2020 Annual Report



department of public safety Utah Highway Patrol

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FROM THE COLONEL

On behalf of the Utah Highway Patrol, it is my honor to present the Utah Highway Patrol's 2020 Annual Report to Department of Public Safety Commissioner Jess L. Anderson. This report provides a summary of the work, service, and accomplishments of this great law enforcement agency, and those who serve as Utah State Troopers.

The Utah Highway Patrol represents some of the greatest public safety professionals in the nation. We are proud of the commitment, work and service of these incredible men and women and we are grateful for the opportunity to serve all who call the great State of Utah home. The year 2020 brought to our state and nation challenges that no one could have ever anticipated. Our State Troopers were asked to adapt, be flexible, and do more than ever before. Utah Highway Patrol's commitment to provide Professional, Proactive, and Proficient public service has never been more represented than in 2020.

The COVID-19 pandemic brought new obstacles to all areas of public safety. Nationwide civil unrest stretched resources in ways previously unseen. The resulting demands on specialty units further strained field operations and staffing. In spite of all these challenges, our Troopers continued to increase efforts in criminal and traffic enforcement, while engaging critical issues. Cultural awareness, personal wellness, officer safety and advancements in technology have all been primary focuses for organizational improvement. The Utah Highway Patrol is absolutely committed to finding the best solutions to the challenges we face and aggressively searching for opportunities to improve our ability to deliver the best law enforcement services possible.

As we prepare to move into the new year, the Utah Highway Patrol continues to work closely with our law enforcement partners as we advance the incredibly important work of keeping Utah safe. We are grateful to be part of the Utah Department of Public Safety and for the opportunity to serve the great State of Utah. And, we are absolutely grateful for the incredible work and service of our Utah State Troopers!

Colonel Michael S. Rapich Deputy Commissioner Utah Department of Public Safety / Utah Highway Patrol

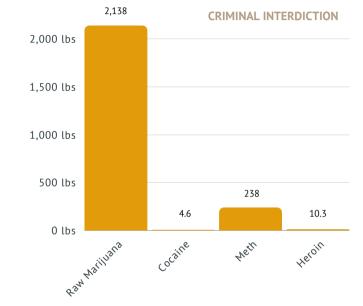
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

THE UTAH HIGHWAY PATROL IS COMPRISED OF **498** SWORN OFFICERS AND **53** CIVILIANS

> **39** TROOPERS HIRED IN 2020

221,440

VEHICLE STOPS



2,500 lbs

15,768 CRASHES INVESTIGATED

> **3,228** DUI CITATIONS ISSUED

12

TROOPERS HIT ROADSIDE IN 2020

UTAH HIGHWAY PATROL

MISSION

Our mission is to provide quality police services and to protect the constitutional rights of all people in Utah.

VISION

The Utah Highway Patrol sets the standard for excellence in law enforcement with professional service, building trust with each public interaction and demonstrating integrity and courage. Troopers are proactive in all efforts to enhance public safety through community outreach and effective enforcement. Troopers maintain the highest level of proficiency through continual training and education, particularly in issues critical to public safety.

VALUES

The Utah Highway Patrol has adopted six values that give us direction in all that we do: Integrity, Service, Courage, Knowledge, Teamwork & Professionalism.



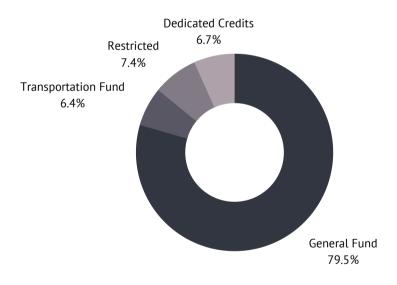


STATUTORY AUTHORITY

Utah Code Annotated § 53-8, Utah Highway Patrol Act

FUNDING

The Department's budget for Fiscal Year 2020 was \$85,448,060, funded primarily by the State of Utah's General Fund.



UTAH HIGHWAY PATROL Administration



COLONEL MICHAEL S. RAPICH DEPUTY COMMISSIONER



MAJOR TYLER KOTTER ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT



LIEUTENANT COLONEL MARK ZESIGER SUPERINTENDENT



MAJOR STEVEN WINWARD ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT



CAPTAIN NICK BOWLES SOUTHERN BUREAU



CAPTAIN TIM KINCAID NORTH CENTRAL BUREAU



CAPTAIN JEFF NIGBUR SOUTH CENTRAL BUREAU



CAPTAIN JASON RICKS SPECIAL SERVICES BUREAU



CAPTAIN STEVE SALAS SOUTHEAST BUREAU



CAPTAIN CHRIS SIMMONS NORTHERN BUREAU



CAPTAIN TRAVIS TROTTA COMMUNICATIONS BUREAU



CHIEF PILOT LUCAS BOWMAN AERO BUREAU



INTERNAL PERFORMANCE

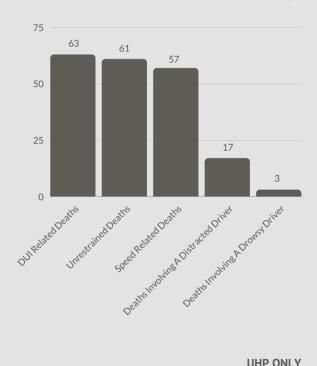
2020 CRASH SUMMARY



IN 2020, THE UTAH HIGHWAY PATROL **INVESTIGATED 106 FATAL CRASHES ON** UTAH'S ROADWAYS, A 4.7% DECREASE FROM 2019.

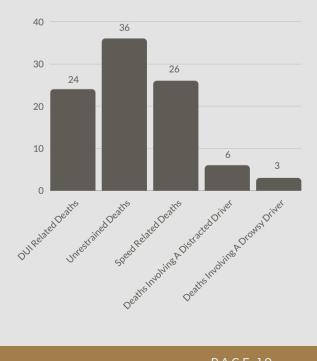


IN 2020, 119 PEOPLE LOST THEIR LIVES IN CRASHES INVESTIGATED BY UHP TROOPERS ON UTAH'S ROADWAYS, A 8.5% DECREASE FROM 2019.



