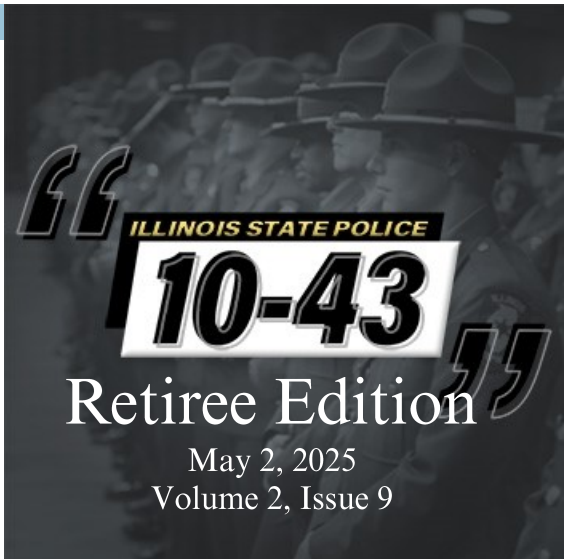


40th Annual Illinois Police Officers Memorial

Thursday, May 1, 2025, the 40th Annual Illinois Police Officers Memorial Ceremony was held in Springfield, Illinois. Troopers from all over the state, traveled to the capitol to pay tribute to the officers who gave the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. The Illinois State Police thanks and honors all who serve in law enforcement.



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**ILLINOIS
STATE POLICE**

Brendan F. Kelly—Director

ISP Investigation Results in Charges for Misuse of Funds

URBANA – Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Criminal Investigation Zone 5 special agents issued a Notice to Appear in Champaign County on May 22, 2025, to 40-year-old Matthew Stuckey, for Theft of Property over \$10,000, but less than \$100,000 (Class 2 Felony).

In November 2024, ISP special agents initiated an investigation into allegations of misuse of funds made to the 10-78 Foundation (Back the Blue Champaign County). After a thor-

ough investigation, special agents found evidence of transactions consistent with personal use by Stuckey, one of the organizers of the 10-78 Foundation. Stuckey is currently a Champaign County Sheriff's Deputy.

The investigation is ongoing and anyone with information is asked to contact the Illinois State Police Zone 5 Investigations at 217-278-5000. The investigation will be turned over to the Champaign County State's Attorney's Office when completed.

ISP Investigates Fatal Plane Crash in Trilla

TRILLA – The Illinois State Police (ISP) is investigating a fatal, small, single engine plane crash in Trilla, IL. On April 19, 2025, at approximately 10:15 a.m., ISP was contacted by the Coles County Sheriff's Department to investigate a plane crash on 551-587 County Road 1400 N in Trilla, which is approximately three miles south of Mattoon in Coles County.

The Federal Aviation Administration and the National Transportation Safety Board are still investigating the cause of the crash. All four occupants were pronounced deceased on scene. The aircraft remained in the roadway with the roadway closed until approximately 5:00 p.m. on April 20, 2025.

The Coles County coroner confirmed the following identifications:

Ross R. Nelson, 46-year-old male from Menomonie, WI; Raimi A. Rundle, 45-year-old female from Menomonie, WI; Courtney L. Morrow, 36-year-old female from Menomonie, WI; Michael H. Morrow, 48-year-old male from Menomonie, WI.

ISP thanks first responder personnel from the Coles County Sheriff's Department, Mattoon Police Department, Mattoon Fire Department and the Lincoln Fire Protection District, who responded to the incident and provided critical assistance during this tragic incident.



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

Questions? Send those to:

Lt. Mike Link

mike.link@illinois.gov



ISP Investigates Child Death in White County

CARMI – Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) Zone 8 is conducting a child death investigation in White County. On April 18, 2025, at approximately 12:59 p.m., ISP was requested by the White County Sheriff's Office to assist in the death investigation of a two-year-old child. The Child Death Investigative Task Force was subsequently activated.

