

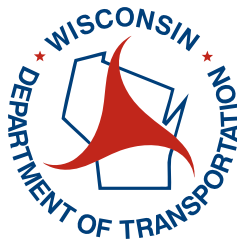


**WISCONSIN STATE PATROL**  
**Awards Ceremony**

**May 3, 2023**

*Presented by:*

Superintendent Timothy Carnahan  
Colonel David Fish



## **Wisconsin State Patrol Division Awards**

The Wisconsin State Patrol publicly honors those employees who have demonstrated outstanding service or performance. All honorees have been nominated by fellow employees for performing actions that deserve special recognition. These nominations for division awards are evaluated by the Division Awards Committee. The committee reviews all nominations and recommends to the superintendent those persons the committee believes deserve recognition. The final determination is made by the division superintendent.

### **Awards Committee Members:**

Section Chief Jody Wormet

Lieutenant Jeremy Foster

Sergeant Harmanjot Chahal

Sergeant Joshua Maurer

Trooper Justin Hart

Law Enforcement Dispatcher Shauna Unger

Program Supervisor Jan Grebel

Executive Staff Assistant Shari Gress

## PROGRAM AGENDA

*Lieutenant Jeramy Foster*

*Superintendent Tim Carnahan*

*WisDOT Secretary Craig Thompson*

*Governor Tony Evers*

*Presentation of Awards*

*Closing Remarks*



# Award Recipients

## **Meritorious Service ..... 5**

Trooper Jesus Aguilar .....	5
Trooper Christopher Bridges.....	6
Trooper Megan LaFave .....	7
Trooper Alex Medina.....	8

## **Commendable Service ..... 10**

Inspector Tye Howver (ret.) .....	10
Sergeant Mathew Strickland.....	11

## **Lifesaving Effort ..... 12**

Trooper Cody Digre .....	12
Trooper Nicholas Erickson .....	12
Inspector Thomas Fleming.....	12
Trooper Jake Fricke (2) .....	12
Inspector Joshua Lintula .....	12
Trooper Ryan Roth.....	12
Trooper Jacob Sampson .....	12
Trooper Caleb Truax .....	12
Inspector Paul Voigt.....	12

## **Lifesaving.....14**

Trooper Gary Cowan (ret.) .....	14
Inspector Jonathan Fenrick and Inspector Dylan Strasburg .....	15
Trooper Nathaniel Hausman .....	16
Jacob Hiither (Civilian) .....	17
Trooper Brandon Jensen .....	18
Trooper Michael Knowlton.....	19
Trooper Timothy Knutson.....	20
Trooper Michael Lawson and Trooper Alexander Lintner .....	21
Trooper Justin Luangaram.....	22
Trooper Chris Senkbeil.....	23
Sergeant Joseph Stephens .....	24

## **Superintendent's Commendation..... 25**

Trooper Brett Boley .....	25
Trooper Christina Holtz .....	26

## **Inspector of the Year..... 27**

Inspector Richard Kastner .....	27
---------------------------------	----

## **Trooper of the Year..... 28**

Trooper Nicholas Lorenzen.....	28
--------------------------------	----

## **Civilian Employee of the Year ..... 29**

David Malisch - IS Business Automation Senior.....	29
---	----

## **Dispatcher of the Year ..... 30**

Law Enforcement Dispatcher Erin McKay .....	30
--	----

# Wisconsin State Patrol Division Awards

## **MEDAL OF VALOR**

Recognizes actions taken by an employee of the division who has demonstrated valor, courage, or bravery to a high degree, well beyond the normal expectations of an individual. The Medal of Valor consists of a certificate, medal with ribbon, and a red, white, and blue bar.

## **PURPLE HEART**

Recognizes a division employee who suffered significant injuries caused by another, was wounded, or who lost his/her life while in the performance of duty. The Purple Heart consists of a certificate, medal with ribbon, and a purple and white bar.

## **MERITORIOUS SERVICE**

Recognizes a division employee who places himself/herself at risk of injury while exceeding the expectations of his/her duties. The Meritorious Service recognition consists of a certificate, medal with ribbon, and a green, white, and blue bar.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S STAR OF RECOGNITION**

Recognizes a division supervisory employee for distinguished and or exceptional achievements accomplished in the performance of duty to a degree that contributes to the mission of the division in a profound manner. The Superintendent's Star of Recognition consists of a certificate, medal with ribbon, and a blue and white bar.

## **COMMENDABLE SERVICE**

Recognizes a division employee who performs a highly creditable act above and beyond the normal job expectation or recognizes accomplishments that contribute to the efficiency and effectiveness of the division and enhances the professional image to the public we serve. The Commendable Service recognition consists of a certificate and a white bar.

## **INNOVATION AND EXCELLENCE**

Recognizes an employee who creates, or has a key leadership role in the creation of, a significant process or project that generates important efficiencies that improve policies, practices, and/or procedures. This award consists of a certificate.