UHP ONLY

STATEWIDE



2020 DUI ARREST SUMMARY

DUI ARRESTS BY AGENCY TYPE

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
Sheriff's Offices City Police / Other Highway Patrol	1,193 (11.5%) 6,140 (59.1%) 3,050 (29.4%)	1,234 (12.3%) 5,692 (56.9%) 3,069 (30.7%)	1,175 (11.16%) 6,016 (57.12%) 3,341 (31.72%)
TOTAL ARRESTS	10,383	9,995	10,532

Source: Utah Department of Public Safety, Driver License Division

DUI ARRESTS BY BAC

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
BAC Results Not Reported *	3,971 (38.2%)	4,106 (41.0%)	4,302 (40.85%)
.0004	138 (1.3%)	202 (2.0%)	275 (2.61%)
.0507	233 (2.2%)	370 (4.0%)	488 (4.63%)
.0810	799 (7.7%)	661 (6.6%)	726 (6.89%)
.1115	1,616 (15.6%)	1,401 (14.0%)	1,386 (13.16%)
.1620	1,447 (13.9%)	1,227 (12.0%)	1,173 (11.14%)
.2125	831 (8.0%)	725 (7.0%)	591 (5.61%)
.2647	626 (6.0%)	500 (5.0%)	397 (3.77%)
Refused BAC Test	722 (6.9%)	803 (8.0%)	1,194 (11.34%)
TOTAL ARRESTS	10,383	9,995	10,532

Source: Utah Department of Public Safety, Driver License Division

* Arrestee may have submitted to a blood test, but the Driver License Division never received the results, or this was a DUI/drugrelated arrest and there was no BAC.

2020 HOLIDAY SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT PERIODS



4th of July

There were a total of 614 shifts worked during this four day enforcement period.

- 12 Additional Enforcement Shifts Worked
- 3,661 Vehicles Stopped
- 2,554 Citations Issued
- 2,111 Warnings Issued
- 133 Motor Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Fatal Motor Vehicle Crashes

Pioneer Day

There were a total of 584 enforcement shifts worked during this four day period.

- 50 Additional Enforcement Shifts Worked
- 3,490 Vehicles Stopped
- 2,417 Citations Issued
- 2,103 Warnings Issued
- 143 Motor Vehicle Crashes
- 0 Fatal Motor Vehicle Crashes

Labor Day SEPTEMBER 4-7

There were a total 729 shifts worked during this four day enforcement period.

- 134 Addition Enforcement Shifts Worked
- 5,583 Vehicles Stopped
- 3,909 Citations Issued
- 3,248 Warnings Issued
- 175 Motor Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Fatal Motor Vehicle Crashes

Halloween october 30 - November 1

There were a total of 392 shifts worked during this three day enforcement period.

- 31 Additional Enforcement Shifts Worked
- 2,318 Vehicles Stopped
- 1,565 Citations Issued
- 1,465 Warnings Issued
- 121 Motor Vehicle Crashes
- 0 Fatal Motor Vehicle Crashes

New Year's December 31 - JANUARY 1

There were a total of 310 shifts worked during this two day enforcement period.

- 25 Additional Enforcement Shifts Worked
- 1,728 Vehicles Stopped
- 1,157 Citations Issued
- 1,251 Warnings Issued
- 87 Motor Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Fatal Motor Vehicle Crash

Thanksgiving NOVEMBER 27 - DECEMBER 1

There were a total of 689 shifts worked during this five day enforcement period.

- 79 Additional Enforcement Shifts Worked
- 4,117 Vehicles Stopped
- 2,626 Citations Issued
- 2,830 Warnings Issued
- 178 Motor Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Fatal Motor Vehicle Crash

Christmas December 24-27

There were a total of 399 shifts worked during this four day enforcement period.

- 26 Additional Enforcement Shifts Worked
- 2,200 Vehicles Stopped
- 1,540 Citations Issued
- 1,367 Warnings Issued
- 81 Motor Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Fatal Motor Vehicle Crash





2020 SIGNIFICANT EVENTS



On March 6, 2020, Utah Governor Gary Herbert declared a State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. On that same day, Utah saw its first confirmed case. Every trooper was encouraged to exercise caution and was provided with a face shield, surgical masks, sanitizing wipes, hand sanitizer and other personal protective equipment.

During this uncertain time, troopers were able pivot and to implement new enforcement measures to uphold the mission and vision of the Utah Highway Patrol. Troopers were tasked with escorting civilians to their homes upon return to Utah from their COVID-19 infected cruise ships. Troopers also escorted vehicles carrying personal protective equipment to hospitals, care enters, and schools. Section leaders were asked to adjust schedules to limit the congregation of troopers, crew meetings were held virtually and the training section had to make adjustments to their schedule to ensure the safety of all troopers.

To help alleviate the workload placed on the Utah Department of Health, civilian staff assisted with contact tracing. They also participated in the Governor's "A Mask for Every Utahn" initiative mailing masks to individual households.

During the March 12 to May 3, 2020 period,

the UHP saw a 47.96% decrease in motor vehicle crashes. The decrease was attributed to the Governor's recommendations and the teleworking opportunities made available around the state.

Unfortunately, the UHP saw an increase in adverse driving behaviors across the board. In 2020,

- Troopers stopped 5,139 drivers for traveling above 100 mph, a 26% increase from 2019
- There were 54 DUI wrong-way driver crashes.

NATURAL DISASTERS

EARTHQUAKE

On March 18, 2020, a 5.7 magnitude earthquake hit Salt Lake City, with an epicenter 6 km (3.7 mi) north-northeast of Magna. It was the state's strongest earthquake since 1992. More than 100 aftershocks were felt. The State's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was moved to a Level 1 activation for the first time. UHP Administration and Emergency Support Function Law Enforcement Liaison (ESF 13) played an active role in that activation. The EOC stayed at Level 1 activation for the remainder of 2020, due to the COVID response. Salt Lake County troopers instituted a long term closure, so Kennecott could evaluate structural damages that might affect SR-201.

FLOOD

Southern Utah experienced a strong thunderstorm and localized heavy rain in late August, causing flooding on local roadways, including I-15. Both directions of I-15 were closed for several hours while UDOT worked to clear the drainage system. Several vehicles were disabled in deep water and had to be rescued by EMS. This flood caused thousands of dollars in damage to business and residential areas.

WILDFIRES

The State also saw significant wildfires in 2020. These fires impacted several sections, specifically Sections 4, 6, 7, 12, and 14. Wildland fires forced the closure of I-80 in Parleys Canyon twice in August, which strained manpower resources.

The Saratoga Springs fire moved rapidly towards homes as troopers on and off duty responded to assist local agencies in the evacuation of homes. Troopers also assisted with road closures on SR-68 so fire teams and utility companies could safely work in the area.

Troopers and IMT personnel assisted with road closures and evacuations during the

initial stages of the Range Fire. UHP provided around the clock traffic control of the partially closed US-189, and the hard closure of the Alpine Loop road. This lasted a full week and burned nearly 3,500 acres and cost over \$2 million.

