



# TEAM DPS

# HI-LIGHTS

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY NEWS  
PROTECTING. EDUCATING. SERVING.

2018 | THIRD QUARTER

## Westerhold Announced as Director of Office of Highway Safety and Justice Programs



Westerhold

A new director has been named for the Office of Highway Safety and Justice Programs, following the retirement of Phil Riley who had overseen the division since 2008. John Westerhold, who previously worked for the State Transport Police, was named as the new director on December 11, 2018.

Mr. Riley has dedicated 24 years of service to the Office of Highway Safety and Justice Programs and before that had served four years as a state trooper. In announcing his retirement, Director Smith said that Riley “has brought creativity and innovation to his work in the area of highway safety and

effectively managed extensive federal grant funding. I am proud of his many accomplishments, and I am thankful for his friendship and dedication to this department.”

Mr. Westerhold previously served as the Accountant/Fiscal Analyst for the State Transport Police. He has extensive background in managing budgetary and accounting functions—both here and in the private sector. Mr. Westerhold has been with SCDPS since 2017 and before that worked in the health care industry in the private sector for the past 20 years. Before joining SCDPS, he served at the Indiana School of Medicine as the assistant business manager and previously at the Methodist Hospital in Indiana. He has received numerous awards in his career for customer service and leadership. He holds several degrees, including a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

“Because of the complexity and breadth of responsibility encompassed in the Office of Highway Safety and Justice Programs, it was important to move expeditiously in identifying and training Mr. Riley’s successor,” said Director Leroy Smith. “We are fortunate to have highly skilled employees at SCDPS who stand ready to lead as we look to our future.”

## SC Law Enforcement Officers Hall of Fame Gets New Administrator

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Officers Hall of Fame has a new administrator. Jim McClary, who was previously with the State Law Enforcement Division, took over as the new administrator in November following the retirement of long-time Hall of Fame Administrator, Marsha Ardila.

Throughout his 44 years with SLED, McClary has worked in a number of capacities and has a keen understanding of the law enforcement community in South Carolina. McClary began working at SLED in 1974 at the age of 17 as a fingerprint analyst and retired as captain over the Training Section on September 30, 2018.

The Hall of Fame, is located at 5400 Broad River Road, and is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday to the public.



McClary





### Upcoming Events

**Director's Walk**  
Last Friday of Each Month  
11:45 a.m.

**Martin Luther King Jr. Day**  
January 21

**Law Enforcement DUI Challenge Ceremony**  
March 27

**Memorial Service for Victims of Highway Fatalities**  
April 27

**Do you have an upcoming event or news item for SCDPS Hi-Lights? Contact Christina Johnson in the Communications Office at [ChristinaJohnson@scdps.gov](mailto:ChristinaJohnson@scdps.gov).**

### A Message from Director Leroy Smith



I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for the professional and outstanding work you have done in 2018 to advance the mission of the SC Department of Public Safety. There is so much to be proud of when I look back over the past year and great things awaiting us in 2019.

The end of the year is always bittersweet because we often say goodbye to friends who are retiring. I am so thankful, however, that we have exceptional in-house talent to fill many of those key positions and keep our agency moving forward. As you see on the front page of the newsletter, we were excited

to announce the new director of the Office of Highway Safety and Justice Programs and administrator of the SC Law Enforcement Officers Hall of Fame.

On the enforcement front, our new Criminal Interdiction Unit was a welcome sight as we continue to battle the opioid crisis and the proliferation of drugs in our communities and on our roadways. On page 7, we introduce our seven new K9 team members. We will also begin our transition from shotguns to rifles to meet a changing world where active shooter or mass shooting situations continue to become more of a reality in our nation.

We made significant strides on the technological front last year. We are working toward a new case management system to eliminate some of the entry redundancies that are associated with the various programs currently in use by law enforcement. We migrated to a new e-mail system and retired aged servers. SCDPS implemented mobile CAD on Trooper laptops so that the Telecommunications Centers can observe and assign calls via geographical location mapping and that Troopers can monitor the location of other Troopers in the field to improve safety.

We are continuing to reach out to our communities and build bridges as we look to the future of law enforcement. The State Transport Police held two Junior Academies last year for young adults ages 16 to 20. The participants were selected from high schools, vocational schools and various communities across our state. The purpose of the Junior Academy is to build stronger community bonds and create awareness of STP's mission with the ultimate goal of creating future recruits. Cpl. Judd Jones was promoted as the SCHP Community Outreach Coordinator. He will not only work to oversee child passenger safety, he will help coordinate the Troop Community Advisory Councils, Today's Youth Tomorrow's Leaders (TYTL), Lunch Buddies and minority outreach efforts.

As we launch into 2019, many of our men and women in uniform were front and center at the January inauguration ceremony for Gov. Henry McMaster. SCDPS played a pivotal role in ensuring the safety and security on the Statehouse grounds during the inauguration. We have enjoyed working with Gov. McMaster and as a cabinet agency, we look forward to serving with him during his upcoming term.

Also, SCDPS began holding its stress/wellness training. The dates are January 7-11, 2019, and January 28-February 1, 2019 for all uniformed officers, Telecommunications Operators and Executive Staff. There is no doubt that law enforcement is a stressful occupation. Learning to recognize those stressors and develop the right coping strategies is vitally important as you navigate your careers. I am looking forward to learning how this training can help each of you and to make us stronger as a team.

As always, please accept my sincere gratitude for your commitment to serving the citizens of our great state. Best wishes for a safe and prosperous New Year!

### Trooper Rebman Honored at Greenville Highway Interchange Memorial



The SC Department of Public Safety held a highway dedication in honor of fallen Trooper Daniel Keith Rebman, Jr. who lost his life in the line-of-duty on October 24, 2017, in Greenville County. The ceremony was held at Morningside Baptist Church in Greenville on September 5, 2018.

SCDPS was joined by the Rebman family and friends, Sen. Karl Allen, District 7/Greenville County, Sen. Ross Turner, District 8/Greenville County and law enforcement and first responders.

The SC Department of Transportation formally unveiled highway signs designating the Intersection of I-385 and Bridges Road the "SCHP Trooper Daniel Keith Rebman, Jr. Memorial Intersection."