## **LIFESAVING**

Recognizes a division employee who performs a lifesaving effort resulting in maintaining or saving a life. The Lifesaving recognition consists of a certificate and a red and white bar.

# Wisconsin State Patrol Awards

## **LIFESAVING EFFORT**

Recognizes a division employee who provides significant or prolonged lifesaving efforts to a victim or victims but whose actions do not yield lifesaving results. The Lifesaving Effort recognition consists of a certificate.

## **UNIT CITATION**

Recognizes all members of a work unit who have collectively exhibited a significant degree of team effort that directly results in outstanding service or successful achievement of a division goal. The Unit Citation consists of a certificate and a red bar.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENDATION**

Recognizes a division employee who has achieved a superior level of proficiency in law enforcement activities. Efforts must be sustained and compelling to a degree that is exceptional in comparison to the employee's peers within the agency and having a profound positive impact on achievement of identified agency strategic goals and initiatives. The Superintendent's Commendation consists of a certificate.

## **TROOPER OF THE YEAR**

Recognizes a sworn, non-supervisory trooper who displays outstanding work performance, initiative, leadership, effective interpersonal relations and must project a positive image of the Wisconsin State Patrol both on and off duty. The Trooper of the Year award consists of a certificate and a plaque.

## **INSPECTOR OF THE YEAR**

Recognizes a sworn, non-supervisory inspector who displays outstanding work performance, initiative, leadership, effective interpersonal relations and must project a positive image of the Wisconsin State Patrol both on and off duty. The Inspector of the Year award consists of a certificate and a plaque.

## **DISPATCHER OF THE YEAR**

Recognizes a non-supervisory law enforcement dispatcher who displays outstanding work performance, initiative, leadership, effective interpersonal relations and must project a positive image of the Wisconsin State Patrol both on and off duty. The Dispatcher of the Year award consists of a certificate and a plaque.

## **CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR**

Recognizes a non-sworn, non-supervisory employee who displays outstanding work performance, initiative, leadership, effective interpersonal relations and must project a positive image of the Wisconsin State Patrol both on and off duty. The Civilian Employee of the Year award consists of a certificate and a plaque.

*Governor Tony Evers,  
Secretary Craig Thompson,  
Deputy Secretary Paul Hammer,  
Superintendent Tim Carnahan,  
and Colonel David Fish*

ARE PROUD TO RECOGNIZE  
THE FOLLOWING  
AWARD RECIPIENTS:



# Meritorious Service

## Trooper Jesus Aguilar



On March 20, 2022, Trooper Aguilar responded to a single vehicle crash in Kenosha County. Upon arrival, he observed the vehicle engulfed in flames and an unconscious driver still inside. Placing himself in harm's way, Trooper Aguilar used his fire extinguisher to extinguish flames inside the driver's compartment area of the vehicle. With the assistance of a good Samaritan, Trooper Aguilar reached into the burning vehicle and removed the driver. The driver was moved away from the burning vehicle and Trooper Aguilar attempted lifesaving measures but was ultimately unsuccessful. Trooper Aguilar placed himself at great risk when removing the unconscious driver from the burning vehicle. His actions were brave, courageous, and demonstrated true selflessness.

BY SELFLESSLY RISKING HIS OWN PERSONAL SAFETY TO HELP ANOTHER, TROOPER JESUS AGUILAR DEMONSTRATED HIGH LEVELS OF BRAVERY AND DEDICATION IN THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES. FOR HIS EXEMPLARY EFFORTS, HE IS PRESENTED WITH THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD.

# Meritorious Service

## Trooper Christopher Bridges



On September 18, 2021, Trooper Bridges responded to a crash in Dane County in which a vehicle drove through a guardrail and struck a pillar on the median side of the William Street overpass. The vehicle was on fire and the driver was conscious but trapped inside. While other individuals attempted to extinguish the flames from the vehicle, Trooper Bridges rushed to the vehicle, managed to cut the driver's seat belt, and pulled the driver out of the car. The driver was then flown to a hospital. Trooper Bridges selflessly put himself in harm's way and his bravery undoubtedly saved the life of the driver.

BY SELFLESSLY RISKING HIS OWN PERSONAL SAFETY TO HELP ANOTHER, TROOPER CHRISTOPHER BRIDGES DEMONSTRATED HIGH LEVELS OF BRAVERY AND DEDICATION IN THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES. FOR HIS EXEMPLARY EFFORTS, HE IS PRESENTED WITH THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD.