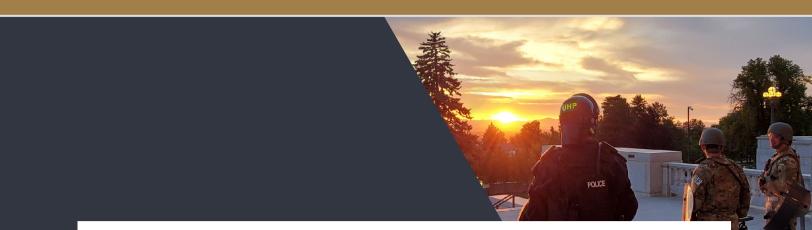
Troopers in Washington and Kane counties assisted on numerous wildfires also. These fires caused the closure of I-15 in both directions for several hours and the evacuation of homes and farms in the area.

Troopers in Section 14 also experienced numerous large fires and worked through the logistics with numerous allied agencies.

WINDSTORM

On September 10, 2020, hurricane force winds hit northern Utah, causing 37 overturned semi trucks on Utah's roadways. The storm also caused significant damage and power outages across the region, resulting in \$9 million in damages. Troopers assigned to the northern part of the state responded to assist local jurisdictions with traffic control while damage to the city streets was assessed and repaired.

The Capitol grounds lost twelve historical trees during the windstorm. The Governor's Mansion lost one. Fortunately, neither the Capitol nor the Governor's Mansion received any damage from this massive windstorm.



It is no surprise that troopers responded to calls for service, despite their own homes and property being affected by the high winds. Many troopers were without power, some for days, yet remained dedicated to their communities.

PROTESTS

On May 30, 2020, multiple free speech events and protests were held in Salt Lake City in response to the death of George Floyd. When protests turned riotous with the overturning and burning of a Salt Lake City Police Department vehicle, a statewide emergency call for assistance was issued. Governor Gary Herbert made an emergency declaration in order to activate the National Guard and closed the Capitol grounds. Previous joint training operations with the National Guard made this call to action seamless. Troopers responded to the Utah State Capitol to protect its structure and worked tirelessly to maintain public safety and peace. A few arrests were made and thousands of dollars worth of damage were done to the Capitol complex.

Remarkably, for days to come, many citizens gathered together to help clean up the Capitol grounds and express their gratitude to our State Troopers for keeping them safe during this difficult time.

In response to the civil unrest, the following efforts took place over a six week period:

- The State Emergency Operations Center, which was already in full operation due to COVID-19 and natural disasters, expanded its Level 1 full scale operation to include support to the statewide protest and civil unrest operations.
- 353 troopers worked 9,512 hours at the Capitol to ensure its structure and integrity.
- During the initial six week period, starting May 30, Troopers prepared for over 75 planned protests, averaging 12 each week. As of December 31, there have been over 300 planned demonstrations.

The partnerships between the Utah Highway Patrol, Statewide Information and Analysis Center (SIAC), Salt Lake City Police Department (SLCPD), Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Utah National Guard (UTNG) allowed for remarkable success. In what could have resulted in multiple incidents in weeks to come, the UHP had zero additional incidents after May 30, 2020.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Following the civil unrest nationwide, and as a result of conversations with community stakeholders, the Utah Highway Patrol reaffirmed their commitment to being transparent, interactive, and engaged with their communities. Outreach efforts were amplified, and a full-time recruitment officer



was established.

The recruitment officer dove headfirst into engaging with the public creatively using social media, virtual meetings, and partnering with local companies to reach a variety of individuals.

The UHP reengaged efforts to provide a Citizen's Academy that will educate community stakeholders in the vast variety of specialties the department offers, as well as the mission and vision of the department.

To further engage the community, UHP partnered with several local businesses and REAL Salt Lake Soccer, to host a youth soccer camp for kids. The camp was full with 60 children within days of advertising. Unfortunately, due to the risks of COVID-19, the event was postponed until Spring 2021.

The Utah Highway Patrol and the State Bureau of Investigations (SBI) worked together to form a Community Engagement and Outreach Committee, consisting of four focus areas: overall community engagement, people in crisis, high utilizers/high-risk, and public relations. Members of this committee will use their knowledge, skills, and abilities to enhance the way the UHP responds to, interacts with, and keeps the people of Utah safe.

In the summer of 2020, the Utah Highway Patrol formed a working group composed of

civilian and sworn members. The group is called USANA. This group came together as a result of conversations had with community members during the events surrounding the civil unrest. The monthly meetings provided opportunities for understanding and growth. As a result, immediate changes were made to a phased diversity and cultural awareness training.

CULTURAL & DIVERSITY AWARENESS TRAINING

A panel of subject matter experts in diversity and cultural awareness was immediately implemented to provide legitimate and recognized training to UHP in-service. A multi-phase strategy was developed. The first phase involving cultural awareness training and discussions was immediately implemented in the summer of 2020, and was provided to all sworn members of the Department of Public Safety. Phase two of this training is set to roll out in the spring of 2021. The Utah Highway Patrol is committed to educating troopers and the community on how to safely and respectfully engage one another. Working with POST to be consistent and current on diversity and cultural awareness.



VICE PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE

On October 7, 2020, Utah hosted the only inperson Vice Presidential debate during the 2020 presidential election. This was also the first vice presidential debate to be held in Utah in the last 20 years. The Utah Highway Patrol worked diligently to provide around the clock security to Vice President Mike Pence and Senator Kamala Harris during the week they were here.

As a part of a unified command effort, led by the University of Utah Police Department, the UHP, Salt Lake City Police, Utah Transit Authority Police, other state, local and federal agencies joined forces to provide physical security, dignitary motorcade escorts, and ensure the wellbeing of the community during the week of the Vice Presidential debate.

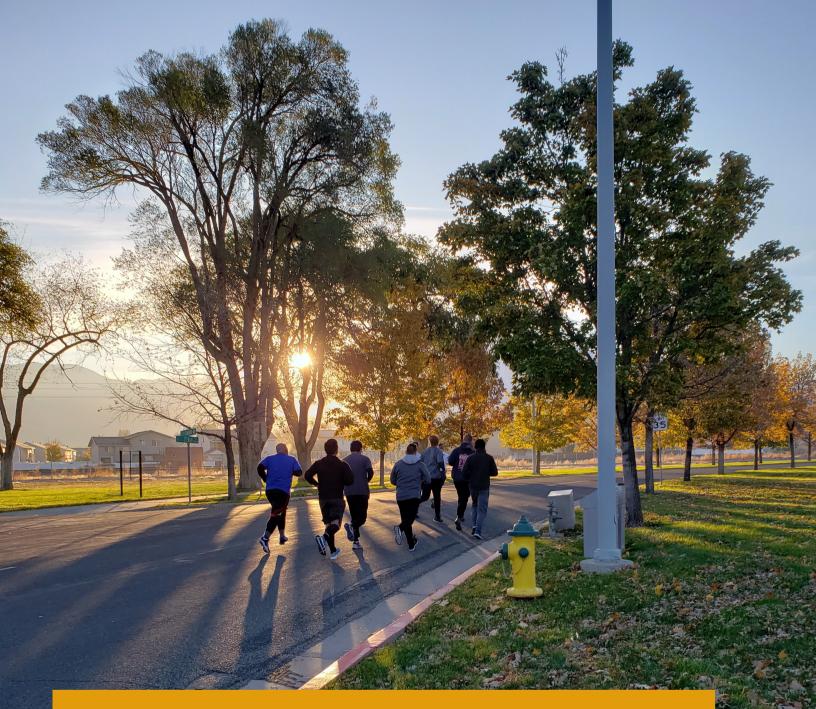
After months of planning and preparation, the event was an extreme success. There was only one arrest and one incident during the Vice Presidential debate. There was one minor injury to a Secret Service member and no injuries involving State Troopers. Success can be attributed to the diligent training and the strength of the relationships built with other state, local and federal law enforcement partners.



