

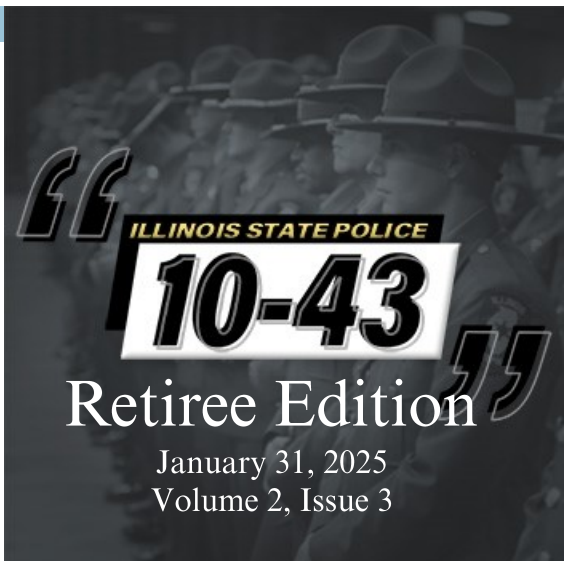
# Happy Birthday, Captain Norton!

Retired ISP Captain Donald Norton recently celebrated his 94th birthday.

10-43 had the opportunity to speak with Captain Norton last week over the phone. He mentioned that he will celebrate his 65th year in law enforcement later this spring.

Captain Norton volunteers five days a week at ISP, working out of the DCI Zone 1 office.

Fun Fact: Captain Norton was the driving force behind the creation of 10-43. He developed the original paper version of 10-43 while he was Captain of District 3 in 1987 so that members of his command could share information about events in their personal and professional lives.



## Inside this issue

ISP Community News.....2-7

Arrests.....8-11

New Educational Partner-  
ships.....12-13



**ILLINOIS  
STATE POLICE**

*Brendan F. Kelly—Director*

## Bardolph Girl Scout Troop Welcomes ISP

A/MSgt Lisa Osborne (Zone 4) and M/Sgt Amber Dunn (Troop 2) attended a local girl scout troop meeting in Bardolph, IL on January 9, 2025, to talk to the girls about leadership and stranger danger.

The troopers received gift baskets for Law Enforcement Appreciation Day and participated in games with the girls and their families.



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

Submit articles to:  
**Kimberly Runkle**

[ISP.PIO.1043@illinois.gov](mailto:ISP.PIO.1043@illinois.gov)

Questions? Send those to:  
**Lt. Mike Link**

[mike.link@illinois.gov](mailto:mike.link@illinois.gov)



## ISP Joins Metro East “40 Days” Initiative



Group photo of partners, sponsors, and leadership of 40 Days of Nonviolence 2015

### **The Tradition of Excellence Continues! Announcing the Kickoff of the 2025 Session of 40 Day of Nonviolence**

**Friday, January 17, 2025**

**12:30 PM – 2:00 PM (Reception to follow)**

**Clyde C Jordan Senior Citizen Center  
6755 State Street  
East St. Louis, IL 62203**

#### **Agenda**

Introduction of Partners, Sponsors, and Leadership



Preview of the 2025 Session of the 40 Days of Nonviolence  
(Saturday, January 25, 2025 – Wednesday, March 5, 2025)



Question and Answer Session (Public and Press)



For more information call Joe W. Lewis, Jr. (618) 593-3436

ISP committed to engaging directly with the community in meaningful ways. That is why we are actively involved in the *40 Days Non-Violence and Beyond* initiative.

During this initiative, ISP, East St. Louis PD, East St. Louis Housing Authority Police, and ESL School District Security will be engaging with local youth through roundtable dialogues, and panel discussions with residents. The focus of these discussions will be on conflict resolution, mentorship, and the importance of making non-violent choices.

These efforts align with the broader goal of creating a peaceful and supportive environment, where individuals are empowered to make positive, non-violent decisions in their lives.