# Meritorious Service

## Trooper Megan LaFave



On December 31, 2021, Trooper Megan LaFave responded to a report of a building explosion in Shawano County. Upon arrival, she saw a mechanic shop on fire. She entered the building and found a man who had been severely injured. She pulled the man to safety, approximately 200 feet from the building. After turning the man over to emergency medical personnel, Trooper LaFave re-entered the building, discovered another man who was unconscious and pulled him out of the building. Trooper LaFave entered the building a third time to remove another unconscious man. After removing three individuals from the building, Trooper LaFave retrieved her fire extinguisher and attempted to put out the fire. Two of the men Trooper LaFave pulled to safety were pronounced dead at the scene while the third was transported to a local hospital for treatment. Trooper LaFave placed herself at great risk when removing the three individuals from the burning building. Her actions were brave, courageous, and demonstrated true selflessness.

BY SELFLESSLY RISKING HER OWN PERSONAL SAFETY TO HELP ANOTHER, TROOPER MEGAN LAFAVE DEMONSTRATED HIGH LEVELS OF BRAVERY AND DEDICATION IN THE PERFORMANCE OF HER DUTIES. FOR HER EXEMPLARY EFFORTS, SHE IS PRESENTED WITH THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD.

# Meritorious Service

## Trooper Alex Medina



On April 20, 2022, Trooper Alex Medina was working an enforcement detail for the Milwaukee Reckless Driving Reduction Initiative and attempted to stop a speeding vehicle. The driver fled at a high rate of speed. Trooper Medina did not pursue the vehicle, but shortly after, it crashed into a tree and started on fire.

Trooper Medina approached the driver's side of the vehicle and observed significant front-end damage. The entire engine compartment of the vehicle was in flames and the flames were quickly enveloping the passenger compartment of the vehicle. The smoke from the flames filled the entire passenger compartment, leaving no visibility inside the vehicle. Trooper Medina broke the front driver's side passenger window and forced open the driver's side door. He located an unresponsive male occupant in the driver's seat of the vehicle and pulled him out of the vehicle to a safe distance away. Trooper Medina returned to the vehicle to ensure there were no other occupants. Shortly after, the vehicle was fully engulfed in flames, causing two explosions in the vehicle. The flames from the vehicle also took down a power line above it. Due to Trooper Medina's heroic actions, the driver was transported by ambulance to a local hospital and survived the crash injuries.

BY SELFLESSLY RISKING HIS OWN PERSONAL SAFETY TO HELP ANOTHER, TROOPER ALEX MEDINA DEMONSTRATED HIGH LEVELS OF BRAVERY AND DEDICATION IN THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES. FOR HIS EXEMPLARY EFFORTS, HE IS PRESENTED WITH THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD.



# Commendable Service

## Inspector Tye Howver (ret.)



The November 15, 2021 line of duty death of Trooper Daniel Stainbrook presented a challenging time for the Wisconsin State Patrol and the communities we serve. During this time, Inspector Tye Howver performed commendable acts of service which were above and beyond his normal job expectations.

On the day of Trooper Stainbrook's passing, Inspector Howver performed the valued role of a peer support team member. Immediately upon notification of Trooper Stainbrook's condition,

he provided emotional support to the family and extended his role of peer support to troop members, civilians, and others who were affected by the loss of Trooper Stainbrook. Soon after the passing of Trooper Stainbrook, Inspector Howver assumed an additional role as a family liaison officer for the Stainbrook family. Along with his other roles and responsibilities, he took on this role with honor, compassion, and empathy. He represented himself and the agency above expectations. His job responsibilities were emotionally taxing and often required extended hours. He not only provided emotional support but also contributed to the planning of two memorial services, organizing events, providing transports, and other job responsibilities. All responsibilities were completed while still maintaining his role as a peer support member and a Wisconsin State Patrol inspector. His actions took him outside of his normal work activities, going above and beyond by completing tasks while off duty. As a direct result of his dedication, he was able to assist the Stainbrook family during a difficult time and guided them through a challenging chain of events.

Inspector Tye Howver has gone above and beyond his expectations as a Wisconsin State Patrol inspector. He is a true representation of our division's values. He has put the interest of others in front of his own needs. He was able to complete difficult tasks both on and off duty to benefit the agency, the Stainbrook family, and those around him. His actions are commendable and they exemplify the position of a Wisconsin State Patrol inspector.

FOR GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND THE NORMAL JOB EXPECTATION  
AND CONTRIBUTING TO THE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF  
THE DIVISION, INSPECTOR TYE HOWVER IS PRESENTED  
WITH THE COMMENDABLE SERVICE AWARD.

# Commendable Service

## Sergeant Mathew Strickland



The November 15, 2021 line of duty death of Trooper Daniel Stainbrook brought tremendous loss and heartache to our agency and the communities we serve. From the beginning of Trooper Stainbrook's illness, Sergeant Mathew Strickland maintained close contact with the Stainbrook family, serving the role of Trooper Stainbrook's supervisor and a peer support team member, and even more importantly, a family friend. He provided any and all assistance the family needed and facilitated the help of his

troop and fellow coworkers with many of those tasks. On the day of Trooper Stainbrook's passing, Sergeant Strickland assumed the role of family liaison to provide the support and solace needed to the Stainbrook family. This role required an immense amount of time and commitment, in addition to a sturdy emotional constitution and an altruistic spirit.

