

Three Squad Cars Hit, One Trooper Injured

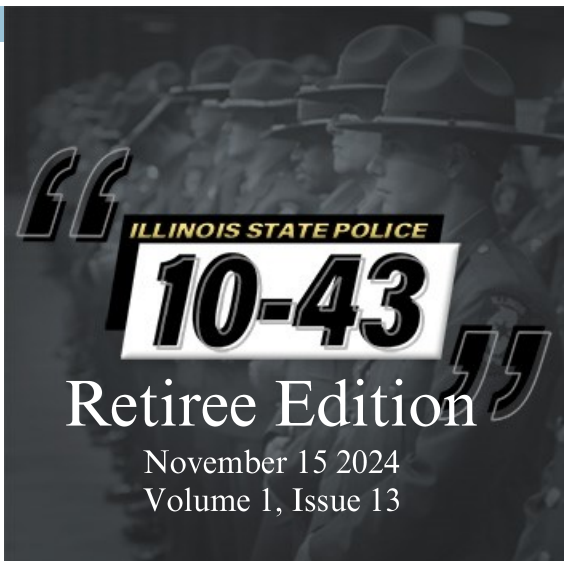
ISP has had 23 Move Over Law related crashes this year

CHICAGO – Illinois State Police (ISP) officials investigated a traffic crash in Chicago involving an ISP trooper struck by an unlicensed driver who failed to move over.

On November 4, 2024, at approximately 10:22 a.m., an ISP trooper's marked squad car was parked on the right shoulder of Interstate 57 northbound near 108th Street with its emergency lights activated, handling a previous two-vehicle traffic crash. The trooper was standing on the grassy embankment just east of the roadway, when a black Hyundai traveling northbound failed to move over, drove onto the shoulder, and struck the trooper and the other two other parked vehicles. The trooper was transported to an area hospital with serious injuries. No other injuries were reported. The driver of the Hyundai, 22-year-old Dario A. Lopez-Arevalo of Robbins, IL, was charged with Aggravated Scott's

Law Violation (Class 4 Felony) and issued citations for No Valid Driver's License - Never Issued, Operation of an Uninsured Motor Vehicle, and multiple other Illinois Vehicle Code violations.

On November 5, 2024, at approximately 10 p.m., an ISP trooper was stopped on the left shoulder of the Bishop Ford, Interstate 94 southbound, at the Cottage Grove accident investigation site with its emergency lights activated. An Infiniti sedan was attempting to change lanes into the left lane when it lost control striking another vehicle and the squad car. The trooper was transported to a hospital with injuries. The driver of the Infiniti, 25-year-old Shylyn J. Richmond of Lansing, IL, was charged with Aggravated Scott's Law Violation (Class 4 Felony) and issued citations for Driving Under the Influence, Driving While License Revoked, Driving Too Fast for Conditions, and mul-



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**ILLINOIS
STATE POLICE**

Brendan F. Kelly—Director

Three Squad Cars Hit, One Trooper Injured... continued



multiple other Illinois Vehicle Code violations.

EAST ST. LOUIS – Illinois State Police (ISP) officials investigated a traffic crash in East St. Louis involving an ISP squad car

hit by an intoxicated driver who failed to move over.

On November 14, 2024, at approximately 9:34 p.m., an ISP trooper activated their emergency lights and parked their marked squad car on the left shoulder of Interstate 55 northbound at milepost 1.9 near East Broadway to assist with a crash that had just occurred. Around 10:05 p.m., a gray Chevrolet truck failed to move over, drove onto the left shoulder, and struck the rear of the

parked squad car. Fortunately, the trooper was not inside the squad car when it was hit. Due to the extensive damage, the squad car had to be towed from the scene. The driver of the Chevrolet was identified as 40-year-old Omar Castillo Loera of Alamo, Texas. ISP issued Castillo citations for the Move Over Law – Failure to Yield to Stationary Emergency Vehicle, Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol, Failure to Reduce Speed to Avoid an Accident, and Improper Lane Usage.

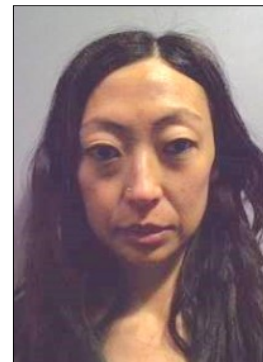
Already in 2024, ISP has suffered 23 Move Over Law-related crashes with 11 troopers injured. In 2023, ISP had 21 Move Over Law-related crashes with seven troopers injured, and suffered 25 crashes in 2022 leaving 13 troopers injured. ISP reminds the public the Move Over Law, also known as “Scott’s Law” in Illinois, requires all drivers to move over when approaching an emergency vehicle or any vehicle with its emergency or hazard lights activated.