Rebman was killed in 2017 when his Patrol car was struck from behind by another motorist on I-385 in Greenville County near Bridges Road.

"As people travel the roadways of our state, it is fitting that they see

and know the names of those like Trooper Rebman whose lives were lost serving and protecting people they never knew – but they did it anyway – and that is what makes law enforcement a group set apart," said Director Smith.

Rebman joined the Highway Patrol in September 2016. He served in both Charleston and Greenville. Prior to becoming a trooper, he was a dispatcher for four years with SCHP Telecommunications. Both his father, Dan Rebman, and Trooper Rebman's wife, Michelle, spoke at the ceremony of the young trooper's love for the Highway Patrol, his family and the outdoors.

"Trooper Rebman was 31 years old and had been a trooper for a little over a year. But as his fellow troopers and family will tell you, he used that time wisely, making an investment and leaving an imprint on this organization," said Col. Williamson. "Keith, as his family and friends called him, had a passion to wear the uniform of a South Carolina State Trooper."

Trooper Rebman, a native of Orlando, Fla., was an avid sportsman and participated in outdoor activities and shooting competitions. At the age of 14, he won the silver medal for men's air pistol in the 2000 National Junior Olympics.

He won another special award when he graduated with Highway Patrol Basic 99 in September 2016, the Captain Cecil Dilworth Marksmanship Award for demonstrating the best marksmanship during firearms training.



Michelle Rebman and daughters with Dan and Tess Rebman, parents of Trooper D.K. Rebman, Jr.



Troop 3 Troopers, Michelle Rebman and three daughters, Olivia, Charlee, and Kennedy.



**BASIC 105  
AWARD WINNERS**



**Justin T. Wood**  
*Captain Cecil Dilworth Marksmanship Award*  
*Israel Brooks Jr. Physical Fitness Award*



**Gregory B. Parker**  
*Colonel P.F. Thompson*  
*Outstanding Achievement Award*

## Highway Patrol Holds Graduation Ceremonies for 63 New Troopers in November

SCDPS held graduation ceremonies on November 20, for 63 troopers from Highway Patrol Basic Classes 105 and 106.

U.S. Senator Tim Scott spoke to the graduates, thanking them for their service to the state:

“It seems like your days get longer when people are enjoying their time off. It seems like you are signing up for a task that requires you to be away from your families so that others can celebrate time with their families,” Sen. Scott told the graduates. “It is your dedication and your tenacity that allows the State of South Carolina to enjoy the things that we do in the way that we can because we don’t have to worry about the things that are being taken care of for us because of people like you, doing jobs like yours because you believe it is your mission and perhaps even a mission from on high.”

Eleven of the graduates were prior-certified officers. Troopers are assigned to areas based on population, calls for service, and the number of licensed drivers/registered vehicles in an area.

“In today’s world of policing, our troopers must be prepared and ready to face any challenge from patrolling the interstates and roadways of our state, to diffusing civil disturbances, to reacting quickly to prevent an active shooter,” said Director Smith. “As I have watched the coverage of the devastating wildfires in California, I was reminded again of the amazing sacrifice, dedication and courage first responders exhibit daily to face these challenges.”

SCHP Commander Chris Williamson reminded graduates of the importance of their oath and their role in communities: “As your commander, I will reiterate to you once again that I expect nothing less than your absolute best,” Williamson said. “There is no compromise on the integrity, ethics and principles that define this great organization that you now represent.”

Special awards from the Basic Classes 105 and 106 classes include:

### Colonel P.F. Thompson Outstanding Achievement Award:

For the trooper who displays the character and dedication symbolic of former Highway Patrol Colonel P.F. Thompson, the longest serving Patrol commander.

- Basic 105: **Gregory B. Parker**, Hometown: Georgetown; County of Assignment: Kershaw (Troop 1 / Post B);
- Basic 106: **Tyler B. Holland**, Hometown: Fort Mill; County of Assignment: Chester, (Troop 4 / Post C).

### Captain Cecil Dilworth Marksmanship Award:

Presented to the trooper who demonstrated the best marksmanship during firearms training.

- Basic 105: **Justin T. Wood**, Hometown: Pelion; County of Assignment: Lexington (Troop 1 / Post C).
- Basic 106: **Justin C. Owens**, Hometown: Easley; County of Assignment: Greenville, (Troop 3 / Post C).

### Major Israel Brooks Jr. Physical Fitness Award:

Presented to the trooper who excelled on the physical training test and each day during the early morning exercises.

- Basic 105: **Justin T. Wood**, Hometown: Pelion; County of Assignment: Lexington (Troop 1 / Post C).
- Basic 106: **Jeffrey S. Peavey**, Hometown: Horry; County of Assignment: Horry, (Troop 5 / Post D).



HP Basic Class 106

### BASIC 106 AWARD WINNERS



**Terrence L. Boyd**  
*The J.P. Strom Award*



**Jeffrey S. Peavey**  
*Israel Brooks Jr. Physical Fitness Award*



**Justin C. Owens**  
*Captain Cecil Dilworth Marksmanship Award*



**Tyler B. Holland**  
*Colonel P.F. Thompson*  
*Outstanding Achievement Award*



## 2017 STP Officer of the Year Award and Graduation Ceremonies

The SCDPS State Transport Police held its Officer of the Year and graduation ceremonies on November 6 in Blythewood. Congratulations to our 13 new STP officers and award winners.

STP also presented several special awards. Region of the Year went to Region 1; Top Recruiter of the Year: Officer Jeffrey Haigler Jr.; Public Servant of the Year, Ms. Barbara Taylor. The Overall Statewide Winner for Officer of the Year was L/Cpl. Jessie A. Whiteside, Region Six. Whiteside competed among six regional winners including Region One: L/Cpl. Khanh Q. Phan; Region Two: L/Cpl. Timothy C. Smallwood; Region Three: Officer James L. Hudson; Region Four: Officer Alton S. May; Region Five: Officer Cody S. Alexander; Region Six: L/Cpl. Jessie A. Whiteside.