Sergeant Strickland attended to the Stainbrook family's needs, keeping them apprised of agency plans, assisting in funeral preparations, and transporting the family to the many planning sessions and ceremonies that were held to honor their husband and father. During this time when he was assisting the Stainbrook family, Sergeant Strickland continued his role as a supervisor for his troop in the North Central Region. Though he was grieving himself, he supported his coworkers in day-to-day operations and helped them through the grieving process after the loss of Trooper Stainbrook. All the roles Sergeant Strickland assumed during this tragic time were both physically and emotionally draining and much of his efforts were outside of his normal work activities. Still, he continued to show his true character of caring and compassion for everyone around him. Sergeant Strickland's dedication to the Stainbrook family, coworkers, friends, and this agency is selfless and commendable.

Sergeant Strickland's acts have far exceeded the expectations the Division of State Patrol normally places on a sergeant. His tireless and selfless actions have enhanced the professional image of the division and contributed to efficiency and effectiveness of this agency during this tragic time.

FOR GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND THE NORMAL JOB EXPECTATION AND CONTRIBUTING TO THE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE DIVISION, **SERGEANT MATHEW STRICKLAND** IS PRESENTED WITH THE **COMMENDABLE SERVICE AWARD**.

# Lifesaving Effort

Trooper Cody Digre

Trooper Nicholas Erickson

Inspector Thomas Fleming

Trooper Jake Fricke (2)

Inspector Joshua Lintula

Trooper Ryan Roth

Trooper Jacob Sampson

Trooper Caleb Truax

Inspector Paul Voigt





# Lifesaving

## Trooper Gary Cowan (ret.)



On December 7, 2021, Trooper Cowan overheard Monroe County Dispatch sending an ambulance to a business in Oakdale for a report of a male subject who had collapsed, was not breathing, and did not have a pulse. Trooper Cowan was the first on scene and asked one of the shop workers to go back outside to direct the ambulance when it arrived. Trooper Cowan observed a male subject who was unconscious and lying on the floor with his head slumped against a wall. A bystander was attempting CPR while listening to instructions from Monroe County Medical Dispatch. Trooper Cowan and the bystander moved the subject away from the wall. Trooper Cowan confirmed the male subject was not breathing and did not have a pulse, so Trooper Cowan began one-person CPR. A few minutes later, a Monroe County deputy arrived and the two officers performed two-person CPR. The deputy took over compressions and Trooper Cowan conducted rescue breaths. The male subject still did not have a pulse.

Tomah paramedics arrived later to take over CPR and patient care. Trooper Cowan assisted with placement of medical equipment and paramedics were able to regain a pulse. The subject was taken to a local hospital where he recovered.

FOR HIS PROFESSIONAL AND DECISIVE ACTIONS, WHICH ULTIMATELY LED TO SAVING A LIFE, TROOPER GARY COWAN IS PRESENTED WITH THE LIFESAVING AWARD.

# Lifesaving

## Inspector Jonathan Fenrick and Inspector Dylan Strasburg



On the morning of February 10, 2022, Inspector Jonathan Fenrick and Inspector Dylan Strasburg responded to a medical emergency call of an unconscious female suffering from a drug overdose on Interstate 39/90 in Dane County. Inspector Fenrick was the first officer to arrive and observed the female sitting upright in the vehicle with her head tilted back, eyes rolled back into her head, and labored breathing. Inspector Fenrick administered one dose of naloxone. Inspector Fenrick observed the female's eyes begin to move side-to-side and opened slightly at times. Inspector Fenrick administered a second dose of naloxone and continued to monitor the female, whose breathing became increasingly more labored. Inspector Strasburg arrived on scene and administered a third and final dose of naloxone as Cambridge Emergency Medical Services arrived on scene. The female became fully alert and was able to communicate with EMS. The female was transported to a hospital for further evaluation.

FOR THEIR PROFESSIONAL AND DECISIVE ACTIONS, WHICH  
ULTIMATELY LED TO SAVING A LIFE, INSPECTOR JONATHAN FENRICK  
AND INSPECTOR DYLAN STRASBURG ARE PRESENTED  
WITH THE LIFESAVING AWARD.