ISP Arrests Lyons Man for Murder in Fatal 2024 Expressway Shooting

CHICAGO – Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Criminal Investigation Zone 1 arrested 24-year-old Angel Reyes from Lyons, IL for one count of First-Degree Murder (Class M Felony) related to an expressway shooting on Interstate 55 in 2024. Reyes fled on foot and was taken into custody a short time later. An AK 47 rifle was located in the vehicle. Reyes was charged with Aggravated Unlawful Use of a Weapon with no FOID (Class 4 Felony) and Resisting Arrest (Class A Misdemeanor).

On March 3, 2024, at approximately 10:16 p.m., ISP officers responded to a crashed vehicle with a gunshot victim on Interstate 55 northbound at Lake Shore Drive in Chicago. The victim, 41-year-old Damian Dunning of Chicago, IL was transported to an area hospital and pronounced deceased. Dunning was previously identified as a United States Federal Post Office employee. After an exhaustive investigation, agents identified Reyes as a suspect. On April 17, 2025, after agents gathered additional information, an arrest warrant was obtained, and the FBI Violent Crimes Fugitive Task Force took Reyes into custody. "After an extensive investigation by ISP special agents, a murder suspect has been taken into custody to face justice," said ISP Director Brendan F. Kelly. "The FBI played an important role here, which underscores the importance of our strong relationship with them."

On February 7, 2025, ISP agents attempted to stop a vehicle in which Reyes was a passenger, but the vehicle fled. Agents pursued the vehicle, and once Reyes is being held pending his first court appearance.

ISP Leads Human Trafficking Recovery Operation in Normal, IL

NORMAL – Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Criminal Investigation Task Force 6 lead a human trafficking investigation that resulted in the recovery of a person who had been trafficked. assistance from NPD, executed a search warrant at the business. ISP also assisted the victim in getting essential services to help them with their recovery. There is no one size fits all option when it comes to assisting people who have been trafficked and significant time and resources are dedicated to developing the best plan for each person.

On April 23, 2025, the Normal Police Department (NPD) received a call for service from a local massage spa. NPD officers encountered a person seeking assistance who identified themselves as a victim of human trafficking, and the officers notified ISP. ISP Task Force 6 arrived and with During human trafficking operations, ISP routinely works closely with local partners to provide essential services to victims, including medical, mental, and substance abuse treatment, as well as food, clothing, short and long-term housing, financial aid, and help obtaining legal assistance. The Bloomington Police Department has also increased efforts to crack down on businesses that are involved with illicit activities, including human trafficking. These multi-jurisdictional efforts are aimed at stopping human trafficking in McLean County.

ISP Combats Vehicle Hijacking and Theft

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois State Police (ISP) continues to target vehicle theft, hijacking, and related violent crimes using grant funding from the Illinois Secretary of State Illinois Vehicle Hijacking and Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Council. ISP was awarded a \$10 million grant for the first fiscal year, and another \$677,000 grant announced in June 2024.

From January through March 2025, ISP missions resulted in the following:

- 243 Vehicles recovered–stolen/hijacked:
- 16 Stolen vehicle arrests
- 18 Hijacked vehicle arrests
- 7 Firearms seized as a result of stolen/hijacked vehicle recovery
- 39 Missions targeting stolen/hijacked vehicle recovery and related violent crime
- 16 instances of K9 used for stolen/hijacked vehicle recovery and related violence crime
- 39 Air Operations targeting stolen/hijacked vehicle recovery and related violent crime
- 1,304 Forensic laboratory assignments related to stolen/hijacked vehicle

Highlights of ISP vehicle recovery efforts:

- January 24, 2025, ISP located a stolen Chrysler and attempted a traffic stop on I-94 northbound at 79th Street in Chicago, but the Chrysler fled. The Chrysler parked in the 7000 block of S. Throop and two occupants ran from the vehicle. ISP took both occupants into custody and recovered two firearms.
- February 26, 2025, ISP located a stolen Kia and attempted a traffic stop on I-94 southbound at 76th Street in Chicago, but the Kia fled. The Kia parked at Maple Avenue and Campbell Road and six occupants ran from the vehicle. ISP took all six occupants into custody.
- March 9, 2025, ISP located a stolen Nissan and attempted a traffic stop on I-94 southbound at 35th Street in Chicago, but the Nissan fled onto I-55 and passed through DuPage, Will, and Grundy counties. The Nissan came to a stop on Good Farm Road in Dwight. ISP took the driver into custody.