Photo left: Lt. Elbert Jennings



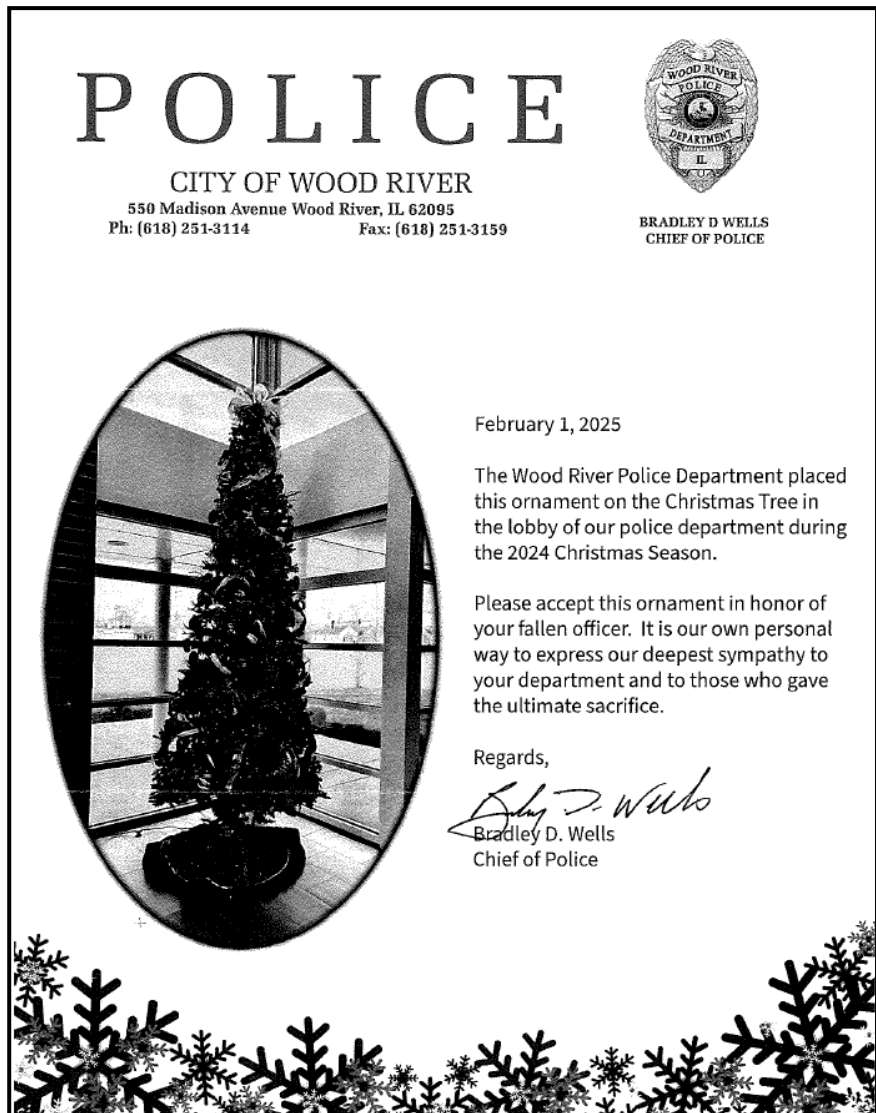


## Wood River PD Honors ISP Fallen

ISP recently received a letter from the Wood River (IL) Police Department containing two holiday ornaments honoring Trooper Corey Thompson and Trooper Clay Carns.

The Wood River Police Department hung these ornaments, along with several others honoring fallen law enforcement officers, on the Christmas tree displayed in their lobby during the 2024 holiday season.

ISP thanks our brothers and sisters in the Wood River Police Department for remembering our fallen troopers.



## Division of Forensic Services Promotes Joanne Liu

I am pleased to announce the following change effective January 16, 2025.

Senior Public Service Administrator Joanne Liu is promoted to Bureau Chief (Programs and Training), in the Division of Forensic Services (DFS), Forensic Sciences Command (FSC). Ms. Liu has a wealth of knowledge and experience in the field of forensic science having served in a number of leadership positions including Interim Bureau Chief (DFS - Northern Region), Morton Laboratory Director, and Director of Quality Assurance during her 20+ years of service with ISP.

Please join me in congratulating Ms. Liu on her new position.

Brendan F. Kelly  
Director



## Celebrating Our December Retirees

Congratulations to these ISP employees on their promotion to “retiree”!