# Lifesaving

## Trooper Nathaniel Hausman



On June 8, 2022, Trooper Hausman was on a traffic stop when he responded to a call that two males were on the ground and not breathing behind a hotel in Tomah. Trooper Hausman was first to arrive on scene and located the two men lying unresponsive on the ground. Trooper Hausman was able to wake and speak with one of the men. The other man was lying on his side, not moving, and not responding to any of Trooper Hausman's questions. Trooper Hausman rolled the man onto his back and moved him to a concrete pad. The man was cold to the touch, not breathing, and no pulse was detected. As Trooper Hausman began CPR, the man's pulse returned and he started breathing again. EMS arrived, took over lifesaving measures, and administered naloxone. The man eventually woke up, and was transported to a hospital for evaluation.

FOR HIS PROFESSIONAL AND DECISIVE ACTIONS, WHICH ULTIMATELY  
LED TO SAVING A LIFE, TROOPER NATHANIEL HAUSMAN IS  
PRESENTED WITH THE LIFESAVING AWARD.

# Lifesaving

Jacob Hiither (Civilian)



On September 18, 2021, Jacob Hiither was working as a Freeway Service Team driver assigned to the I-39/90 expansion project. He received a notification on his phone of a traffic incident and, before being dispatched, proactively proceeded to the area. He came upon a vehicle wedged underneath a guardrail and up against the overpass pillar. The vehicle was on fire; the driver was trapped and appeared incapacitated. Using a chain from the service truck, Mr. Hiither broke the driver's side window to attempt to gain access to the occupant. Mr. Hiither exhausted the fire extinguisher from the service truck and stopped eight passing commercial vehicles to ask for their fire extinguishers to continue keeping the flames down. His efforts provided an opportunity for a state trooper to cut the driver's seat belt and remove him from the vehicle. Mr. Hiither's actions in fighting the vehicle fire saved the life of the driver that day.

FOR HIS PROFESSIONAL AND DECISIVE ACTIONS, WHICH ULTIMATELY  
LED TO SAVING A LIFE, **JACOB HIITHER** IS PRESENTED  
WITH THE **LIFESAVING AWARD**.

# Lifesaving

## Trooper Brandon Jensen



On July 1, 2022, Trooper Jensen responded to a motorcycle crash on Interstate 94 in St. Croix County. Trooper Jensen located the 24-year-old motorcycle operator in the right ditch and noted he had a compound fracture to his right leg. Trooper Jensen noticed the motorcyclist was bleeding substantially. He promptly applied a tourniquet to the operator's right leg within four minutes of the crash. The operator was transported to a hospital for emergency treatment where he underwent several blood transfusions due to the volume of blood lost. The operator's life and leg were saved due to Trooper Jensen's quick, decisive action.

FOR HIS PROFESSIONAL AND DECISIVE ACTIONS, WHICH ULTIMATELY LED TO SAVING A LIFE, TROOPER BRANDON JENSEN IS PRESENTED WITH THE LIFESAVING AWARD.

# Lifesaving

## Trooper Michael Knowlton



On November 21, 2021, Trooper Michael Knowlton was on patrol and heard Kenosha County Sheriff's Dispatch broadcast a crash in which the driver was unconscious and not breathing. Trooper Knowlton arrived on scene. A Kenosha County deputy had administered a dose of naloxone to the driver, but the driver had no response. The driver was removed from the vehicle and he was found to be pulseless and not breathing. Trooper Knowlton provided rescue breaths on the subject, while deputies performed chest compressions. A sheriff's deputy applied pads and activated the automated external defibrillator. The AED analyzed the heart rhythm of the patient and advised no shock was needed at this time and to resume CPR. Trooper Knowlton provided rescue breaths and could hear the driver gasping for breath. At one point, Trooper Knowlton briefly took over chest compressions for the sheriff's deputy. A pulse was regained and noted by the deputy performing chest compressions. Paris Fire/EMS arrived on scene and took over the emergency medical care and chest compressions. The driver was then transported to a local hospital. It was determined the driver had a medical incident while behind the wheel of his car. The next day, Trooper Knowlton was advised that the subject had recovered.

FOR HIS PROFESSIONAL AND DECISIVE ACTIONS, WHICH ULTIMATELY LED TO SAVING A LIFE, TROOPER MICHAEL KNOWLTON IS PRESENTED WITH THE LIFESAVING AWARD.

# Lifesaving

## Trooper Timothy Knutson



On December 4, 2021, Trooper Timothy Knutson responded to a home in Menomonie for a report of a male subject who was not breathing and had no pulse. Upon his arrival, Trooper Knutson found the subject lying in the hallway, still pulseless and not breathing. He initiated CPR until EMS arrived on scene. Trooper Knutson remained on scene and assisted EMS and another law enforcement officer with chest compressions until the 75-year-old male regained a pulse and began breathing on his own. He was transported to a local hospital where he recovered.

FOR HIS PROFESSIONAL AND DECISIVE ACTIONS, WHICH ULTIMATELY LED TO SAVING A LIFE, TROOPER TIMOTHY KNUTSON IS PRESENTED WITH THE LIFESAVING AWARD.