ISP Arrests Chicago Man for Road Rage Related Attempted Murder

CHICAGO – Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Criminal Investigation Zone 1 East Violent Crimes Unit arrested 34-year-old Jesus A. Rodriguez of Chicago, IL for Attempted Murder (Class X Felony) and Aggravated Battery with a Firearm (Class X Felony), stemming from a road rage related expressway shooting.

On April 23, 2025, at approximately 5:27 p.m., ISP was notified of an expressway shooting that occurred on Interstate 55 at Central Avenue. An occupant in the suspect's vehicle fired a weapon, striking the victim's vehicle. The victim was struck by gunfire in the left arm and was transported to a local hospital. ISP officers quickly identified the suspect's vehicle, and within hours, they took the suspect, Jesus A. Rodriguez, into custody.

On April 25, 2025, the Cook County State's Attorney's Office approved the above charges against Rodriguez. Rodriguez was being held pending his first court appearance.

ISP Arrests Three Chicago Men for First Degree Murder After Two Separate Expressway Shootings

CHICAGO – Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Criminal Investigation Zone 1 arrested three Chicago men for First Degree Murder for their alleged roles in two separate expressway shootings.

On May 21, 2022, at approximately 8:10 p.m., ISP officers responded to an expressway shooting on Interstate 94 northbound exit ramp to 47th Street. The victim, 27-year-old Darren Jackson, had been struck by gunfire and was transported to an area hospital where she was pronounced deceased.

After a thorough investigation, ISP special agents identified 33-year-old Demario Bass as the suspect.

On April 23, 2025, members of the FBI's Fugitive Task Force located Bass and took him into custody. On April 24, 2025, the Cook County State's Attorney's Office (CCSAO) approved a First-Degree Murder (Class M Felony) charge for Bass. He is being held pending his first court appearance.

On July 11, 2024, at approximately 5:13 p.m., ISP officers were notified of another expressway shooting on Interstate 94 northbound near 75th Street. A passenger in the victim's vehicle was struck by gunfire and declared deceased at a local hospital.

After an exhaustive investigation, ISP special agents identified 30-year-old Demetrius Shields and 25-year-old Tyler Perkins as suspects and arrest warrants were issued. On April 11, 2025, ISP officers arrested Shields and the CCSAO approved one count of First-Degree Murder (Class M Felony) and one count of Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm (Class 1 Felony).

On April 12, 2025, Houston (Texas) Police Department officers located Perkins and took him into custody. Perkins was extradited back to Illinois and on April 24, 2025, the CCSAO approved one count of First-Degree Murder (Class M Felony) and one count of Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm (Class 1 Felony). Both Shields and Perkins remain in custody.

ISP Shares Kankakee Area Metropolitan Enforcement Group Drug Buyback Results

On Saturday, April 26th, 2025, the Kankakee Area Metropolitan Enforcement Group (KAMEG), the Pledge for Life Partnership, State Representative Jackie Haas, Senator Patrick Joyce, the Kankakee County Health Department, Riverside Healthcare, and local Law Enforcement, partnered with the Drug Enforcement Administration in the



National Prescription Drug Take Back Day at the Northfield Square Mall. KAMEG Director Clayt Wolfe reported that the event was once again an overwhelming success with approximately 800 pounds of unwanted prescription drugs turned in for disposal in Kankakee County alone.

KAMEG would like to thank area residents for their continued support and for assisting in the event to make our communities safer.

ISP Announces Results of Violent Crime Suppression Detail in the Metro East Area

EAST ST. LOUIS – Illinois State Police (ISP) conducted a violent crime suppression detail on April 16-18, 2025, in St. Clair and Madison counties, focusing its efforts on East St. Louis and neighboring Metro East communities. The operation utilized intelligence and technology to target known high crime areas, violent offenders, and structured criminal groups in the communities of the Metro East.