Vickie Anger Public Service Administrator 28 Years, 11+ Months	Cari Sandberg Forensic Science Admin 2 32 Years, 1+ Months	John Foster Master Trooper #5857 18 Years, 4+ Months	Jeffrey Liskh Master Sergeant #5299 23 Years, 9+ Months
Christina Marie Borth Office Associate 28 Years, 2+ Months	Kevin Schofield Storekeeper 3 25 Years, 6+ Months	Andrew Fratzke Master Sergeant #4773 27 Years, 9+ Months	Timothy Luker Sergeant #4867 27 Years, 7+ Months
Lisa Gilbert Forensic Scientist 3 29 Years, 8+ Months	Katherine Sullivan Forensic Scientist 3 29 Years, 8+ Months	Marcus Gipson Colonel #5088 25 Years, 2+ Months	Larry Martinez Captain #5105 25 Years, 2+ Months
Amy Hart Forensic Scientist 3 29 Years, 8+ Months	Stephen Ray Allen Senior Master Trooper #5276 23 Years, 9+ Months	Sean Grosvenor Lieutenant #5145 24 Years, 9+ Months	Ruben Santiago Sergeant #5051 25 Years, 8+ Months
Suzanne Kidd Forensic Scientist 3 34+ Years	Charles Davidson Master Sergeant #5468 22 Years, 6+ Months	Brian Hayes Master Sergeant #5575 20 Years, 6+ Months	Eric Scott Senior Master Trooper# 5054 25 Years, 8+ Months
Chris Miller Senior Public Service Ad- ministrator 27 Years, 2+ Months	Thomas Dziekan Senior Master Trooper #4984 25 Years, 8+ Months	Daniel Jansen Senior Master Trooper #5294 23 Years, 9+ Months	Matthew Swanson Lieutenant #4816 27 Years, 9+ Months
Elaine Plain Office Coordinator 20 Years, 6 Months	Bryan Robert Falat Master Sergeant #4770 27 Years, 9+ Months	Matthew Johnson Senior Master Trooper #5006 25 Years, 8+ Months	Thé V. Tran Colonel #4824 27 Years, 9+ Months
Deann Rizzi Telecommunication Supervisor 25+ Years	Jeffrey File Captain #5448 22 Years, 6+ Months	Neil Laster Senior Inspector #4932 26 Years, 1+ Months	



***Late last month, we received this note:***

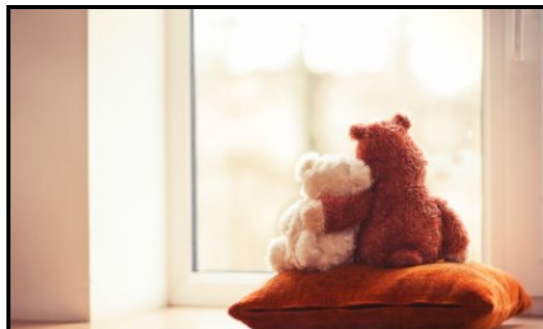
Hello everyone! On December 28, 2024, around 7 a.m., my friend had a bad situation on Highway 53 near Woodfield Mall, where she accidentally went off the road and got stuck, unable to get back on.

After a little bit of time, a state patrol officer arrived. I just want to text my gratitude and a big thank you to this wonderful officer. He was incredibly polite in his communication and helped us resolve this issue. Most importantly, he cared about our safety and stayed in control of the situation until the very end.

Thank you to everyone who makes our lives better and safer. Thank you for being there and doing your work in such hard time. I feel protected when people like this work in the police.

---

## Three Troopers Comfort a Child During a Chaotic Evening



During a recent DUI stop, Troop 8 officers went above and beyond. The intoxicated driver had two passengers in the car, including a child.

One trooper handled the DUI, while another trooper managed the adult passenger. A third trooper transported the child to HQ and remained with her for several hours, keeping her company, playing movies, and supplying snacks.

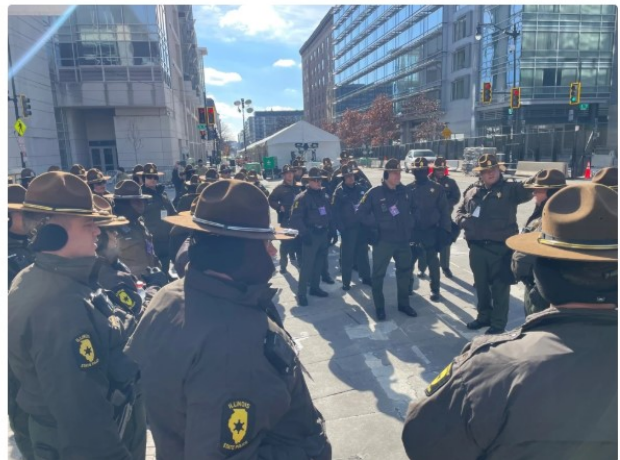
Regarding the troopers involved, their Master Sergeant wrote, *“I wanted to highlight the actions of the officers in this incident. Their professionalism and compassion were on display throughout the long and frustrating encounter.”*

At ISP, “service” can take many forms. This night, service was manifested by removing a dangerous driver from the streets and by showing compassion with something as simple as a candy bar.



