper Lindemann said.

K-9 PROGRAM CREATED: To bolster its criminal interdiction program, the State Patrol instituted K-9 teams in January 2007. The federal Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program helps fund the program. With seven dogs and their handlers stationed around the state, the K-9 program is still growing. However, the K-9 teams have already produced some remarkable results. For example, on November 20, 2007, a K-9 team searched a semi-tractor trailer unit that was stopped for an inspection at the West Salem Safety and Weight Enforcement Facility on I-90 in La Crosse County. The dog alerted on a cardboard box stashed among a load of fresh tomatoes in the trailer. Inside the box, officers found about 25 pounds of marijuana. Officers then opened another 14 cardboard boxes and found a total of more than 1,000 pounds of marijuana. It is believed to be the largest marijuana seizure ever in western Wisconsin.

SAFETY BELT ENFORCEMENT MOBILIZATIONS AND CRACKDOWNS ON DRUNKEN DRIVING:

State Patrol officers and staff from the Bureau of Transportation Safety teamed up with more than 300 law enforcement agencies throughout state for the federally funded



Recruit class cadets spent long hours in firearms training at the Wisconsin State Patrol Academy.



Officers provided traffic control and direction at large public events, including the US Senior Open golf tournament at Kohler, the EAA Air Venture in Oshkosh, and an array of other activities.

"Click It or Ticket" safety belt mobilizations and the "Drunken Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest" crackdowns in 2006 and 2007. The intensified enforcement over the approximately two-week-long mobilizations and crackdowns were backed by an extensive media campaign. With more officers patrolling for longer hours, the "Click It or Ticket" mobilization in 2007 resulted in 8,116 citations issued for safety belt violations and 246 for child safety restraint violations. The "Click It or Ticket" mobilizations have helped increase the rate of safety belt use in Wisconsin to an all-time high of 75 percent.

TECHNICAL RECONSTRUCTION UNIT FORMED:

To meet the growing demand for the State Patrol's expertise in crash reconstruction and forensic mapping, a new Technical Reconstruction Unit was organized in September 2006. The unit has continually responded statewide to complex crash scenes and has been involved in the mapping of several high-profile crime scenes.

SPEED AND AGGRESSIVE DRIVING ENFORCEMENT:

The State Patrol Bureau of Transportation Safety, along with regional posts, initiated special enforcement efforts on US 41 in the summer of 2006 and the Interstate corridor in southern Wisconsin in the summer



A new Madison Safety and Weight Enforcement Facility (SWEF) opened in June 2007. The new \$4.7 million SWEF replaced a one-room, functionally obsolete facility. The Madison SWEF has modern safety and enforcement features, such as weigh-in-motion scales on the Interstate and on SWEF ramps, as well as the PrePass system, which automatically identifies vehicles that are pre-approved to bypass the station.



During the deployment of the Vehicle and Cargo Inspection System (above) at the Madison Safety and Weight Enforcement Facility in September 2007, State Patrol officers (below) performed thorough inspections of commercial vehicles, including cab and cargo areas when necessary.

of 2007 to target speeding and aggressive driving violations. The US 41 enforcement effort included participation with law enforcement agencies from Milwaukee to Marinette and the Interstate 39/90 and 94 corridor enforcement included 11 county sheriff's departments. Special details also were patrolling on Interstate 43 before and during the U.S. Senior Open golf tournament at Whistling Straits near Kohler in June 2007.

STATE PATROL INSPECTOR EXCELS AT INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION:

Inspector Lorie Floyd of the Southwest Region-Tomah Post received the prestigious John Youngblood Award at the North American Inspectors Championship (NAIC) in 2006 in New Orleans. Named for an inspector killed in the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing, the John Youngblood Award is presented each year to the inspector who best demonstrates the qualities of congeniality, leadership, integrity, professionalism and commitment.



LOCAL STATE PATROL OFFICER RECEIVES FBI DIRECTOR'S AWARD:

Wisconsin State Patrol Trooper Larry Sparling of the North Central Region-Wausau Post received the FBI's Director's Award in 2006 for his reconstruction and analysis of a single-vehicle rollover traffic crash that killed a woman on the Menomonee Indian Reservation. Trooper Sparling's findings became "the centerpiece of the investigation and successful prosecution" of Gerald Smith who was found guilty of vehicular homicide, according to Raymond Greco, FBI special agent.



A cruiser provided an escort for a massive truck hauling an industrial grain dryer from West Allis to the Minnesota border. The truck with its load was approximately 200 feet long and 16-feet wide. Due to its weight, the truck had to slow to 5 mph on several bridges and overpasses.

STATE PATROL SPECIAL AWARDS

To recognize and honor exemplary and life-saving actions, the Wisconsin State Patrol each year selects recipients of special awards.

Superintendent David Collins said, "All members of the State Patrol are devoted to improving highway and public safety. But the members of the State Patrol who received special awards have demonstrated exceptional service and courage under extremely stressful conditions. Their achievements go well above and beyond their normal duties."

The Meritorious Service Award recognizes those who place themselves at risk of injury while exceeding the expectations of their duties. The Lifesaving Award recognizes those who perform emergency actions that save a life. The Commendable Service Award recognizes those who perform an act above the normal job expectations or are instrumental in improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the State Patrol.

2006 RECIPIENTS



SGT. TANYA L. CONNORS:
Meritorious Service Award

TROOPER CRAIG A. MOREHOUSE:
Meritorious Service Award

INSPECTOR MARK E. BARLAR:
Lifesaving Award

TROOPER STEVEN R. LINDEMANN:
Lifesaving Award

TROOPER LUCILLE M. MCCUE:
Lifesaving Award

TROOPER KRISTIAN P. PERALES:
Lifesaving Award

TROOPER GUSTAVO A. GOMEZ:
Commendable Service Award

DIANE M. KING, BUREAU OF COMMUNICATIONS:
Commendable Service Award

SGT. STEVEN G. KRUEGER:
Commendable Service Award

**POLICE COMMUNICATIONS OPERATOR
DEBRA A. ODEKIRK:**
Commendable Service Award

**POLICE COMMUNICATIONS SUPERVISOR
LINDA L. PALMER:**
Commendable Service Award

2007 RECIPIENTS



INSPECTOR DAVID M. TORRES:
Meritorious Service Award

TROOPER BRYAN R. ASHENBRENNER:
Lifesaving Award

INSPECTOR KEVIN M. BORRESON:
Lifesaving Award

TROOPER GARY A. COWAN:
Lifesaving Award

TROOPER MARVIN J. KITTELSON:
Lifesaving Award

TROOPER LORI L. MAPLES:
Lifesaving Award

TROOPER BRIANT J. RUSSELL:
Lifesaving Award

**POLICE COMMUNICATIONS SUPERVISOR
WENDY LYNN GRIBBEN:**
Commendable Service Award

SGT. JAY B. SAMPSON:
Commendable Service Award

JEAN A. RICKMAN, SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE:
Commendable Service Award

Descriptions of the recipients' actions are available by e-mailing steve.olson@dot.state.wi.us