20 UTAH U DEBATE 2020 UTAH U DEBATE 2020 UTAH U DEBATE 2020 UTAH







PERSONAL PREPARATION

RECRUITMENT

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the UHP limited the number of participants at physical assessments and applicants were required to RSVP. Despite the restrictions, having a full time recruiter, resulted in approximately 60% of respondents showing up for testing and ultimately, thirty-nine new Troopers were hired in 2020.

60% of respondents showed for testing

> **39** troopers hired



DEPARTMENT RECRUITER

In 2020, the Utah Highway Patrol created a full-time recruiter / social media engagement position housed at DPS / UHP Headquarters. As a result, the Utah Highway Patrol saw an uptick in interested The recruiter was able to applicants. successfully utilize social media, Zoom, and other forms of communication to reach out applicants who to saw postponed recruitment dates and an extended application process. Having a full time recruiter opened communication from the patrol to potential recruits and allowed the recruit to feel more invested in the department.

The successful utilization of social media has greatly impacted the Utah Highway Patrol. Educating the public on the UHP brand and recognizing the work troopers are doing, is gaining national attention. Social media topics include trooper tips, meeting troopers, monthly awareness, special enforcement, and community outreach. The most recognized posts are those provided by troopers engaging with the community. The UHP's social media accounts have grown by over threethousand followers on Facebook and over two-thousand on Instagram.

The UHP recruiter has also created several programs. One of which is the Junior Trooper Academy which was created to gain the interest of those aged 18-20 and keep them focused on becoming a trooper once they turn 21. This program will be implemented as soon as circumstances allow.

OFFICER WELLNESS

PEER SUPPORT

As part of the UHP's overall wellness program, the Peer Support Team provides emotional support to both sworn and nonsworn DPS employees after exposure to traumatic incidents. Additional support provided by the team includes:

- Peer Support Training for Team Members Peer Support Awareness Training for all Troopers
- Partridge Psychological Group Partnership
- BLOMQUIST HALE SOLUTION PARTNERSHIP & VIRTUAL SERVICES*
- Healthy Utah Programs
- Emotional Survival Training
- NEW HIRE SPOUSE TRAINING
- WEEKLY WELLNESS FLYER
- TEAM NETWORKING (WHAT'SAPP TO CONTACT MEMBERS INVOLVED IN STRESSFUL EVENTS)
- Physical Fitness Program & Colonel's Challenge
- FINANCIAL TRAINING
- CRITICAL INCIDENT DEBRIEFING

TROOPER SAFETY

The number one goal of the UHP is to have all Troopers return home safely after each shift. In order to accomplish this, all Troopers have been trained in Traffic Incident Management (TIM). This training educates troopers on how to safely approach and set up a scene, along with managing incidents on the roadway. Moving incidents off the roadway, when possible, is encouraged. Visibility of first responders is a key factor in safe emergency operations, therefore new high visibility personal protective equipment is being researched, to ensure troopers are equipped with all tools necessary to do their job safely.



*Content highlighted in bold here and throughout the document was implemented as a part of the UHP Strategic Plan.

EXTERNAL SERVICE

UHP SPECIALTY UNITS

AERO BUREAU



2020 BUREAU STATISTICS

FLIGHT HOURS | 770 MISSIONS | 286 FOUND / RESCUED | 149 HOISTS | 63 ARRESTS | 68 The Utah Department of Public Safety Aero Bureau is a fully operational law enforcement and search and rescue aviation unit, staffed and operated from within the Utah Highway Patrol (UHP). Each of those assigned to the DPS Aero Bureau have extensive training, certifications and specialized skill sets and functions which are critical to the enormous mission throughout the state of Utah.

This year had many unique circumstances, but the Aero Bureau remained busy as ever. The Bureau had a record number of rescues, hoist missions, and law enforcement missions. Some of the significant incidents include the following:

- In February, the helicopter was requested to assist in extracting an injured backcountry skier that ground crews were unable to reach. Though the victim had critical injuries he has since recovered.
- That same month, the helicopter was requested to assist UPD with an aggravated assault suspect who had stolen a car. Just before the aircraft arrived in the area a pursuit ensued with the vehicle. The crew was able to acquire the fleeing vehicle and ground units were able to back off causing the driver to slow down. The crew continued to provide information and UPD was able to prepare spikes. The vehicle was spiked and the suspect fled on foot. The crew followed the suspect who was apprehended a short time later.
- In June, the helicopter was requested to assist with a 12 year old boy that was involved in a serious ATV accident in Box Elder County. The crew was able to respond and prepared the youth for extraction and transported him to an awaiting ambulance.

AS A PART OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN, THE AERO BUREAU GAINED 1 FULL-TIME SERGEANT, 1 FULL-TIME TROOPER TACTICAL FLIGHT OFFICER (TFO) AND ONE FULL TIME PILOT.

DIVE TEAM



2020 TEAM STATISTICS

SEARCH & RECOVERY EFFORTS | 6

The Utah Department of Public Safety Dive Team is a highly trained unit of divers who utilize various dive specialty skill sets and advanced underwater searching equipment. The main objective of the Dive Team is to protect critical infrastructures of the State of Utah. The Dive Team is often called upon to provide assistance to criminal cases that involve an aquatic nexus.

The Dive Team consists of 10 members the Utah Department of Public Safety and one State Park Ranger. Due to the inherent risk of diving, training is a key element to the success of the Dive Team. Team members receive training in multiple dive specialties twice monthly. The diver's overall skill-set consists of several skills available to recreation divers as well as public safety diving specific abilities.