## ISP Goes to Washington DC

Every four years law enforcement agencies from across the U.S. send local, state, and federal officers to provide security at the Presidential Inauguration in Washington, D.C. and ISP assisted again this year. Thank you, troopers for continuing to live out ISP's value of Service. [#Inauguration2025](#)



## ISP Investigates Shooting in Arcola

**ARCOLA** – The Illinois State Police Division of Criminal Investigation Zone 5 was requested by the Arcola Police Department to assist with a shooting investigation. On January 17, 2025 at approximately 12:00 a.m., Arcola PD responded to the report of a shooting in the 200 block of South Pine Street. One male was located with injuries sustained from a gunshot and was transported to an area hospital. There is no threat to the public. The investigation is ongoing and there is no additional information to share at this time.

## ISP Investigates Officer Involved Shooting in Quincy

**QUINCY** – On January 18, 2025, the Adams County Sheriff's Office requested ISP Division of Criminal Investigation Zone 4 to investigate an officer involved shooting in the 2300 block of Melview Road in Quincy, IL.

Preliminary investigative findings indicate at approximately 7:45 a.m. Adams County Sheriff Deputies responded to a 911 call regarding a disturbance involving a call of a male suspect wielding a knife. Upon arrival, officers encountered the male suspect. Faced with a threat, one officer fired their weapon, striking the male suspect, who was transported to an area hospital. No deputies were injured during the incident.

ISP will conduct a thorough investigation into the use of force portion of this incident. After its completion, ISP will turn all reports over to the Adams County State's Attorney's office for an independent review of the facts. The investigation is active and ongoing. No additional information will be released at this time.

## ISP Seizes Over 10,000 Grams of Cocaine During 1-80 Traffic Stop

**GENESEO** – The Illinois State Police (ISP) Highway Interdiction Team arrested 55-year-old Jose J. Guillen of Ontario, California for Possession of Cocaine (Class 1 Felony), Possession with Intent to Deliver Cocaine (Class X Felony), and Cocaine Trafficking (Class X Felony).

On January 18, 2025, a trooper conducted a traffic stop on a truck-tractor semi-trailer on Interstate 80 eastbound east of E. 1600<sup>th</sup> Street in Henry County. A probable cause search of the truck revealed multiple packages of suspected cocaine, weighing over 10 kilograms.

ISP presented the case to the Henry County State's Attorney's Office, and the above-mentioned criminal charges were approved. Guillen is being held at the Henry County jail.



# Guns Stolen From Firearms Dealers Drops Following ISP Inspections

**SPRINGFIELD** – Since the Illinois State Police (ISP) began conducting inspections of Federal Firearms License (FFL) dealers, the number of guns stolen from dealers has decreased. In 2024, the number of firearms stolen from FFL dealers in Illinois dropped almost 80% compared to 2023, and 92% compared to 2022.

“Five years ago, I signed a bipartisan law to combat illegal gun trafficking—and the data ISP released today demonstrates that state oversight works,” said Governor JB Pritzker. “Too many Illinoisans know the pain of gun violence and the added security measures enforced by ISP are ensuring that guns don’t fall into the wrong hands.”

“Stemming the flow of stolen guns used in crime is one way we are fighting gun violence,” said ISP Director Brendan F. Kelly. “Inspections, which ensure firearm dealers have security measures in place, reduces the number of guns stolen often later used to commit violence, and this effort appears to be producing good results.”

To help address the problem of illegal firearms, the General Assembly passed the Firearm Dealer License Certification Act ([430 ILCS 68](#)), which went into effect January 18, 2019. Under the Act, each certified FFL dealer was required to have a video security system by January 2, 2021. To help ensure dealers complied, ISP began conducting site visits in 2021, and inspections in 2022. Since the implementation of the Act, but specifically since ISP inspections began looking at security measures, the number of firearms stolen from dealers has dropped.

Year	Firearms Stolen
2020	291
2021	100
2022	103
2023	39
2024	8

Today’s announcement arrives a week after ISP released the [2024 interstate shooting data showcasing a 31% decrease in shootings](#), compared to 2023. ISP’s continued dedication of resources and enforcement actions are effectively reducing the illegal possession of firearms and potentially related gun violence, keeping roads and communities safer statewide.

<sup>1</sup>ATF data - <https://www.atf.gov/resource-center/data-statistics>. Burglary, Larceny, Robbery  
<sup>2</sup>Preliminary data not finalized.