ISP Arrests Wife of Judge for Murder

ALBION – Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Criminal Investigation Zone 8 agents arrested 44-year-old Megan S. Valentine of Albion, IL in connection with the fatal shooting death of her husband, Illinois Second Judicial Circuit Court Judge Michael J. Valentine, earlier this week. Megan Valentine is charged with First Degree Murder (Class M Felony), Aggravated Battery with a Firearm (Class X Felony), Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm (Class 2 Felony), and Aggravated Domestic Battery (Class 2 Felony).

On November 5, 2024 at approximately 12:14 p.m., the Edwards County Sheriff’s Office (ECSO) responded to a residence in the 1100 block of

County Road 600 in Albion. Upon arrival, an ECSO deputy observed the body of Michael Valentine laying outside the residence. Megan Valentine was taken into custody. The ECSO requested ISP lead the investigation.



On November 7, 2024, after a thorough investigation, ISP agents presented their case to the Illinois State’s Attorney Appellate Prosecutor’s Office and the above-listed charges were filed. Megan Valentine is being held at the White County jail.



This Retiree Edition of 10-43 is produced by the Public Information Office of the Illinois State Police.

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Three Arrested for Possession of Child Sexual Abuse Materials

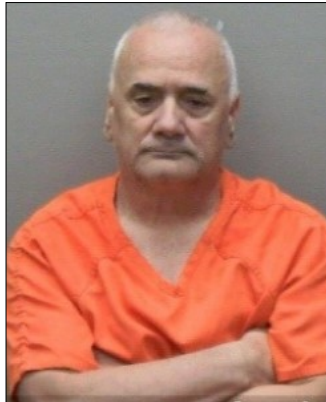
KANKAKEE – Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Criminal Investigation Zone 1 arrested 19-year-old

Juan F. Diaz of Kankakee, IL for Possession of Child Pornography – Moving Depiction (Class 2 Felony), Possession of Child Pornography – Victim Less than 13-years-old (Class 2 Felony), and Possession of Child Pornography – Images (Class 3 Felony).

In January of 2023, ISP agents executed a search warrant at Diaz's residence in the 1900 block of Schuyler Avenue in Kankakee and collected

electronic evidence. The evidence was analyzed and revealed child exploitation materials.

On October 30, 2024, ISP executed a search warrant at the same address. Agents arrested Diaz on the above-mentioned charges, based off the evidence collected during the January of 2023 search warrant. During the arrest, agents collected more electronic devices belonging to Diaz. Diaz was transported to the Kankakee County Jail for a detention hearing. Illinois.



TAYLORVILLE – Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Criminal Investigation Zone 4 arrested 61-year-old

Phillip R. Windell from Taylorville, IL for Dissemination of Child Pornography (Class X) and Possession of Child Pornography (Class 2).

On October 10, 2024, ISP agents initiated an investigation after learning Windell was possessing and disseminating child sexual abuse material.

ISP agents assigned to the Office of the Illinois Attorney General Internet

Crimes against Children Task Force gathered digital evidence.

On November 7, 2024, ISP agents, with assistance from the Taylorville Police Department and the Central Illinois Enforcement Group, executed a search warrant at Windell's residence and placed him under arrest. He was charged by the Christian County State's Attorney's Office with the above charges and is being held at the Christian County Jail pending his first court appearance.

HOOPESTON – Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Criminal Investigation Zone 5 agents arrested 24-year-old Connor S. Gilonske of Hoopeston, IL for Possession and Dissemination of Child Sexual Abuse Material.

After receiving a cyber tip, ISP agents began an investigation into the possession and dissemination of child sexual abuse material by Gilonske. On November 7, 2024, ISP agents located and arrested Gilonske in Danville, IL. A subsequent residential search warrant was then ex-

ecuted at Gilonske's residence in Hoopeston, IL. He is being held at the Vermilion County Public Safety Building pending his first court appearance.

This ongoing investigation is a collaborative effort between the Illinois Attorney General's Office Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, the Vermilion County Metropolitan Enforcement Group, the Vermilion County Sheriff's Office, the Danville Police Department, the Vermilion County State's Attorney's Office, and ISP.