Front Row: Col. Leroy Taylor, OFC James L. Hudson, Officer Alton S. May, L/Cpl. Timothy C. Smallwood, Capt. Dean Dill Back Row: Capt. John Price, OFC Cody S. Alexander, L/Cpl. Jessie A. Whiteside, Barbara Taylor, L/Cpl. Khanh Q. Phan, Capt. Roy Cloud

Graduates (along with their hometowns and county of assignment) include: Officer Donny M. Bonneau, San Antonio, TX, Region 1; Officer Trey B. Patterson, Eastover, Region 1; Officer Nicholas G. Santagelo, Blythewood, Region 3; L/Cpl. Daren W. Jenkins, Lancaster, Region 4; Officer Sean L. Huffman, Summerville, Region 6; Officer Peter Rudofski, Commerce Township, MI, Region 6; Jessie Witherspoon, Sumter, New Entrant Safety Auditor; Officer Earnest L. Hampton, Pinewood, Region 1; Officer Marcus A. O'Dell, Ware Shoals, Region 3; L/Cpl. Justin Altman, Lancaster, Region 4; Officer Alton F. Hall, Lexington, Region 6; Officer Travis McElreath, Seneca, Region 6; Loretta Staten, Effingham, New Entrant Safety Auditor.



L to R: Capt. Dean Dill, Stephanie Whiteside, STP OTY Winner: L/Cpl. Jessie A. Whiteside, Col. Leroy Taylor, Capt. Roy Cloud and Capt. John Price



Cpl. C.T. Norton, E.L. Hampton, OFC T.B. Patterson, N.G. Santagelo, A.F. Hall, P. Rudofski, D.M. Bonneau, S.L. Huffman, L/Cpl. J. Altman, M.A. O'Dell, T. McElreath, L/Cpl. D.W. Jenkins, Col. Leroy Taylor

## SCHP Criminal Interdiction Unit Introduces Seven New K9 Officers



First Row: TFC J.T. Atwood (K9 Parker); L/Cpl. J.H.G. Pruitt (K9 Yonce); TFC J.D. Cannon (K9 Rebman); L/Cpl. W.C. West (K9 Cusack), L/Cpl. C.D. Brigham (K9 KJ), L/Cpl. J.T. Sarvis (K9 Ham), L/Cpl. L.A. Maule (K9 Smalls), TFC J.A. Vargo (K9 Lingard), Cpl. J.F. Sweatman (K9 Rao/K9 Training Coord.), Row 2: Sgt. J.E. Rogers (CIU Reg. 1 Supervisor); Col. Chris Williamson, TFC G.S. Shropshire, TFC D. Johnson, L/Cpl. C.L. Hall, TFC B.R. Estes, L/Cpl. C.G. Bailey, L/Cpl. W.B. Benton, L/Cpl. B.L. Crocker, L/Cpl. M.J. Butler, Sgt. A.S. English (CIU Reg. II Supervisor), Lt. B.D. Dowis, CIU Commander and Director Leroy Smith.

The South Carolina Highway Patrol welcomes seven members to its Criminal Interdiction Unit (CIU). SCHP's newest troopers – seven canines -- returned from training in Alabama and are ready for duty. They will work alongside members of the recently formed Criminal Interdiction Unit. The CIU consists of at least one team in each Troop. Each team includes a CIU canine officer, the assigned canine, and a CIU officer (Trooper).

For the first time in SCHP's history, our canines will not only be trained in criminal drug detection but will have tracking capabilities—allowing them to serve dual purposes. Each of the K9s was named after—and in honor of—SCHP troopers who lost their lives in the line of duty.

We are proud to introduce:

- K9 Parker -- named in honor of Jonathan Wayne Parker, EOW 5/16/2005
- K9 Yonce -- named in honor of Henry C. Yonce, EOW 5/19/1959
- K9 Rebman -- named in honor of Daniel Keith Rebman Jr., EOW 10/24/2017
- K9 Cusack -- named in honor of Dana Kevin Cusack, EOW 3/27/2010
- K9 Ham -- named in honor of Jacob Ham, EOW 2/8/1998
- K9 Smalls -- named in honor of Bruce K. Smalls, EOW 9/27/1985
- K9 Lingard -- named in honor of Frankie Lee Lingard, EOW 12/31/1997



TFC J.D. Cannon, K9 Rebman, Dir. Smith and Col. Williamson

In addition to the seven newest members of the CIU, K9 KJ -- named in honor of Kenneth Jeffrey Johnson, EOW 7/7/2002, and K9 Rao -- named in honor of S/Tpr. Michael Joseph Rao, EOW: 6/12/2002, were already serving in Troop Eight and will also be part of the team. The Highway Patrol recently retired K9 Shea, named in honor of L/Cpl. Jonathan Shea Nash, EOW 9/19/09, and K9 Coates, named in honor of L/Cpl. Mark Hunter Coates, EOW 11/20/1992, after many years of dedicated service. It is hard to estimate how many lives may have been saved by these canines' hard work of intercepting dangerous drugs being transported on our roadways in South Carolina.

We look forward to formally introducing our new K9s as part of our Fallen Trooper Memorial Ceremony in the Spring.

### SCHP Makes Command Staff Changes



Captain Nicklous W. King



Captain Shawna N. Gadsden



Captain John T. Manley

The SC Highway Patrol made command staff changes in November, naming new captains in three Troops. Capt. Nicklous King was promoted from lieutenant to captain in Troop Seven.

moving from Troop Seven. Capt. Travis Manley was named commander in Troop One following the retirement of Capt. B.K. Floyd.

Capt. Shawna Gadsden became the commander in Troop Six,

Each of their new assignments took effect on November 16.

### South Carolina Law Enforcement Assistance Program Welcomes Chaplain David A. Tafaoa to the Staff



The member agencies of The South Carolina Law Enforcement Assistance Program (SLED, SCDPPPS, SCDNR, SCDPS and The OAG) are pleased to welcome David A. Tafaoa to serve as a Public Safety Chaplain on the staff of SCLEAP.

Many Public Safety personnel across our state already know Dave Tafaoa. Dave has had a 35+ year career in public safety starting in 1980 when he was a student at Bob Jones University spanning to May 2018 when he retired from SLED at the rank of Major.