# Lifesaving

## Trooper Michael Lawson and Trooper Alexander Lintner



On September 6, 2021, Trooper Michael Lawson and Trooper Alexander Lintner responded to a bicycle crash in Kenosha. The victim, an 80-year-old male, was in a ditch with his broken bicycle. He did not have a pulse and was not breathing. Trooper Lawson and Trooper Lintner moved the man onto the flat and level roadway then took over two-person CPR from a good Samaritan. Trooper Lintner began breaths and Trooper Lawson began compressions. A Kenosha County sheriff's deputy arrived and provided an AED. The defibrillator advised to continue compressions and did not require a shock. Trooper Lawson and Trooper Lintner continued compressions until a Bristol Fire Department ambulance arrived. The bicyclist was taken to a hospital and survived with a broken jaw and other injuries.

FOR THEIR PROFESSIONAL AND DECISIVE ACTIONS, WHICH  
ULTIMATELY LED TO SAVING A LIFE, TROOPER MICHAEL LAWSON AND  
TROOPER ALEXANDER LINTNER ARE PRESENTED  
WITH THE LIFESAVING AWARD.

# Lifesaving

## Trooper Justin Luangaram



On September 18, 2021, Trooper Luangaram responded to a crash in Dane County in which a vehicle drove through a guardrail and struck a pillar on the median side of the William Street overpass. The driver was conscious but trapped inside the vehicle, which was on fire. Trooper Luangaram and another individual used fire extinguishers to attempt to extinguish the flames. Trooper Luangaram's actions allowed another state trooper an opportunity to cut the driver's seat belt and remove him from the vehicle. Trooper Luangaram's brave actions helped save the life of the driver.

FOR HIS PROFESSIONAL AND DECISIVE ACTIONS, WHICH ULTIMATELY LED TO SAVING A LIFE, TROOPER JUSTIN LUANGARAM IS PRESENTED WITH THE LIFESAVING AWARD.

# Lifesaving

## Trooper Chris Senkbeil



On October 17, 2021, the Washington County Sheriff's Office requested Trooper Chris Senkbeil's assistance to respond to a home for a female who was stung by a bee in the neck and was not breathing. Upon arrival, Trooper Senkbeil entered the residence and saw a female lying on the living room floor. Trooper Senkbeil checked for a pulse and did not feel one. He began compressions on the subject as a Germantown police officer arrived on scene. The two applied the AED and there was no shock advised. Trooper Senkbeil continued the compressions on the subject as the Germantown officer performed rescue breathing with a bag valve mask. Germantown Fire and Rescue arrived on scene and took over. Trooper Senkbeil then assisted by holding an IV bag. The subject regained a pulse and was breathing on her own before being transported. Trooper Senkbeil was advised the subject was alive and talking at the hospital.

FOR HIS PROFESSIONAL AND DECISIVE ACTIONS, WHICH ULTIMATELY LED TO SAVING A LIFE, TROOPER CHRIS SENKBEIL IS PRESENTED WITH THE LIFESAVING AWARD.

# Lifesaving

## Sergeant Joseph Stephens



On November 11, 2021, Sergeant Stephens and Inspector Schwabenlander were dispatched to a vehicle in the ditch on I-41 in Germantown. Sergeant Stephens arrived on scene and observed a vehicle in the right ditch with the air bags deployed, and damage to the driver's side. Sergeant Stephens made contact with a male occupant who was not responding to commands. He was pale, appeared not to be breathing and had his head down. Sergeant Stephens was able to confirm with a passenger in the same vehicle that the driver had recently used heroin. Sergeant Stephens advised Wisconsin State Patrol Communications Center that he needed an ambulance for the unconscious driver.

Sergeant Stephens returned to the vehicle in the ditch and removed the seat belt from the driver, placed him on the ground and administered a dose of naloxone. Sergeant Stephens then performed several sternum rubs on the male and monitored his pulse rate. Sergeant Stephens noted a rapid, but weak pulse. Inspector Schwabenlander handed Sergeant Stephens another dose of naloxone and Sergeant Stephens administered the dose to the driver.

The Germantown Fire Department arrived on scene to take over medical care. A few minutes later, the driver regained consciousness, started breathing and began to have a conversation with the first responders on scene. Eventually, the male walked to the ambulance and was transported to a local hospital.

FOR HIS PROFESSIONAL AND DECISIVE ACTIONS, WHICH ULTIMATELY LED TO SAVING A LIFE, SERGEANT JOSEPH STEPHENS IS PRESENTED WITH THE LIFESAVING AWARD.

# Superintendent's Commendation

## Trooper Brett Boley



Trooper Brett Boley serves in the Northwest Region and is assigned to Eau Claire County. Through his proactive patrols, Trooper Boley played a substantial role in deterring impaired driving in 2021, helping reduce the risk on the roads. His actions have had a profound impact on the division's goal of enhancing public safety, no doubt lowering crashes and saving lives.