The Dive Team is often called to assist local agencies in the search and recovery of drowning victims. In the past the Dive Team has performed operations not only in nearly every county of the State of Utah, but in neighboring states as well. In 2020, the DPS Dive Team assisted in the search and recovery of 6 drowning victims.

AS A PART OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN, THE DPS DIVE TEAM WAS IN NEED OF EQUIPMENT TO BECOME A FEMA PUBLIC SAFETY DIVE TEAM. AS OF 2020, THE DIVE TEAM IS NOW CONSIDERED A FEMA PUBLIC SAFETY DIVE TEAM, TYPE 3.

On September 6, 2020, the full time Major Crash Investigation Team (MCIT) celebrated its first full year of operation. The team consists of five full time technical investigators, including the team sergeant.

In conjunction with the UHP field sections, SBI, and Safety Inspection, 127 of 204 total cases (62%) have been successfully closed as of Nov 17, 2020. For 2020, the average case completion time was 93 days, this was a 35% improvement from 2019's average of 142 days.

The team coordinated multiple classes, and issued new total stations and drones to every section. They were also able to host an Institute of Police Technology and Management (IPTM) class for the first crash reconstruction training in the state since 2013.

AS A PART OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN, EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING WAS NEEDED STATEWIDE. IN 2020 EVERY FIELD SECTION (14 SECTIONS), RECEIVED A TOTAL STATION, DRONES AND A SOUTHERN MCIT POSITION WAS ADDED.

MAJOR CRASH INVESTIGATION TEAM (MCIT)



MOTORS



2020 SQUAD STATISTICS

TRAFFIC STOPS | **16,523** CONTACTS | **19,469** Typically the Motor Squad averages 40-50 details each year. Despite COVID restrictions, the squad still handled 22 special events, many of which were several days long.

As events were cancelled, the motor squad used the time for more regular duty enforcement, mingled with some overtime enforcement. These shifts were in high traffic areas, construction zones, and problematic areas. Lieutenants from several sections began to request motor enforcement assistance in specific areas. The Selective Enforcement crew, along with our other motor squad members, worked several patrol shifts in these requested sections and the public took notice. Over Labor Day weekend the Motor Squad coordinated traffic efforts from the Wasatch front all the way down Highway 6 through Utah and Carbon counties, continuing down to Moab.

The motor squad conducted over 16,523 traffic stops. These stops resulted in 19,469 contacts. Of those contacts 11,011 were for speed, 2,285 for seat belts, 2,267 for equipment, 183 for DUI, 104 for reckless driving, and 336 for distracted driving.

PUBLIC PROTECTION UNIT (PPU)



The Department of Public Safety (DPS) Public Protection Unit (PPU) is a team of highly trained, capable and well-equipped troopers who specialize in crowd management response. The unit was implemented in 2014 and has grown to 50 part time members.

The DPS PPU was extremely busy in 2020, deploying on multiple occasions and often for multiple days throughout the state. Significant events in which the unit was involved include the numerous protests and riots during May 30th through July 31st and the Vice Presidential Debate. They also assisted with disbursement of homeless shelter relocation activities, the Salt Lake City mayoral inauguration, and protests in Cottonwood Heights, West Valley City, Ogden City, and Provo City.

Team members continue to train with the Air National Guard, West Jordan SWAT and maintain a close working relationship with other law enforcement entities throughout the state. Due to the strong relationships the PPU is able to work exceptionally well in any given situation.

AS A PART OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN, THE UNIT WAS ABLE TO ADD ADDITIONAL STAFFING TO INCLUDE A FULL-TIME LIEUTENANT AND SERGEANT RESPONSIBLE FOR COORDINATION, AS WELL AS 14 ADDITIONAL FULLY EQUIPPED TROOPER POSITIONS.

SPECIAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (SERT)



2020 TEAM STATISTICS

HIGH-RISK WARRANT OPERATIONS | **20** LOCATIONS SCOUTED | **28** The SERT team is utilized for VIP security, during high profile drug buys, serving felony warrants, executing high profile or dangerous search warrants, during hostage or barricaded suspect incidents, for courtroom security on high profile cases, transporting high risk prisoners, and as additional resources during major events, such as motorcycle rallies in remote areas of the state.

Since the start of the year, SERT has conducted over 20 high-risk warrant operations and scouted over 28 target locations for SBI and West Jordan Police Department Detectives. Some notable operations include:

- Arrest of a dangerous child predator out of West Jordan in March
- An AP&P parolee illegally selling firearms
- Arrest of two homicide suspects
- Arrest of a violent assault suspect who barricaded himself and attempted to set his apartment on fire

Other significant involvements in 2020, include:

- Providing reconnaissance and security during the ongoing protests
- Serving in conjunction with the Aero Bureau to provide security escorts to infected citizens who were under quarantine and being transported to designated medical facilities
- Working alongside the Secret Service in preparation for the Vice Presidential Debate

AS A PART OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN, TWO TEAM MEMBERS WERE ADDED.



FROM THE FIELD

NORTHERN BUREAU CAPTAIN C. SIMMONS

Section 1 - Lieutenant B. Kohler *Box Elder, Cache & Rich Counties*

The section saw a large increase in road construction projects in 2020. Troopers responded to an increase in crashes caused by the traffic congestion.

In early September, a fast moving storm brought hurricane strength winds to the northern Wasatch front resulting in 12 overturned semi crashes.

Troopers recovered eight occupied stolen vehicles.

Five troopers were involved in crashes, with one resulting in an injury.

Section 2 - Lieutenant J. Cheney Morgan & Weber Counties

Section troopers assisted with three officerinvolved shootings in 2020.

Troopers responded to a shots fired call with an officer down in Ogden. assisted in holding They containment until the scene was Ogden cleared. The Police Department lost Officer Nate Lyday on May 28, 2020. Multiple troopers assisted with escorting Officer Lyday from the hospital, to the Medical Examiner's office, to the funeral home and with the funeral

UHP ANNUAL REPORT – FROM THE FIELD

procession.

- Troopers assisted Weber County Sheriff's Deputies when a Deputy was shot at while responding to a domestic in West Haven. The suspect was later found by SWAT with a fatal self-inflicted gunshot wound.
- Weber County and Morgan County Deputies responded to a trespasser in the upper valley where an exchange of gunfire resulted in the suspect being fatally wounded. Troopers responded and assisted and secured the scene to preserve evidence.

Troopers made multiple drug arrests this year.

 Two of the arrests resulted in over 100 pounds of marijuana, a firearm and 40 pounds of methamphetamine.

Troopers partnered with the Morgan High School student body to promote safe driving. They held several events and saw a 33% increase in seat belt usage among the students.