## Blackhawk Area Task Force Makes Two Arrests

**STERLING**—The Illinois State Police (ISP) Blackhawk Area Task Force (BATF) arrested 41-year-old Eric J. Blackhawk of Sterling, IL, for two separate counts of Delivery of a Controlled Substance (Class 1 Felony).



In May of 2024, BATF agents received complaints of narcotic sales in the Sterling area. BATF agents, along with officers from the Sterling Police Department and the Dixon Police Department, conducted an extensive investigation and identified Blackhawk as a suspect. On January 22, 2025, BATF agents arrested Blackhawk. He was released on pre-trial conditions and awaits a further court date in Whiteside County.

**STERLING**— The Illinois State Police Blackhawk Area Task Force (BATF) arrested 26-year-old Lucas N. Vasquez of Sterling, Illinois for one count of Delivery of a Controlled Substance over 15 grams (Class X Felony) and two counts of Delivery of a Controlled Substance 1-15 grams (Class 1 Felony).



In February of 2024, BATF agents received several complaints of cocaine sales in the Sterling area. BATF agents, along with officers from the Sterling Police Department and Dixon Police Department, conducted an extensive investigation and identified Vasquez as the suspect. On January 24, 2025, officers arrested Vasquez. He was released on pre-trial conditions and awaits a further court date in Whiteside County.

## ISP Arrests Chicago Man for 2024 Expressway Shooting



**CHICAGO** – Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Criminal Investigation Zone 1 arrested 30-year-old Steve Turner from Chicago, IL for Aggravated Battery with a Firearm (Class X Felony) related to an expressway shooting on the Stevenson Expressway last year.

On March 25, 2024, at approximately 6:37 p.m., ISP officers responded to a reported expressway shooting on Interstate 55 northbound near Western Avenue in Chicago. The victim's vehicle was shot at by the driver of another vehicle. The victim was struck by gunfire and was transported to an area hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

After an exhaustive investigation, agents identified a suspect vehicle and suspect.

On January 27, 2025, ISP agents took Turner into custody. Agents presented their case to the Cook County State's Attorney's Office and the above-mentioned charge was filed against Turner. Turner is being held pending his first court appearance.

## ISP Task Force Recovers Multiple Weapons and Methamphetamine During Search Warrant

**ROCKFORD** – The Illinois State Police (ISP) Stateline Area Narcotics Team (SLANT) executed a search warrant in Rockford, resulting in criminal charges for two Rockford residents and the recovery of multiple weapons and narcotics.

On January 24, 2025, SLANT agents, with assistance from the ISP SWAT team, ISP Troop 1 officers, and the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office canine unit, executed a search warrant at residence in the 1700 block of 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Rockford. Officers recovered a handgun with a fully automatic switch capability, two rifles, and another handgun. Over 30 grams of cocaine and nearly 15 grams of methamphetamine were also seized.

Agents took 30-year-old Paige N. Mueller of Rockford, IL into custody. Agents presented their case against Mueller to the Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office and she was charged with Unlawful Possession of a Machine Gun by a Felon and Unlawful Possession of a Firearm by a Felon. Mueller is being held at the Winnebago County jail.

Agents identified a second suspect, 32-year-old Michael D. Dean Jr., also of Rockford, IL. The Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office approved multiple charges for Dean Jr., including two counts of Possession of a Firearm by a Felon, two counts of Unlawful Possession of Ammunition by a Felon, Possession with Intent to Deliver Cocaine, and Possession with Intent to Deliver Methamphetamine. An arrest warrant has been issued for Dean.

## ISP Arrests Darien Man for Fatal Crash on Stevenson Expressway

**CHICAGO** – Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Criminal Investigation Zone 1 arrested 60-year-old Joseph Hathaway of Darien, IL for Aggravated Driving Under the Influence Involving Death (Class 2 Felony) and Aggravated Driving Under the Influence - Fourth Offense (Class 2 Felony) for his part in a fatal crash on the Stevenson Expressway earlier this week.

On January 26, 2025, at approximately 3:08 a.m., ISP officers responded to a fatal traffic crash on Interstate 55 southbound near Interstate 294 northbound in Indian Head Park. A white Toyota taxi was rear-ended by a silver Acura in the center lane. The Acura became disabled in the lane and was subsequently struck by a black Kia SUV, driven by Hathaway. The driver of the taxi was transported to an area hospital with serious injuries. The driver of the Acura was declared deceased at the scene. Hathaway was also transported to an area hospital with injuries.