Tafaoa was born in San Francisco and raised in the State of Hawaii. He is a graduate of Hanalani Christian High

School in Wahiawa, Hawaii. He came to South Carolina in order to attend Bob Jones University. He graduated from BJU in 1983.

As he neared the end of his Law Enforcement Career, Tafaoa enrolled in the first Cohort of the Public Safety Chaplaincy Certification Program offered by Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary & Lenoir Rhyne University. After completing the 18-month training program, Tafaoa received his certification in Public Safety Chaplaincy from Lenoir-Rhyne University.

### STP Receives 2017 Top Safety Enforcement Award from CVSA



At the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance's Fall Meeting on September 28, 2018, the South Carolina State Transport Police was presented with the 2017 the Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (MCSAP) Safety Award. Each year, FMCSA presents MCSAP Safety Awards to those State lead agencies which

have demonstrated the most productive and efficient MCSAP enforcement programs, in the areas of traffic enforcement, roadside inspection, comprehensive investigations, data quality and lowest CMV fatality rate. For a mid-size state, the South Carolina State Transport Police received the 2017 Top Safety Enforcement award.



### STP Annual Silver Badge Run Held October 9 Over Lake Murray Dam

## SCHP Troopers Compete in Governor's Twenty Program



Lt. J.M. Spencer, Sgt. R.B. Pope and Cpl. J.H. Lane

Three SCHP members participated in the NRA Governor's Twenty Program, which recognizes the top 20 law enforcement officers from each state for excellence in Police Combat competition. Sgt. R.B. Pope is the first trooper to place number one in the Governor's 20 since former trooper and retired STP Lt. A.D. Tinsley in 1983.



Only 15 troopers have ever been in the Governor's 20 since 1976.

Each state's program is administered by the respective league or association. Typically, the top three scores for each officer are averaged, and the top twenty officers ranked and recognized at a banquet at the end of their season.

## Scholarships Awarded to Children of Fallen Heroes by SC Hall of Fame



Last Year, The South Carolina Law Enforcement Officers Hall of Fame presented scholarship checks to three college students whose fathers died in the line of duty while serving as law enforcement officers in South Carolina. Director Leroy Smith, who is also chair of the Hall of Fame Advisory Committee, presented checks to James Austin Haynes, the son of SCHP Lance Cpl. James D. "Rock" Haynes, EOW 2/1/2008; attending Newberry College. Kaylee Burdette, the daughter of Anderson Deputy J. Alex Burdette

EOW 3/12/2005; attending Lander University; and Allen J. "AJ" Myers, the son of Edgefield Deputy Allen "Pete" Myers, EOW 9/19/2000, attending USC. The \$1,000 scholarships were made possible through contributions to the Hall of Fame for the specific purpose of awarding scholarships to children of our fallen heroes.

Family and members of the SC Highway Patrol and Anderson County Sheriff's Office attended the presentation.

## SCHP Captain Promotions



Captain Michael C. Carson



Captain Bradley D. Dowis



Captain Russell J. Wilson

SCDPS has named two new Highway Patrol Troop commanders and a captain assigned to Office of Highway Safety and Justice Programs. After serving SCHP for 31 years, Capt. David W. Yongue, Troop Two, has announced his retirement. Capt. Gilmore Owens, Troop Eight, has also retired after 24 years of service. Capt. Michael C. Carson has been named commander of Highway Patrol Troop Two. Capt. Carson most recently served as executive officer in Troop Three. Capt. Carson has served with the SC Highway Patrol for 30 years.

Capt. Bradley D. Dowis, a 21-year law enforcement veteran, has been promoted to commander of Troop Eight. Troop Eight conducts enforcement efforts statewide and includes the newly

formed Criminal Interdiction Unit (CIU), Safety Improvement Team (SIT), Target Zero Team and Motor Units. Capt. Dowis has been with Troop Eight since 2007. He most recently served as lieutenant over the Criminal Interdiction Unit.

Russell Wilson, who had been serving as the Law Enforcement Support Services Manager within OHSJP, was promoted to the rank of captain, special programs manager, within OHSJP. Capt. Wilson will oversee Law Enforcement Support Services, Traffic Records, Statistical Analysis and Research, Public Affairs the SC Law Enforcement Officers Hall of Fame. Wilson has been with SCDPS since 1982.

## DMV Unveils New SCDPS Law Enforcement License Plates

SCDPS law enforcement vehicles will get new license plates in 2019. Director Smith and SCDMV Director Kevin Shwedo worked together to create new license plates for SCDPS vehicles.

The SC Highway Patrol, State Transport Police and Bureau of Protective Services will each have unique license plates identifying them as SCDPS officers.



### 2018 Hurricane Florence: Working Together, One Carolina



SCDPS once again experienced a weather emergency when Hurricane Florence threatened the state in September.

This was the fifth year that the state had experienced a major weather emergency beginning with the snow/ice event in 2014; 1,000 year flood in 2015; Hurricane Matthew in 2016, and Hurricane Irma in 2017.

Troopers, State Transport Police officers and other SCDPS personnel participated in an evacuation of most coastal areas.

SCDPS troopers and officers were mobilized on September 9 in preparation for a hurricane evacuation. Lanes on I-26 were reversed on September 11 to allow for one-way travel to Columbia. The lanes of U.S. 501 were reversed as well.

The Troop Five area once again experienced major flooding issues. The mobilization remained in order until October 5.

Ultimately, five people died as a result of the storm.

Great job, TEAM DPS, for all the hard work during the storm.



**THANK YOU**

ALL FIRST RESPONDERS | LAW ENFORCEMENT | EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

#HURRICANEFLORENCE | WWW.SCDPS.GOV



## South Carolina State Agencies Work Together to Recruit Employees

The SC Department of Public Safety (SCDPS) is pleased to join the SC Department of Administration (SCDOA) and other state agencies in strengthening our efforts to attract and recruit potential employees to state government. There will be a number of posts on SCDPS social media sites in the coming months highlighting the benefits of working for SC state government. Additionally, SCDOA has asked us to place a button/hyperlink on our e-mail signatures to the newly created careers.sc.gov web page, which contains a repository of helpful information about SC Government jobs, benefits, and testimonials of working for state government.