Click here
for FB
event site

**BLUE
BREW
3**



**NOV. 16
6PM**

**Raise a glass in remembrance of Troopers Lambert and
Ellis while raising funds to assist the recovery of Trooper
Brian Frank.**



\$40 EVENT TICKET INCLUDES

- 3 BEER TICKETS
- SOUVENIR CUP
- DOOR PRIZE RAFFLE ENTRY*

*winner must be present



TICKETED RAFFLE PRIZES FROM

- HALF-FACE BLADES
- RESCO WATCHES
- BLANTON'S
- EH TAYLOR...AND MORE



**ORDER
TICKETS**

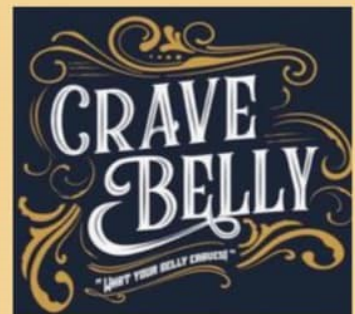


**EAGLE RARE TOAST TO TPR.
LAMBERT
\$100
INCLUDES ETCHED HONOR
ROCKS GLASS**



**ALTER BREWING CO.
2300 WISCONSIN AVE.
DOWNERS GROVE**

**FOOD AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE
FROM CRAVE BELLY FOOD TRUCK**



TROOPER BRIAN FRANK FUNDRAISING

HOLIDAY EVENTS



**NOV
9**

ZOO LIGHTS

Brookfield Zoo | 10a - 4:30p

Join us Saturday afternoon to decorate a tree for Brian and the Got Your 6 Foundation for Holiday Magic! Bring the kiddos!

GY6 BLUE BREW

Alter Brewing, Downers Grove | 6p - 11p

Join us and the Got Your 6 Foundation to celebrate the lives of Trooper Christopher Lambert and Jerry Ellis. Funds will be raised for Brian Frank's Recovery.

**NOV
16**

**NOV
24**

THE FRANK'S FA LA LA

223 Main Street, St. Lemont | 9a - 2p

We are hosting a family friendly holiday pop-up shop for Brian! We will have Santa (we know him!) for photos, a hot chocolate bar, new Frank Strong merch, and more!

SADDLE UP SALOON

4440 Ogden Ave, Aurora, IL 60504 | 4p - 8p+

Join us for round 2 at Saddle for a night of line dancing & drinks! This will be our send-off event. \$5 at the door.

**DEC
12**



MORE INFO:

WWW.4THPATH.BLOGSPOT.COM

ISP Seizes Over 1800 Grams of Meth During Traffic Stop



MORRIS – The Illinois State Police (ISP) arrested 39-year-old Tamiko L. Kearney from Marion, IA and 35-year-old Jonathan Q. Carter from Chicago, IL for Possession of Methamphetamine 900 or More Grams (Class X Felony).

On November 13, 2024 at approximately 1:23 p.m., an ISP trooper conducted a traffic stop on a Chevrolet Camaro on Interstate 80 west-bound in Grundy County. During the traffic stop, numerous indicators of criminal activity

were observed. A subsequent search revealed suspected methamphetamine. The total approximate weight of the methamphetamine located was 1811 grams.

Kearney and Carter were taken into custody and transported to the Grundy County Jail pending a pre-trial release hearing.

SkyLine Chicago 2024 - Purple Fire Breathing Ladybugs

On Sunday, November 2, 2024, Trooper Juan Vazquez and his family, along with his ISP family, - TEAM Purple Fire Breathing Ladybugs - participated for the 10th year in the SkyLine Chicago 2024 fundraising event. They dedicated their time and put forth extraordinary effort to climb 105 flights of stairs in the Willis Tower to honor the memory of Juan's little angel, Alexi. This year, they raised \$15,158 for the Shirley Ryan Ability Lab!! Thank

you to all who supported and donated, making the day more special for Trooper Vazquez and his family.

Stair Climbers: Eric David, Kyle Blakemore, DeAnn Falat, Amber Dunn, Mark Nytko, Neill Mooney, Delila Garcia, Nicholas Martinez, LaNail Griffin

In spirit: Susana Matias (on a call out), Shelley Cox, Mark Reynolds





SHOP FOR THE HOLIDAYS TODAY!



1306 S. 6th Street - Springfield, IL
Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 11:00- 3:00

Troop 2 Shows Up for Faith and Blue

During October, Troop 2 participated in the below events for the 2024 Faith and Blue Initiative.