Trooper Rick Morgan stopped a slow moving vehicle on I-15. The driver was a 5year-old boy who had taken his parents' car. He was driving to California to buy himself a Lamborghini. This incident attracted significant local and national media attention.

Section 3 - Lieutenant M. McKay Davis County

Three troopers were awarded "Life Saving" medals for their heroic efforts during three incidents in 2020.

- A trooper positioned himself behind a suicidal male, spoke calmly with him and was able to pull him to safety.
- Another trooper responded to a

small plane crash and rendered lifesaving aid to the crash victims.

 Trooper Ruben Correa received a Medal of Valor, was recognized by Utah Chapter Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, received other accolades from the NAACP, IACP/Motorola Solutions and was one of four finalists for National Trooper of the Year for safely pulling a male from a vehicle stuck on train tracks.

Section 16 - Lieutenant R. Nixon *Criminal Interdiction & DUI Squad*

DUI Squad:

- Modified their enforcement efforts to focus on aggressive drivers as bars and restaurants were closed
- DUI Squad troopers assisted at the Utah State Capitol during the riots
- One member of the DUI squad made his 1,000th DUI arrest in 2020

Criminal Interdiction and Canine Teams:

- The canine and interdiction teams traveled to Washington and Tooele Counties on separate events. The teams made 515 traffic stops, 83 misdemeanor drug arrests, and 10 major drug seizures. K9's were deployed 38 times and 592 pounds of marijuana, 2 pounds of THC wax, 14 grams of cocaine, and two handguns were seized.
- UHP held its first in-house patrol and detector dog schools. Two troopers graduated with handler certificates in patrol and narcotics detection. One trooper graduated with a handler certificate in patrol.

UHP bomb dogs responded to the area where a homicide suspect hid a handgun and located the murder weapon for Kaysville PD.

UHP canines were deployed to search for a suspect in Sanpete County that began shooting when deputies attempted to serve

a warrant. He escaped the area, but was later apprehended and booked into jail.

Canine troopers traveled to Juab County and visited several local schools for Red Ribbon Week. Youth were educated on police service dogs and the role they play in law enforcement. Three demonstrations were conducted with over 800 people in attendance.

Salt Lake City International Airport concluded the first phase of its scheduled expansion. Canine teams were tasked with sweeping over 1 million square feet prior to opening. UHP bomb dog teams assisted TSA and several other agencies with sweeps of the entire area.

2020 Canine Statistics:

- Explosive Canines:
 - 12 Suspicious Packages / Vehicles
 - 5 Bomb Threat Sweeps
 - VIP Visits
 - Park City Sundance Film Festival protective sweeps
 - Twice daily sweep of the House and Senate floors during the legislative session
 - Located a gun used in a shots fired incident for UPD
 - Assisted Salt Lake County with bag of stolen guns
- Narcotics Detection / Patrol Canines:
 - 348 Narcotics Deployments
 - 23 Patrol Deployments
- 32 Public Presentations with a total 1,797 people present

NORTH CENTRAL BUREAU CAPTAIN T. KINCAID

Section 7 - Lieutenant R. Richey Summit & Wasatch Counties

The section saw a drastic increase in summer traffic, far more than previous years. Troopers investigated eight head-on crashes, two of which involved fatalities. Troopers handled two crashes involving runaway dump trucks coming down a steep, residential portion of SR-224. One of these crashes involved a driver that was under the influence of marijuana and methamphetamine. Both involved serious injuries.

Troopers responded to a suicidal female in the roadway. They were able to safely remove her and get her the help she needed.

Several pursuits were terminated due to suspect drivers veering into oncoming traffic lanes.

Two trooper vehicles were hit during 2020.

Section 8 - Lieutenant C. McCoy *Tooele County*

The section hosted their annual DUI checkpoint at the Wendover port. Sections 4, 15, 16 and 19, along with UDOT and other local agencies joined forces and participated in the checkpoint. Troopers and officers contacted 439 motorists and made 6 DUI arrests. There were also 12 drug, 5 seat belt violations and 48 commercial vehicle inspections conducted.



Troopers responded to a call of a pickup truck that had an occupant shooting an AR style rifle out of the window while driving. The truck was located with the help of Grantsville City. The vehicle was stopped and searched where troopers found distributable amounts of marijuana. As a result, four individuals were arrested. An I-80 port officer smelled marijuana while talking to a truck driver. A trooper responded and located 11 pounds of marijuana in the sleeper of a semi-truck and approximately 400 pounds of raw marijuana, edibles, and hundreds of THC vape cartridges in the trailer.

Section 15 – Lieutenants M. Spillman & H. Watkins *UTIP & Vehicle Safety*

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's waiver of rules and regulations due to the COVID-19 pandemic directly affected Section 15. Removing hours of service restrictions did enable a more rapid response of life saving products, but the section also saw an increase in driver error in the commercial motor vehicle industry.

Several joint efforts were made statewide, including Park City and Garden City, where they experienced significant commercial motor vehicle crashes. As a result of their efforts, plans were made in Garden City to add an additional runaway ramp, and increased signage. UTIP crews also held several nighttime enforcement events, focusing on CMV drivers during major holiday weekends.

The Safety Inspection program has seen a significant increase in post-crash inspection requests as the department transitions into a centralized program (MCIT). Several educational videos have been produced to help the public understand equipment laws as the department continues to focus efforts in equipment compliance.

The school bus inspection statute was modified in the 2020 Legislative session. A school bus committee was formed and the changes will ultimately result in school entities taking a more proactive role in school bus safety with the department functioning in more of an auditing role.

SOUTH CENTRAL

BUREAU CAPTAIN J. NIGBUR

Section 4 - Lieutenants D. Allen & W. Breur Salt Lake County



Troopers dealt on multiple occasions with a suicidal individual who would run into traffic, causing multiple freeway closures. After considerable follow-up and work with the courts and mental health professionals, Troopers were able to get the individual the help needed, changing their life.

After 52 years of service with the State of Utah, Section 4 Secretary Leila Billingsley retired.

Pandemic-induced decreases in traffic volume resulted in higher speeds. Contacts for speeds over 100+ mph skyrocketed. Pursuits, DUIs and personal injury crashes also increased.

Wildland fires forced the closure of I-80 in Parleys Canyon twice in August, straining section resources.

Troopers arrested an individual that Utah, Summit, and Wasatch Counties were attempting to locate for shots fired, multiple pursuits, starting a fire, brandishing a firearm and driving a stolen vehicle. The subject was located armed and hiding under a bridge near the stolen vehicle that they had abandoned.