## Highway Patrol Promotions: September 2018



Front Row: Cpl. M.E. McDonald, L/Cpl. J. Jones, Cpl. J.C. Elliott, L/Cpl. C. Towe, L/Cpl. B.C. Pitts, Col. Williamson, Cpl. R.F. Thompson, Cpl. F.T. Cherry, L/Cpl. J.W. Ellis, II, Cpl. R.H. Olney, L/Cpl. M.W. Turner, L/Cpl. R.L. Church. Back Row: L/Cpl. J.L. Rodgers, Sgt. B.G. Dewitt, L/Cpl. J.A. Howell, Cpl. D.J. Utley, Cpl. J.F. Brown, Jr., Sgt. J.L. Godfrey, L/Cpl. T.D. Wilson, Cpl. T.J. Brooks, Cpl. M.Z. Hassen, L/Cpl. D.C. Andis Not Pictured: Cpl. E.M. Koty, L/Cpl. R.H.K. Gleich

## New Link. New Look. SCDPS has a New and Improved Website

The SCDPS website moved to a new location on November 9. The redesign addressed many changes in technology trends, including a push towards a more mobile-friendly platform.

The structure of the site itself has also changed to reflect the agency's and state's emphasis on recruiting talented individuals by adding a Careers section. This is a one-stop-shop for both administrative and law enforcement job seekers to find more information about SCDPS careers and how to apply.



Visit us online: **SCDPS.SC.GOV**

## BPS Sgt. J.C. Griffin Promoted to Lieutenant



Chief Hancock and Lt. J.C. Griffin

Sgt. J.C. Griffin was promoted to Lieutenant, September 2018, within Bureau of Protective Services. As BPS Lieutenant, he will serve as Field Operations Supervisor, which includes overseeing the Governor's Mansion and State Agency Support Division.

**SCDPS OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**NEED COMPUTER HELP?**  
Put our new **ONLINE** work order system to work for you!

- Submit Helpdesk Work Orders **ONLINE** @ <http://lanswpr01:81/login.aspx>
- Designed to be easy to use and reduce response time.
- Use Lansweeper to check on the status of open work orders.
- Find out which technician is assigned to your work order.
- Communicate with the technician about your work order.

Submit IT Work Orders **ONLINE** | <http://lanswpr01:81/login.aspx>

## Joint Training Session Held by YCSO Mobile Field Force Unit, SChP, Ft. Mill PD

The York County Sheriff's Office Mobile Field Force Unit held a joint training with the South Carolina Highway Patrol and Fort Mill Police Department on November 8. Attending officers trained on crowd and riot control tactics, as well as being exposed to CS Gas, or more commonly known as 'tear gas.'



## L/Cpl. Greg Fodor Awarded the Oconee County State Trooper of the Year Award



L to R: Representative Bill Whitmire, Senator Thomas Alexander, US Congressman Jeff Duncan, L/Cpl. G.A. Fodor, Sgt. K.N. Brown

Lance Corporal Greg Fodor was awarded the Oconee County State Trooper of the Year award Monday September 17, 2018.

## Greenville County Council Honors Trooper Landreth for Heroic Actions During Fire



L to R: TFC M.L. English, Cpl. J.B. Cannon, Trp. T.D. Landreth (award), Cpl. C.J. LaDue, F/Sgt. W.M. Hiott, Sgt. D.C. May

The Greenville County Council awarded Trooper Landreth for heroic actions during an apartment fire in Greenville County on March 31, 2018. He was the first to arrive and alert the residents to evacuate their apartments.

## SC Hall of Fame 2018 Meritorious Service Induction Ceremony

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Officers Hall of Fame held an induction ceremony on July 25, to recognize seven officers for their outstanding contributions to law enforcement in South Carolina. The first ceremony recognizing officers for meritorious service was held in October 2017.

Nominees for this honor must have a proven record of excellence that is manifestly outstanding, especially to South Carolina law enforcement as a whole. They must have 25 years minimum of law enforcement service. The nominees can be nominated posthumously. The nominees cannot currently be employed by a law enforcement agency or have been employed in the past five years.

Each of the officers recognized has made notable contributions and advanced the field of law enforcement in South Carolina through innovative ideas and partnerships; forward-thinking leadership and a commitment to making our state safer," said SCDPS Director Leroy Smith, chair of the SC Law Enforcement Officers Hall of Fame Advisory Committee.

Representatives from law enforcement agencies and associations presented a narrative of the award winners at the ceremony.



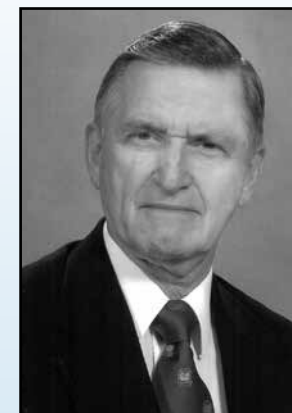
South Carolina Department of Corrections  
Director Ellis C. MacDougall



South Carolina Department of Natural Resources  
Lieutenant Ulysses Flemming



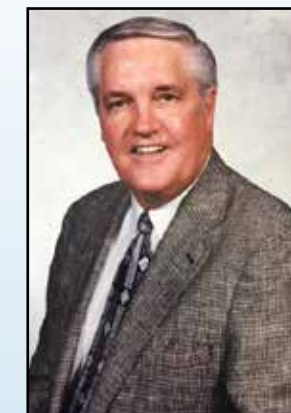
South Carolina Department of Public Safety  
Major Israel Brooks, Jr.  
South Carolina Highway Patrol



South Carolina Law Enforcement Division  
Lieutenant Carl B. "Pedro" Stokes



South Carolina Law Enforcement Officers Association  
Chief Andrew Shealy  
Newberry Police Department



South Carolina Sheriffs Association  
Sheriff Williford L. Faile  
Lancaster County Sheriff's Office



South Carolina State Lodge, Fraternal Order of Police  
Chief Deputy Jerry Wright  
Newberry County Sheriff's Office



# SCDPS in the Community

## BPS Officers and Local Agencies Helps Prepare for SCALE Competition



BPS Officers, Michael E. Ford and Jess W. Driggers III, worked as observers and assisted the Chapin Police Department Explorer Post 170 as they were preparing for SCALE competition hosted by the Lexington County Sheriff's Department. This event was held at the Chapin Police Department.