FOR HIS COMMITMENT TO ENHANCING PUBLIC SAFETY BY ENFORCING WISCONSIN TRAFFIC LAW, TROOPER BRETT BOLEY IS PRESENTED WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENDATION AWARD.

# Superintendent's Commendation

## Trooper Christina Holtz



Trooper Christina Holtz serves in the Southwest Region, specifically assigned to Monroe County. In 2021, Trooper Holtz had an exceptional impact on public safety through her efforts to identify, stop, and prevent crimes. Her criminal interdiction enforcement has earned her a Superintendent's Commendation for supporting the division's goals of combating crime and terrorism.

Trooper Holtz is also presented with a Superintendent's Commendation for her proactive patrols to improve public safety with a focus on seat belt enforcement.

A third Superintendent's Commendation recognizes Trooper Holtz's exceptional impact on public safety through her proactive patrols in speed enforcement.

The actions of Trooper Holtz have undoubtedly lowered the number of crashes and improved driver behaviors. Her work has had a profound impact on the division's goal of saving lives.

FOR HER COMMITMENT TO ENHANCING PUBLIC SAFETY BY ENFORCING WISCONSIN TRAFFIC LAWS, TROOPER CHRISTINA HOLTZ IS PRESENTED WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENDATION AWARD IN THREE AREAS OF EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE.

# Inspector of the Year

## Inspector Richard Kastner



Inspector Richard Kastner is currently assigned to the Northwest Region - Spooner Post. Inspector Kastner is an excellent example of what a leader should be and demonstrates that in numerous ways. He leads by example, excelling in his primary role as a mobile inspector in Washburn County. Inspector Kastner is active in mobile weight enforcement and is consistently in the top ten for scale usage throughout state. His enforcement activity is contagious, creating a positive influence on the

others in his work unit. Inspector Kastner takes initiative in identifying areas of the region that need additional enforcement and will coordinate with other inspectors to establish enforcement details to address the issue. Inspector Kastner has a vast amount of knowledge in his position and he is often the first person called when others need assistance.

Inspector Kastner was the Field Training Officer for two new inspectors this last year, helping them to obtain their certifications in Hazardous Materials, Cargo Tanker, Other Bulk HAZMAT, and School Bus. Inspector Kastner presented the training materials, then coordinated the locations to perform the practical inspections required for the certification. Inspector Kastner has taken on extra responsibilities as a Human Service Vehicle, School Bus, Passenger Vehicle, and Salvage Inspector. He also serves as an EDR/ECM Download Technician for heavy vehicles.

In his personal time, Inspector Kastner is an active member of the Weyerhaeuser VFW POST 5780. The VFW serves veterans, military families, and their local communities. Inspector Kastner often volunteers at community events and for funeral services.

Inspector Kastner not only excels at his job by taking initiative to complete his daily duties and additional responsibilities but improves the performance of those around him through example. Inspector Kastner demonstrates leadership by searching for areas that require attention, coordinating enforcement details, and helping others whenever needed.

**IN RECOGNITION OF HIS OUTSTANDING WORK PERFORMANCE, INITIATIVE, AND LEADERSHIP, AND FOR PROMOTING A POSITIVE IMAGE OF THE WISCONSIN STATE PATROL, BOTH ON AND OFF DUTY, INSPECTOR RICHARD KASTNER IS PRESENTED WITH THE 2022 INSPECTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD.**

# Trooper of the Year

## Trooper Nicholas Lorenzen



Trooper Nicholas Lorenzen is currently assigned to the Southeast Region – Waukesha Post. Trooper Lorenzen serves the region and division in many important and time-intensive roles including Field Training Officer, Court Officer, Background Investigator, Honor Guard Unit member, Tactical Response Instructor, Firearms Instructor, and as a State Patrol and local Waukesha County SWAT team member. As a SWAT team member, Trooper Lorenzen routinely responds to tactical incidents and

planned missions. Trooper Lorenzen is an active instructor for the division, assisting with training in both the Southeast Region and State Patrol Academy. His dedicated work as a court officer has strengthened relationships with the Waukesha County District Attorney's Office and other local law enforcement agencies. As a member of the Honor Guard, Trooper Lorenzen was selected to represent the division during the 2022 Police Week in Washington D.C. Trooper Lorenzen has also volunteered for Special Olympics events.

Despite these commitments, Trooper Lorenzen remains active in enforcement and balances these varied responsibilities to maintain high performance. Trooper Lorenzen takes exceptional care of equipment and uniform items. This attention to detail assists with command presence and demonstrates pride in the work of the division. Whether on a traffic stop, tactical mission, or other assignment, Trooper Lorenzen seeks the best outcomes when dealing with a diverse array of individuals.