- **Sunday, October 6, 1p-4p, Supply Drive**, Silvis Wal Mart- Host a drive to collect paper-supply products / donations for Youth Hope QC's food bank.
- **Friday, October 18, 7-8:30p Football game**, Sherrard High School, ISP (Troop 2 and Zone 2), Mercer Co SD, Henry Co. SD, Rock Island Co. SD, Orion and Sherrard Fellowship of Christian Athletes
- **Monday, October 21, 9a-12p, Food Pantry**, Youth Hope QC, Moline, IL, Unload and stock shelves and help pass out food to those in need.
- **Monday, October 28, 1p-5p, Blood Drive**, Heritage Church, Rock Island, ISP (Troop 2 and Zone 2) Rock Island PD, Heritage Church, Impact Life
- **Thursday, October 31, 2-330pm, Trinity Catholic Academy**, Trunk or Treat

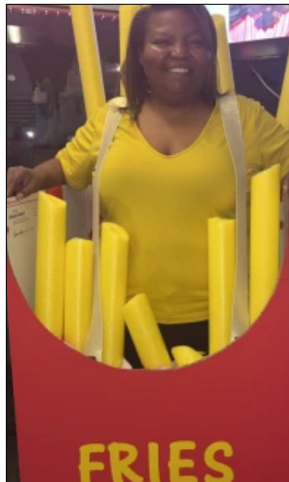
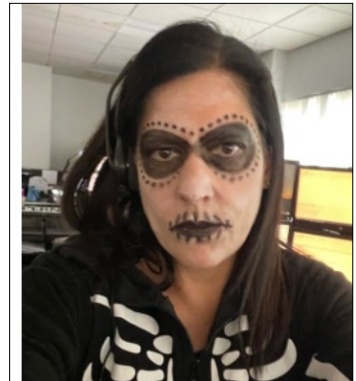


Troop 3 Telecommunicators Show Halloween "Spirit"



During the last week of October, Telecommunicators with ISP Troop 3 Chicago celebrated with a spirit week.

Here are some of the pictures taken of those who participated.





In Memoriam: John M. Waters

It is with deep sadness the Division of Justice Services announces the sudden passing of John M. Waters, 64, of Park Ridge, Illinois, husband of Division of Justice Services Public Service Administrator Kim Donahue. Mr. Waters passed away at his home on Thursday, October 31, 2024. As we all know Kim from organizing Blood Drives and SECA events, we ask you please keep the Waters and Donahue families in your thoughts and prayers.

Memorials may be made to: [Will's Place](#)

Obituary: [John M. Waters - Park Ridge, IL](#)



Corporal George Craggs

End of Watch: November 10, 1976

Corporal George Craggs suffered a fatal heart attack while working an aircraft speed check on IL 126 in Mason County.

Corporal Craggs had served with the Illinois State Police for 20 years and was assigned to District 9. Corporal Craggs was survived by his wife and three children.



Sergeant John Kugelman

End of Watch: November 10, 1986

Sergeant John Kugelman was killed in a vehicle crash while assisting another agency with a vehicle pursuit at the interchange of I-290 and I-355 in Itasca.

Officers from the Hoffman Estates Police Department were attempting to stop a car speeding within their city limits. The driver fled, leading to a chase at speeds in excess of 80 miles per hour. Sergeant John Kugelman monitored the chase on the radio and positioned himself ahead of it. Sergeant Kugelman stepped onto the road in an attempt to deter the speeding car, but the driver made no attempt to swerve or slow down. Sergeant Kugelman was struck and thrown 20 feet into the air.

He was flown to Loyola University Medical Center, in

Maywood, where he was pronounced deceased.

The driver was pulled over by a rolling roadblock approximately two miles from where Sergeant Kugelman was struck. Officers then learned the 17-year-old was wanted on a warrant for violating the terms of his temporary release from the Illinois Department of Corrections. He was tried on three counts of murder and one count of reckless homicide. He was subsequently sentenced to 32 years. He was paroled in 2002 after serving less than half of his sentence.

Sergeant Kugelman had served with the Illinois State Police for three years and had previously served as a military police officer. He was survived by his wife, parents, sister and nephew.

On July 30th, 1987, District 2 Headquarters in Elgin was rededicated in honor of Sergeant Kugelman. A highway interchange was also named in his honor.

IN MEMORIAM: ISP K9 HANK

END OF WATCH: NOVEMBER 4, 2024



It is with great sadness that we share the passing of Illinois State Police Canine Hank. Hank, who served faithfully alongside his handler, Trooper Zach McNelly, passed away November 4, 2024, at the age of 11, due to medical complications related to a brief terminal illness.

Hank was not just a valued partner to Trooper McNelly, but also a beloved member of the Illinois State Police family. Together, they worked tirelessly as a team in Troop 8 to protect and serve the citizens of Illinois, forging a bond of trust and teamwork that will be remembered by all who knew them. Hank graduated with Canine Class 71 in the Spring of 2015 and was an active ISP canine until his death.

Most recently, Hank served as an amazing role model and example in the training of new dogs and their handlers at the ISP Canine Training Facility in Pawnee. Hank's dedication and contributions to public safety over the years will always be remembered.

Our prayers are with Trooper McNelly, his family, and all those who had the privilege of working alongside Hank during his distinguished career. We honor Hank's memory and give thanks for the incredible work he did to keep our communities safe over the last decade.

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