## L/Cpl. David Jones Joins RBUMC Preschool for Community Helper Day!

Red Bank United Methodist Church Preschool invited Community Helpers on October 8, 2018, to talk to their students. L/Cpl. David Jones paid a visit to the children.



## BPS' L/Cpl. Gibbs Nominated as Knight of Honor

L/Cpl. Robert Gibbs of the Bureau of Protective Services was nominated for the Officer Gregory Alia Award given by Serve & Connect at their annual Knight of Honor. This prestigious award recognizes an outstanding officer who goes above and beyond to demonstrate a commitment to serve his or her community, who ensures that members of the community are protected, who treats all members of the community as equal, and who -- through everyday interactions -- builds a safer community for all. Congratulations, L/Cpl. Gibbs! Gibbs currently provides safety and security on the Governor's Mansion grounds. He has been with SCDPS for 11 years.



## Students Thank Trooper McNeal for being a "Community Helper"

"Thank you Trooper Jeremy McNeal for being our 'community helper' speaker at Carolina Academy CDC." On a social media post, the Academy said: "On August 10, the children enjoyed and gained knowledge hearing about his job as a State Trooper. We appreciate all you do for our community."



## 35th Anniversary of National Night Out Event



On August 7, 2018, Troopers Pye and Braxton participated in the National Night Out event at Park Circle in North Charleston.

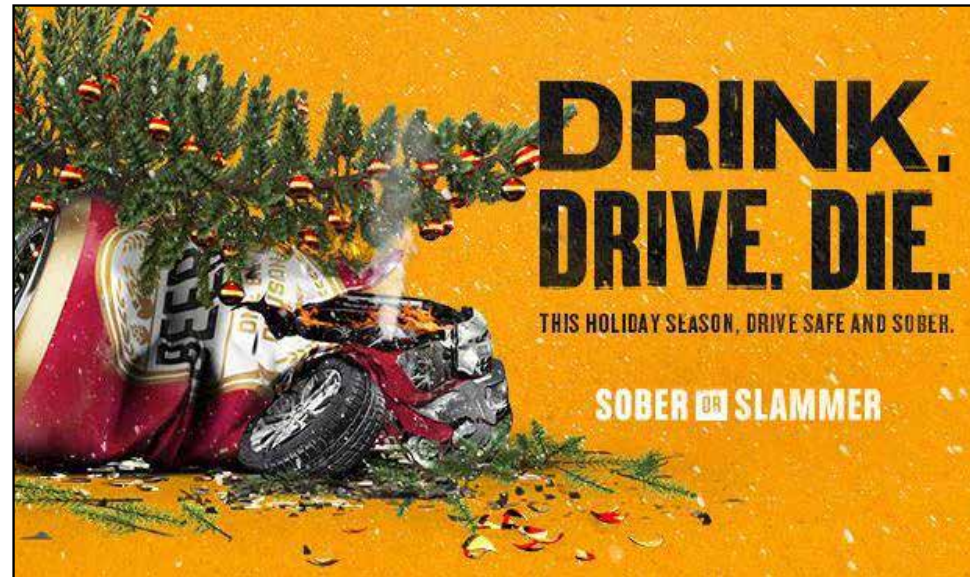
## Rebman Girls Get a Special Send-Off for the New School Year



## SCDPS Promotes Safe Ride Options During the Holiday Season

The South Carolina Department of Public Safety encouraged drivers to make a plan for a safe ride home from parties and celebrations this holiday season.

SCDPS began its annual “Sober or Slammer!” Christmas/New Year’s campaign on December 14, building on the “Drink. Drive. Die.” messaging that debuted during the Labor Day Sober or Slammer! campaign.



## SCDPS Works To Keep Motorists Safe on Roads During New Year’s



# Keeping South

# Carolina Safe.

## Lexington County Car Seat Safety Installation Check Point



Representatives from SCDPS and DHEC worked at the car seat safety installation checkpoint at Menchie’s Frozen Yogurt in Lexington on September 28. This was one of several child passenger safety seat checks held across the state during the 2018 Child Passenger Safety Week from September 23-29.

## SC Highway Patrol Distributed Safety Materials and Talked with Motorists About Safe Thanksgiving Travel



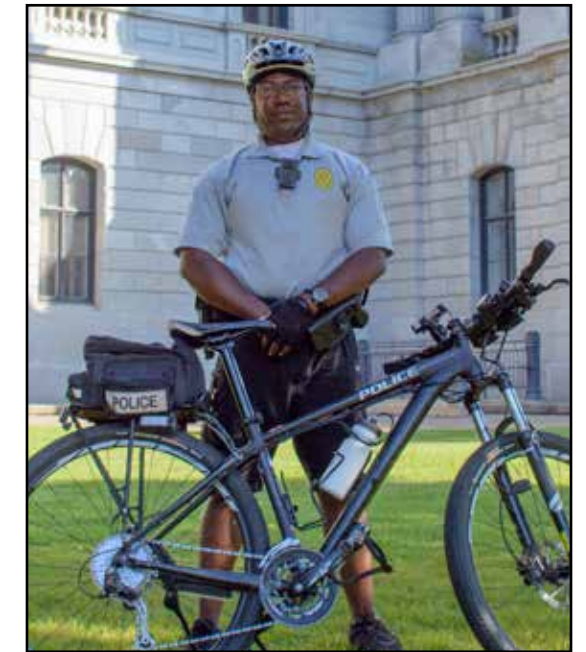
L/Cpl. Matt Southern talked to travelers of all ages at the Santee Welcome Center on I-95 on November 21.

### South Carolina State Fair Attracts Many Law Enforcement Supporters



Visitors to the recruiting booth took photos in the emoji patrol car and left thank-you notes to troopers, covering the cruiser.