On January 27, 2025, ISP agents presented their case to the Cook County State's Attorney's Office and the above-mentioned charges were filed against Hathaway. Hathaway was arrested and held pending his first court appearance.





**Office of the Governor  
JB Pritzker**

## **Gov. Pritzker Announces New Partnerships to Expand Education for Illinois State Police Troopers and Officers**

*Four public Illinois Universities offering college credits toward bachelor's degrees for ISP cadet graduates and officers*

**SPRINGFIELD** — Today, Governor JB Pritzker and Illinois State Police (ISP) Director Brendan F. Kelly, alongside representatives from public Illinois universities, announced new partnerships that advance educational opportunities for troopers and officers and build an even stronger law enforcement agency. Eastern Illinois University, Governors State University, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, and Western Illinois University will offer credit hours toward a bachelor's degree for troopers and officers who graduate from the ISP Academy.

"Investing in our Illinois State Police officers is not only the right thing to do – it is one of the most important things we can do for public safety," **said Governor JB Pritzker**. "Today, I am proud to announce a new initiative that recognizes their dedication and supports their continued growth. Through partnerships with our state's public universities, ISP cadet graduates will now earn college credit toward a degree for their rigorous training – an investment that equips our officers with the tools they need to succeed."

"The most important tools of our Illinois State Police officers are not their badges, or guns, or handcuffs, but their hearts, minds, and souls," **said ISP Director Brendan Kelly**. "Partnering with these academic institutions strengthens their minds, their careers, and their ability to protect the people of Illinois."

These partnerships with public universities make Illinois' program one of the most comprehensive in the nation, providing ISP Academy graduates with some of the highest credit hours toward a degree. Troopers and officers can earn the following credit hours upon completing ISP cadet training:

### **Eastern Illinois University**

- 12 hours awarded toward the Interdisciplinary Program
- \$1,000 annual scholarship for two years

### **Governors State University**

- 33 hours awarded toward a bachelor's degree in criminal justice
- 48 hours awarded toward a bachelor's degree in criminal justice with 4 years of service and completion of Sergeant Exam
- 42 hours awarded toward an associate degree in criminal justice with 4 years of service and completion of Sergeant Exam

### **Southern Illinois University Edwardsville**

8 hours awarded toward a bachelor's degree in criminal justice or liberal studies

### **Western Illinois University**

12 hours awarded toward an internship for fieldwork experience

Additionally, ISP has an agreement with American Public University System (American Public University and American Military University), which offers 39 credit hours toward a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. ISP is working with additional universities to implement similar programs. ISP also provides tuition reimbursement for troopers with at least one year of service who complete work-related courses.

In addition to these new educational partnerships, ISP has achieved major successes under Governor Pritzker's leadership, including a nearly [80% decrease](#) in guns stolen from firearms dealers in 2024 compared to 2023. Interstate shootings also dropped by 31% in 2024, marking the [third consecutive year of decline](#).

"A large part of EIU's mission is to expand higher education opportunities across and throughout Illinois," **said EIU President Jay Gatrell**. "This partnership augments those opportunities for ISP cadets who want to leverage their training for academic credit. This is just one of several real-world examples detailing how EIU and the Illinois Board of Higher Education collaborate to reinforce the Illinois workforce through a combination of scholarship dollars, academic programming, and career training."

"Governors State University is thrilled to partner with the Illinois State Police in this transformative educational initiative. This agreement not only acknowledges the rigorous training completed at ISP, but also provides troopers with the academic credentials to advance their careers and better serve our communities," **said Governors State University President Dr. Cheryl Green**.

"Southern Illinois University Edwardsville is committed to expanding access to higher education so that more members of our communities can realize the transformative possibilities and opportunities that come with higher education and a degree," **said SIUE Chancellor James T. Minor, PhD**. "Partnerships like this one, with the Illinois State Police, contribute to making this aspiration a reality."

"We are honored and excited to partner with the Illinois State Police Academy. This partnership with the WIU School of Law Enforcement and Justice Administration and the Illinois State Police Academy allows us to work together to train the next generation of public safety officers," **said WIU President Dr. Kristi Mindrup**.

"Although it has been just a few weeks since joining the Illinois State Police Academy, I have come to the realization that law enforcement departments need a wide variety of educational backgrounds," **said ISP Cadet Danielle Pondel**. "From law to medicine, and everything in between, there isn't a subject that wouldn't have a place in the Illinois State Police. The program would aid me greatly financially and help me fulfill my dream of working in the Division of Criminal Investigation in the Illinois State Police."