Section 19 - Lieutenant A. Lepley *Training*

The firearms group provided 21 two-day red dot classes in 2020, with nine remaining to finish training for the entire department in the beginning of 2021. The group is working with POST to include curriculum changes for future POST cadets granted use of the red dot sighting systems. In addition, 650 firearms have had backup iron sights, mounting plates and red dot sighting systems installed for each member of the department.

Sprina qualifications were handled differently this year. Handgun and shotgun qualifications were held every hour for five people at a time over 23 days; seven rifle qualification dates with five people at a time every thirty minutes; three retired shoots conducted over four days in the state accommodating nearly 200 retired troops and officers; three full classes for new hires which included two days for policy review, handgun qualifications and shotgun training, and two days for rifle training, qualifications and VCQB training. There were also two partial classes held for another two groups of new hires caught in the middle of COVID-19.

Retired officer qualifications under the Federal LEOSA program were delayed this year, due to COVID-19, but were eventually conducted by adjunct instructors in Cache, Utah, and Washington counties. All told, over 200 retired officers participated in the program this year.

In 2019, Utah DPS recorded 232 crashes involving patrol cars, 63 of which were considered preventable. In 2020, the UHP recorded 178 Trooper involved crashes, 43 of which were considered preventable. As such, the Emergency Vehicle Operations program conducted a wide variety of driving related classes.

The Defensive Tactics program was also very involved with In-Service this year, conducting classes in 19 separate sessions, six Advanced Defensive Tactics classes, and downloading data on over 400 Tasers.

The Field Training Officer (FTO) / New Hire program oversaw 32 new Troopers this year. Two of the In-House Academies were only partially completed prior to field training in their home sections because of COVID-19 concerns. However, these individuals were able to successfully complete an academy later in the year. Additionally, two full FTO schools and 10 FTO refresher classes were completed, and the entire department participated in the annual UPAT physical fitness assessment testing.

The UHP Honor Guard was able to participate in 12 events, including retired trooper funerals and color guards. The unit also obtained eight new M-1 rifles.

SOUTHEAST BUREAU CAPTAIN S. SALAS

Section 5 - Lieutenant B. Gehring Daggett, Duchesne & Uintah Counties

Troopers in Section 5 were some of the first to come in contact with drivers and vehicle occupants that had been exposed and diagnosed with COVID-19.

Troopers provided traffic control and helped support graduating seniors as Uintah High Schools held a drive through graduation.

Troopers were overwhelmed with gratitude as citizens from their community rallied around them thanking them for their service. Community members and local radio stations had several events to make sure our troopers were supported and appreciated. Others sent cards and donations thanking our troopers for their dedication and service.

The section participated in the Border to Border seat belt campaign, and met up with the Colorado Highway Patrol for a photo opportunity and honored the partnership with surrounding states.

Section 9 - Lieutenant C. Parkins *Carbon & Emery Counties*

The section participated in a reverse parade Trick or Treat event organized by Carbon County EMS. Community members drove through a corridor of emergency service vehicles while, appropriately masked and gloved, public service members would hand out candy to the kids in the vehicles. Approximately 400 vehicles came through in about 2.5 hours.

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Troopers have been actively engaged in implementing new crash investigation equipment. The section received a new total station and now has three drone pilots with drones.



Section 9 Troopers received numerous gestures of kindness and support throughout the year. They are grateful for the community they serve and the support they have received.

Section 10 - Lieutenant C. Morgan Garfield, Sanpete, Sevier & Wayne Counties

Troopers saw a drastic decrease in tourism, travel, and events in 2020.

Troopers assigned to Garfield County assisted with the closure of Bryce Canyon National Park, a Balloon Festival and large truck show, drawing a significant amount of resources.

The county held a half marathon and full marathon, which drew in a large crowd.

Troopers assisted with traffic and safety for the Piute County Fair. Troopers in Sevier County also helped with the county fair and safety fair.

Section 13 - Lieutenant T. Roberts Emery, Grand, San Juan & Wayne Counties

Moab troopers assisted with a reckless driver coming into Moab. The vehicle continued into town impacting a local family near Center Street and Main, killing both occupants and impacting and injuring another Moab local. Troopers assisted in the accident investigation, total station, and reconstruction. A successful criminal case was brought, with the driver and being sentenced to prison.

Troopers organized and participated in a multi-agency seatbelt demonstration at the Grand County High School and middle school, teaching the youth about the importance of seatbelts. The Highway Patrol seatbelt convincer was used to let the kids feel the impact of a low speed crash. This coincided with the Junior Prom in Grand County.

Moab, Richfield and Price troopers assisted Moab City with a protest in city limits.

Moab saw a significant increase in tourism in 2020, up 150% of normal traffic according to some studies. Moab troopers have been working tirelessly to keep people safe on the crowded highways in Grand County while tourists enjoy their vacations.

San Juan troopers assisted in a search of the Anthe area, looking for two subjects that had shot at Deputies and an FBI agent.

The section worked with UDOT on new signage for SR-163 milepost 13, Forrest Gump Hill. There is a three-phase plan to improve safety for pedestrians in this area. UDOT has advised that new signage was approved and will be installed in the near future.

SOUTHERN BUREAU CAPTAIN N. BOWLES

Section 6 - Lieutenant R. Van Fleet *Utah County*

A fast moving wildfire started south of Saratoga Springs and rapidly moved toward homes. Troopers assisted with road closures on SR-68 and helped evacuate homes in the adjacent neighborhoods. Troopers investigated an accident where a semi carrying large steel I-beams lost control and struck the center barrier, causing the load of I-beams to come loose and land in the oncoming traffic lanes. The massive steel beams struck several vehicles, impaling one, causing two

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rollovers, and knocking one over the concrete retaining wall. Fortunately, only three people were transported to the hospital with minor injuries.



Another large wildfire in Provo Canyon required several troopers and Incident Management Team (IMT) personnel to assist with road closures and evacuations during the initial stages of the fire. As the incident progressed, UHP was tasked with 24/7 traffic control of the partially closed Highway 189 through Provo Canyon, and the hard closure of the Alpine Loop road. This incident lasted a full week, burning nearly 3,500 acres and costing over \$2 million.

hosted a multi-agency The section enforcement campaign in Utah County to coincide with NHTSA's 2020 "National Distracted Driving Awareness Month". Approximately 35 total officers attended the event, and participating agencies included UHP, Lehi PD, Lone Peak PD, American Fork PD, Lindon PD, Provo PD, and Utah County Sheriff's Office. An unmarked van was also utilized with spotters inside documenting the violations with body cameras and notes and relaying that information to marked patrol vehicles. Several media outlets (ABC 4, KUTV 2 News, KSL, Deseret News, and Telemundo) attended and were given opportunities to ride inside the van and to ride with the enforcement troopers to observe the violations. At one point, troopers stopped a woman for texting and driving and it was discovered that she had previously been cited by a Provo PD officer for the exact same violation as part of the project about 30 minutes prior.