### Scenes from the Photoshoot for SCDPS Law Enforcement Divisions



### SCDPS Participates in Holiday Events Around Columbia



SCHP participated in the Columbia Christmas Parade on December 1.

SCDPS got in the holiday spirit this year participating in several events around the state to celebrate the season.

Col. Williamson and troopers participated in the Carolina Carillon Parade on December 1 representing the Highway Patrol and DPS.

A very special Santa made an appearance at the annual Carolina Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS) celebration. Director Smith and daughter (right) got to play Santa and his elf and bring cheer to children who have lost their parents in the line-of-duty.



# Letters from the Community



## L/Cpl. B.S. Bryson, Troop 8, Helped Hurricane Florence Evacuees

This letter is written to acknowledge the superb work done by a SC State Trooper in assisting my wife and myself who were stranded...returning home from our vacation fleeing Hurricane Florence. We were on I-95...when we suddenly struck a 2x4 piece of lumber ...the resulting damage to our front left tire caused us to pull off I-95. Fortunately, not too long after we pulled over, Trooper Bryson arrived on the scene. He immediately offered to replace our damaged tire with our spare...The tire had suffered extensive damage...removal with our tire iron was impossible. So, Trooper Bryson called a State Police repair/maintenance truck which arrived... the damaged tire was removed and replaced with our spare tire. Throughout his time with us, Trooper Bryson

had been utilizing his lap top and telephone to try and locate a Volvo dealer who might be able to provide a new tire and new tire rim...we made the decision to drive to Bluffton for the necessary repairs. Not only did Trooper Bryson stay with us for about two hours on the roadside and provide invaluable assistance...He could not have been more helpful throughout our long ordeal...In short, he became our "guardian angel". Throughout our time with Trooper Bryson, he was not only extremely helpful, but he was also empathetic to our plight and very courteous...I have written this letter in the hope that someone in the State Patrol leadership can find appropriate recognition for Trooper Bryson's superb work on our behalf.

## Trooper J.M. Blaney, Troop 1, Assisted Couple Stranded on Interstate



Trooper Blaney stopped to assist Everett Barber after his vehicle left him stranded on the highway. Barber and his wife only had enough money for parts to fix his vehicle. Trooper Blaney paid for a tow truck and a meal for Barber and his wife.

## Child Passenger Safety Week Focuses on Proper Child Seat Installation



Cpl. Sonny Collins demonstrates the proper installation of a front-facing car seat.

The South Carolina Department of Public Safety teamed up with safety partners in South Carolina and participated in the national Child Passenger Safety Week in September.

Throughout the country, millions of parents and caregivers travel each day with children in their motor vehicles. While some of these children are buckled in properly and ride in the correct car seats for their age, height, and weight requirements, many do not. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), two out of every three car seats are misused.

To help combat this issue, the SCDPS partners annually with NHTSA to sponsor Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Week in September. CPS Week is a campaign dedicated to helping parents



Rev. Ben Colley (retired), SCHP Community Outreach Coordinator demonstrates the proper installation of a backward-facing car seat.

and caregivers ensure their children ride as safely as possible – every trip, every time.

"We cannot emphasize enough the importance of ensuring children's car seats are installed and used correctly," said Director Smith. "Even if you think your child's car seat is installed correctly, we urge you to get it checked with a Certified Child Passenger Safety technician so you can be sure that your child is the safest he or she can be while traveling."

The best way to keep a child safe while in a motor vehicle is to use car seats that are age-and size-appropriate. In 2016, there were 328 children under the age of 5 saved nationwide because they were in the proper car seats.



## L/Cpl. L.A. Maule, Troop 8

...I very recently had contact with Trooper Maule...she conducted a thorough investigation under difficult circumstances, was accommodating to everyone's schedule and today did a splendid professional job in Magistrate's court. In short, I would be derelict if I did not call her high performance to your attention. She well represents the South Carolina Highway Patrol.

## Safe Driving Practices Urged During Presentation to Troops at Ft. Jackson

Community Relations Officer L/Cpl. David Jones spoke to soldiers at Ft. Jackson on December 11 about safe driving practices and the importance of safety belt usage.

The location of the presentation, Fort Jackson Theaters, has a seating capacity of roughly 850 people. To emphasize his safety message, L/Cpl. Jones commented that the facility would not be able to hold all the fatality victims that we have had on our roads in 2017 in South Carolina.



# Trending on Social Media

## School Bus Safety Facebook Post had over 2,300 Shares!

**South Carolina Department of Public Safety**  
Published by Kelley Hughes (7) · August 7 ·

The next few weeks will be a busy time on our roads as children transition from summer back to the classroom. That means increased traffic congestion especially during the early morning hours and mid-afternoon when school is dismissed. Troopers urge motorists to familiarize themselves with school bus routes and watch out for children near bus stops and as they are getting on and off the bus. Ensure you know the rules for when to stop for a school bus. On two-lane roads, motor... See More

**IN SOUTH CAROLINA, DO YOU KNOW WHEN TO STOP FOR A SCHOOL BUS?**

**Two-Lane Road**  
STOP

**Four-Lane Road**  
STOP

214,942 People Reached, 5,464 Engagements, 10,396 Clicks

## Thank you, Trooper Fleming!

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO SHARE

If anyone knows this angel on earth, State Trooper Fleming, please let me know! My 86-year-old grandmother and 16-year-old daughter were stranded at a gas station here in Florence today with a flat tire and he came to their rescue and changed it.

In light of all that has transpired in the last week here in Florence, this really hit home and caused all kinds of emotions with me.

LEO's do not receive the respect and praise that they deserve!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU STATE TROOPER FLEMING FOR BEING THEIR GUARDIAN ANGEL!!!