Trooper Lorenzen has developed wide-ranging expertise which others in the region and division rely on. His enthusiasm, professional dedication, exemplary care of his appearance, and willingness to take on new challenges makes him a valuable asset to the agency and a role model to other officers. These traits make Trooper Lorenzen respected both within the division and by officers of other agencies.

**IN RECOGNITION OF HIS OUTSTANDING WORK PERFORMANCE, INITIATIVE, AND LEADERSHIP, AND FOR PROMOTING A POSITIVE IMAGE OF THE WISCONSIN STATE PATROL, BOTH ON AND OFF DUTY, TROOPER NICHOLAS LORENZEN IS PRESENTED WITH THE 2022 TROOPER OF THE YEAR AWARD.**



# Civilian Employee of the Year

## David Malisch - IS Business Automation Senior



David Malisch is an Information Systems Business Support Senior with the Traffic and Criminal Software Support Unit. With the departure of four TraCS Unit members in one year, including the unit supervisor, IS Senior Malisch has provided stability in continuing to support TraCS users across the state and in providing critical training for new employees. IS Senior Malisch demonstrated leadership and mentorship for two new full-time employees and an intern. With his assistance, the new employees have

learned quickly to assist with support for the more than 550 TraCS user agencies across the state. That training was performed while he continued to support TraCS agencies that needed to be migrated to State Patrol-hosted TraCS servers.

IS Senior Malisch also led the planning of the annual TraCS User Conference for more than 300 attendees. The event is an opportunity to train TraCS user agencies on new software developments and discuss issues with TraCS support team members. IS Senior Malisch was a significant contributor to the 2022 conference and delivered one of the most highly attended and highly rated breakout sessions. While balancing his other duties, IS Senior Malisch also took on the role of administrator for a new service desk software, Jira. He worked to design and incorporate the new software and assisted other State Patrol units as they gained access to Jira.

The TraCS Unit was in a unique situation during 2021 and early 2022. On a national level, a decision had been made that TraCS software would no longer be supported on the older of the two types of databases for TraCS. As a solution, the TraCS unit successfully obtained funding to create a shared, hosted, modern TraCS database. Moving agencies to this platform decreased IT support needs and kept agencies on the most current infrastructure and form versions. As the number of TraCS form types used by law enforcement in Wisconsin increases, so does the reliance upon the technical expertise and support of the TraCS Unit. IS Senior Malisch's diligent work, diplomatic demeanor, and leadership have been critical to the maintenance of TraCS and positively influenced new employees. His work reflects positively upon the entire division and the agency.

**IN RECOGNITION OF HIS OUTSTANDING WORK PERFORMANCE, INITIATIVE, AND LEADERSHIP, AND FOR PROMOTING A POSITIVE IMAGE OF THE WISCONSIN STATE PATROL, IS BUSINESS AUTOMATION SENIOR DAVID MALISCH IS PRESENTED WITH THE 2022 CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD.**

# Dispatcher of the Year

## Law Enforcement Dispatcher Erin McKay



Law Enforcement Dispatcher Erin McKay is currently assigned to the Communications Unit – Traffic Management Center. LED McKay is a model dispatcher, which is evident by her willingness to go above and beyond to assist the citizens of Wisconsin and our sworn officers. LED McKay is an experienced Communications Training Officer who uses her job expertise to assist new employees, sworn and non-sworn colleagues, and supervisory staff, to ensure exceptional public service is provided daily.

LED McKay has an innovative outlook, making suggestions for improvements to daily operations. During critical incidents, LED McKay remains calm while taking control over the radio, assisting callers, and providing guidance to her colleagues to complete necessary tasks. LED McKay takes initiative to draft news releases, notify Regional Incident Management Coordinators, and complete various other duties.

LED McKay recognized the need for improved safety measures at the Traffic Management Center. Her detailed documentation of security concerns led to the creation of a security incident reporting log that is now used by employees in three divisions in the Department of Transportation. The logs are a first step in improving security at the Milwaukee Intermodal Station for all staff and customers. LED McKay has built working relationships through her expertise and willingness to go above and beyond, assisting our partner agencies with tedious open searches and recall message requests.

Outside of work, LED McKay and her husband became licensed foster parents to make a positive impact in the lives of families in need of care for children. Their first placement began in 2021, for a two-year-old boy who required regular therapy for his diagnosed post-traumatic stress disorder. The McKay family positively impacted this child's life by providing a safe and positive home environment while working with the boy's biological family.

**IN RECOGNITION OF HER OUTSTANDING WORK PERFORMANCE, INITIATIVE, AND LEADERSHIP, AND FOR PROMOTING A POSITIVE IMAGE OF THE WISCONSIN STATE PATROL, BOTH ON AND OFF DUTY, LAW ENFORCEMENT DISPATCHER ERIN MCKAY IS PRESENTED WITH THE 2022 DISPATCHER OF THE YEAR AWARD.**