Section 11 - Lieutenant R. Riches Beaver & Iron Counties

From January through November, troopers

stopped over 1,000 vehicles traveling 100+mph. They investigated multiple crashes involving the "big five": impairment, distraction, unrestrained, drowsy driving, speed, and equipment failure.

Troopers took large amounts of methamphetamine, heroin, marijuana, and vaping cartridges off the streets. Cash seizures and weapons offenses were part of these stops as well.

Troopers also recovered stolen vehicles and apprehended aggravated robbery suspects.

Section 12 - Lieutenant S. Judd Kane & Washington Counties

Both Washington and Kane Counties have experienced numerous wildfires. One major wildfire started in the Harrisburg area of Washington County. The fire eventually jumped the freeway. Several vehicles were caught in the heavy smoke and flames. No one was injured, but one vehicle was destroyed by the fire. The fire caused the closure of I-15, in both directions, for several hours and the evacuation of nearby homes and farms.



In late August, a strong thunderstorm moved through the St. George area. Localized heavy rain caused flooding on many roadways, including I-15. Both directions of I-15 were closed in the Bluff Street exit area for several hours while UDOT worked to clear the drainage system. Several vehicles were disabled in the deep standing water and the drivers had to be rescued by EMS. The flooding caused damage to numerous businesses and residential homes.

Section 14 - Lieutenant S. Robertson Juab & Millard Counties

Troopers responded to and assisted with numerous large wildfires in 2020 throughout the section.

The section participated in several PI&E events at the local high schools, including driver education classes, drunk goggles and trikes.

The section held a course called "Home Run Dads". This class was geared towards troopers better understanding and handling the challenges of being a dad and husband.

SPECIAL SERVICES BUREAU CAPTAIN J. RICKS

Section 17 - Lieutenant B. Rowser *Executive Protection*

The Executive Protection unit, in conjunction with the Governor's Office, had several significant events planned for 2020, but were ultimately canceled due to COVID-However, the section was highly 19. involved in the vice-presidential debate, as well as the security for the capitol during the May 30 protests/riots. The most significant event will be the gubernatorial transition as Governor Herbert leaves office after 11 1/2 years as Governor.

Section 18 - Lieutenant G. Holley *Dignitary Protection*

The last week of the Legislative session saw the large-scale spike and response to COVID-19. The Capitol building was closed to the public. The State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated to Level 1 (full activation). Dignitary Protection personnel were heavily involved seeing temporary hospitals and other sites spring up which required security on site. A vanload of medical supplies was driven across the country with Section 18 troopers escorting it from Wyoming at 3am to its destination.



On May 30, a group of 1,500 volatile protestors marched from the Salt Lake City Police Department to the State Capitol. The crowd became destructive, spray painting parts of the Capitol The crowd dispersed but would later return. The call for help went out across the state with a response that was awe-inspiring. The number of troopers at the Capitol guickly swelled and as the crowd came back, they were met with troopers standing shoulder to shoulder at the bottom of the grand staircase. The steady stream of troopers pulling into the underground parking lot continued until the lot was full of cruisers, providing the bodies to move the crowd off the grounds. The unrest would continue for two weeks. The section saw 200 different troopers respond to Capitol Hill pulling long shifts and withstanding an onslaught of insults and weather that ranged from 90+ degrees to 50 in a downpour. During those two weeks the section averaged 40-60 troopers every evening, in addition to help from the Utah National Guard and Division of Natural Resources personnel for a total of 60-100 personnel at the Capitol at the ready. Demonstrations continued, averaging 1-3 a week.

AS A PART OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN, THE SECURITY CONTROL CENTER WAS UPDATED, PROVIDING CAMERA FEEDS FROM SEVERAL DLD BUILDINGS. IN ORDER TO ADDRESS SECURITY CONCERNS, THE MAILROOM WAS REMODELED AND IS NOW COMPLETE WITH AN X-RAY MACHINE. ALL SERGEANT SPOTS HAVE BEEN FILLED AND TROOPER VACANCIES WILL CONTINUE TO

BE FILLED.

Section 21 - Lieutenant J. Hawkes *Salt Lake Community College*

Salt Lake Community College (SLCC) campuses experienced some damage after the earthquake in March. Troopers were instrumental in searching buildings. COVID-19 forced SLCC to move to online classes for the remainder of Spring and Summer semesters. In-person classes were offered again for the Fall semester.

Several small basic bicycle patrol schools were conducted which achieved the goal of getting every Trooper in the section certified.

A Sergeant was able to get some help from the VA hospital for a student who was experiencing a mental health crisis at his residence. The trooper connected with a Veteran student who needed support on campus.

Troopers remodeled the section's shed to provide a clean, workable space for bicycle and weapons maintenance.

A large fire in the Applied Technology building (Redwood campus) caused millions of dollars of damage. Troopers provided security for the scene as the State Fire Marshal's office investigated.

The section sponsored a joint training exercise with the Campus Safety Officers at SLCC utilizing scenarios to highlight areas for improvement. The DPS Victim Advocate was invited to assist with evaluating the scenarios.

Troopers had several high profile investigations that have exposed larger patterns of criminal activity. Several Troopers have handled domestic violence cases.

Troopers have been proactively patrolling on their bicycles for more hours than ever before. Troopers brainstormed communityoriented policing initiatives in an attempt to build trust and provide better service to students, faculty, and visitors. Six Troopers are taking a Tactical Fitness Class at SLCC to improve performance, mobility, and strength capabilities. This beta program was designed specifically for section troopers.

COMMUNICATIONS BUREAU CAPTAIN T. TROTTA

Section 20 - Lieutenant J. Cox LEDC, Fleet & Supply

UHP Supply was tasked with securing PPE supplies for all of DPS, not just UHP. Supply procured hundreds of gallons of hand sanitizer, tens of thousands of gloves, and over a hundred thousand masks. Most of this PPE has been distributed to DPS employees across Utah.

UHP Technology was tasked with evaluating a new Report Management System to replace the aging FatPot platform. The new RMS will be better able to collect and analyze data, integrate with the dispatch CAD, and customize reports and features for DPS needs. For future projects, UHP Technology is working to incorporate data sharing into the RMS so all criminal justice entities throughout the state can collaborate and work together on public safety matters.

Finally, the unit has been working hard to upgrade the equipment placed in and on marked patrol cars. The new light bars have improved functionality and will be far more visible to motorists. Radios and radars have been upgraded, and adjustments have been made to the configuration of the center console to make the emergency equipment more easily accessible.



department of public safety Utah Highway Patrol