Lorell Fleming

## New Year's Eve Safety Check Points

You Retweeted

**Trooper David SCHP** @SCHP\_Troop1 · Dec 31

Back roads covered ✓ primary roads covered ✓ Interstates covered ✓ DONT CHANCE IT! Make sure you have a designated driver if you have been drinking! #SoberorSlammer

51 Likes

## SCDPS Introduces CIU & K9 Unit

32,429 People Reached, 9,806 Engagements

Boost Post

Like Comment Share

## Trooper Benson Commendation

Jimmie Baker  
Unassigned

9:21 AM

Hello, I would like to briefly reference a traffic stop this morning at approximately 06:30 in which I was stopped by a trooper by the last name of Benson (female). On the above date and time she initiated the traffic stop, determining that I was traveling a bit over the speed limit. During this stop, I could not help but to observe the high level of professionalism exhibited by this trooper. Having been a deputy sheriff for a number of years in Michigan, I am keen to observe other departments, naturally as anyone in the field probably would. Her uniform was flawless and she was obviously very well trained and experienced in her safety approaching the car at the time of contact. I know all too well the danger officers face daily and the thankless job that it can be. Her professionalism reflects great credit upon the SC state troopers and the high standards you hold. I hope you will recognise her for making such an impression. Complaints are always easy to come by, and I hope a compliment will help to show that there are many many people who have great respect for such an organisation!!

Sincerely, Jimmie Baker

You Retweeted

**Trooper Sonny SCHP** @SCHP\_Troops · Oct 1

We were grateful to receive a donation of water and supplies from Georgia that were distributed to the many troopers assigned to Hurricane Florence. Thank you Conyers and Loganville Police Depts, Executive Auto, and Flint Circuit Drug Task Force. We were honored and humbled.

**WHAT TO DO IF TRAFFIC SIGNALS ARE NOT OPERATING**

**NO SIGNAL LIGHTS**  
Lights should be treated as a four way stop

**FLASHING RED**  
Lights should be treated as a stop sign

**FLASHING YELLOW**  
Drivers should proceed with caution only when traffic permits

www.scdps.gov

## SC Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada



South Carolina LETR is proud of our officers and partnerships with athletes and community to hold the Flame of Hope high. We pledge our continued support both to our Special Olympics athletes and our worldwide LETR family to champion the Inclusion Revolution. For our commitment and dedication to growing the cause, South Carolina Law Enforcement Torch Run received the “Guardian Award” at the International LETR Conference.



STP Cpl. Adam Heitzenrater

Corporal Adam Heitzenrater, of the South Carolina State Transport Police, had the honor to be a Guardian of the Flame Escort at the 2018 Law Enforcement Torch Run International Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Law enforcement officers from all over the world present the Flame of Hope before each general session during the conference.

## Cpl. Judd Jones Promoted to Community Outreach Coordinator



Cpl. Judd Jones, Community Outreach Coordinator

Judd Jones, formerly the Community Relations Officer in Troop 7, has been promoted into a new role within our Community Relations Unit. As you may recall, Cpl. Joyce Myrick, who had served as our Child Passenger Safety coordinator, retired last year. Cpl. Jones will not only fill that role as child passenger safety coordinator but will work in an expanded capacity, serving as the new SCHP Community Outreach Coordinator. In this role, he will oversee several community outreach programs.

Cpl. Jones will assist Highway Patrol Troops with the coordination of several SCDPS programs that have already proved successful. He will coordinate the Today's Youth. Tomorrow's Leaders. (TYTL) and Lunch Buddies programs. The TYTL teams troopers up with students for mentoring, familiarizing them with law enforcement and introducing them to the various facets of a trooper's training and job. Lunch Buddies encourages Troops to visit schools during the lunch hour to help young children gain a positive impression of law enforcement. Jones will also participate in the Community Advisory Councils (CAC) throughout the state.

## STP Addresses Distracted Driving Education With DRIVE to Zero Vehicle



Sgt. Stephen Holmes demonstrates the DRIVE To Zero Vehicle

The South Carolina State Transport Police has identified unsafe/improper driver behavior as a primary contributing factor in Commercial Motor Vehicles Crashes. DRIVE (Distracted, Reckless, Impaired, and Visibility Enforcement) is a comprehensive program designed to address driver behavior in three areas: Outreach, Education and Enforcement.

The DRIVE to Zero Program is STP's newest outreach and education initiative that is aimed at addressing unsafe driving behaviors before they occur. The program highlights the negative consequences of distracted and impaired driving behaviors, especially in and around commercial motor vehicles.

The DRIVE to Zero Program consists of a presentation addressing distracted driving, impaired driving, and unsafe driving behaviors in and around commercial motor vehicles. The program has been tailored to address different age groups and levels of driving experience each one delivering a different piece of an overall highway safety message focused on safely operating in and around Commercial Motor Vehicles. Upon completion of the safety presentation, participants are given the opportunity to drive a go-kart type vehicle equipped with Driver Distraction/Impairment Simulation Technology (in a controlled course). This will allow participants to experience the effects of operating a motor vehicle while impaired or distracted.



Taryn Shekitka-West from the South Carolina Trucking Association getting a turn on the DRIVE To Zero Vehicle.

The DRIVE to Zero Program is made available free of charge to motor carriers, high schools, colleges, civic organizations, or other groups throughout the state. The overall goal of the program is to create a social climate that makes unsafe, distracted and impaired driving behaviors socially unacceptable.



# Career Opportunities at DPS

## JOIN OUR TEAM

Accountant / Fiscal Analyst III  
Bureau of Protective Services Officer  
Business Analyst I  
Communications Specialist III (Dispatcher)  
Program Assistant  
Program Assistant (Call Taker)

Program Coordinator I  
State Transport Police Officer  
State Trooper  
Statistician III  
Telecommunications Operator I (Part Time Only)

APPLY TODAY



CAREERS.SC.GOV

Join Us for the Monthly Directors' Walk  
**Next Walk: January 25, 2019**



### Stay Connected with DPS on Social Media!



[facebook.com/scdps.pio](https://www.facebook.com/scdps.pio)



[twitter.com/SCDPS\\_PIO](https://twitter.com/SCDPS_PIO)



[instagram.com/scdps\\_tz](https://www.instagram.com/scdps_tz)

### SCEIS Password Management: Do It Yourself Capabilities

Did you know you can reset your own password on SCEIS and avoid hold times on the phone? When you forget your password, just follow the link below!



<https://sceispasswordreset.sc.gov/PMUser/>