

ILLINOIS STATE POLICE NEWS RELEASE

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ILLINOIS STATE POLICE ANNOUNCES INTERSTATE 57 TRAFFIC SAFETY ENFORCEMENT OPERATION RESULTS

Troopers step-up efforts along I-57 corridor to reduce crashes and save lives

PESOTUM – Illinois State Police (ISP) officers from eastern and southern Illinois joined forces to combat aggressive and unsafe driving behaviors along Interstate 57 from October 3-7, 2024. The operation focused its efforts on Interstate 57, starting at milepost zero in Alexander County all the way up to milepost 257 on the northern Champaign County border.

Patrol officers from ISP Troops 7, 9, and 10, with assistance from ISP central and south Special Operations Group's Fatal Four team saturated the interstate, enforcing Illinois Vehicle Code violations, especially speeding. Speeding is a contributing factor in nearly <u>one-third</u> of all fatality crashes. Officers also focused on Motor Carrier Safety Inspections for commercial motor vehicles, a function unique to ISP officers. Over a <u>quarter</u> of all fatal crashes involving large trucks occur on the interstate. By focusing on this known data and taking proactive steps to correct unsafe driving behavior, ISP strives to decrease fatal and personal injury crashes on the interstate.

It should be noted that during this high-visibility traffic enforcement detail there were no fatal crashes, and only five accident reports filed for all 257 miles of Interstate 57.

operation results	
Violation	Results
Speeding Citations Issued	599
Speeding Warnings Issued	484
Motor Carrier Safety Inspections	198
Move Over "Scott's Law" Citations Issued	16
Criminal Arrests	6
Suspended/Revoked/No Driver's License Citations	46

Operation Results

As ISP's increased enforcement to save lives and combat personal injury and fatal crashes on the interstate systems has evolved, the need for additional troopers to carry out this important work has increased. ISP recently increased the incentive to become an ISP trooper and enforce these missions and values. Effective July 1, 2024, all new ISP troopers will receive approximately \$90,000 in compensation upon graduation from the Illinois State Police Academy.

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For more information about being an Illinois State Trooper and to complete and application, visit the ISP Merit Board website at <u>https://www.illinoistrooper.com/</u>, or email ISP.Recruitment@illinois.gov.

ISP reminds the public that the Move Over Law, also known as "Scott's Law," requires all drivers to move over when approaching an emergency vehicle, or any vehicle with its emergency or hazard lights activated. A person who violates the Move Over Law faces a fine of no less than \$250 and no more than \$10,000 for a first offense.

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