Detail Results

- Arrests 34
- Felony Charges 37
- Criminal Charges 60
- Firearm Related Charges 31
- Firearms Seized 18
- Controlled Substance Seized 9.7 grams
- Stolen Vehicles Recovered 2

There were several notable events and arrests during the detail.

- On April 16, 2025, troopers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for Illinois Vehicle Code (IVC) violations. A probable cause search of the vehicle resulted in the seizure of a loaded firearm and a large amount of illegal cannabis. One subject was taken into custody. Charges are pending.
- On April 16, 2025, troopers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for IVC violations. A probable cause search of the vehicle and passengers resulted in the seizure of a loaded drum magazine and AK 47 firearm and a loaded AR pistol firearm. Controlled substances were also seized from inside the vehicle. Two subjects were taken into custody. Charges are pending.
- On April 17, 2025, troopers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for IVC violations. During a probable cause search of the vehicle, the driver ignored commands from troopers and was taken into custody after a short struggle. A loaded firearm with an extended magazine was seized from the person. Another firearm was seized from inside the vehicle. Charges are pending.

An employee of the City of Lake Forest sent a note of appreciation for Crime Information Evaluator **Sarah Matli**:

“Sarah has always managed to give me the impression we are the only agency she assists. She is

always fast and accurate on her responses; she is willing to go the extra mile to make sure we understand the NIBRS and ISP language and that our reporting is accurate. I truly appreciate her assistance each time ever since the NIBRS transition.”

Awesome job, Sarah! Your commitment to ISP's value of Service is appreciated!



**Thank An ISP
Employee**



ISP Leads Anti-Human Trafficking Demand Suppression Operation in Troy

TROY – The Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Criminal Investigation Trafficking Enforcement Bureau arrested 6 individuals during a two-day anti-human trafficking demand suppression operation in the Troy area of Madison County on April 23 - 24, 2025. The operation focused on identifying individuals seeking to engage in sex acts with minors.

As a result of the operation, the following individuals were arrested and charged:

- Brian P. Tilson, W/M, 43, Highland, Illinois
- Justin A. Kuehnel, W/M, 41, Glen Carbon, Illinois
- Kyle T. Altevogt, W/M, 30, Panama, Illinois
- Gregory L. Robinson, B/M, 34, Fairview Heights, Illinois
- James A. Walker, W/M, 40, Effingham, Illinois
- Ulises Mendieta-Galindo, H/M, 36, O'Fallon, Illinois

All suspects listed were taken into custody and charged: Indecent Solicitation of a Child (Class 3 Felony), Traveling to Meet a Minor (Class 3 Felony), Solicitation to Meet a Child (Class 4 Felony), Grooming (Class 4 Felony), Indecent Solicitation of a Child (Class 4 Felony).

This operation was part of a multifaceted approach by ISP aimed at stopping human trafficking in Illinois. ISP special agents, officers from Troops 8, Zone 6, ISP SWAT, ISP Analysts, MEGSI, Intelligence Support Unit, and Troy Police Department partnered for the operation. The Madison County State's Attorney's Office also provided support for the operation.



Brian Tilson (M/43)



Justin Kuehnel (M/41)



Kyle Altevogt (M/30)



Gregory Robinson (M/34)



James Walker (M/40)



Ulises Mendieta-Galindo (M/36)

Scott's Law/Move Over Law Messaging Gets a Boost

The Public Information and Safety Education office recently had the opportunity to thank a citizen's business for their assistance making this display easier to transport:

In appreciation of Aaron Tennant and the staff of Cantrell's Towing and Recovery for your willingness to donate your time, talent, and expertise to assist the Illinois State Police with furthering our Scott's Law/Move Over message. Your assistance with our Scott's Law squad car will help spread the Move Over message to the public, enhancing the safety of all the first responders and tow truck drivers on incident scenes along Illinois roadways. Thank You!



Two Troopers Run in Illinois Marathon

On April 26, 2025, Troopers John Keen #7254 (Troop 8) and Ethan Peebles #6898 (SOG Fatal 4 South) participated in the Christie Clinic Illinois Marathon held in Champaign, Illinois and the surrounding area.

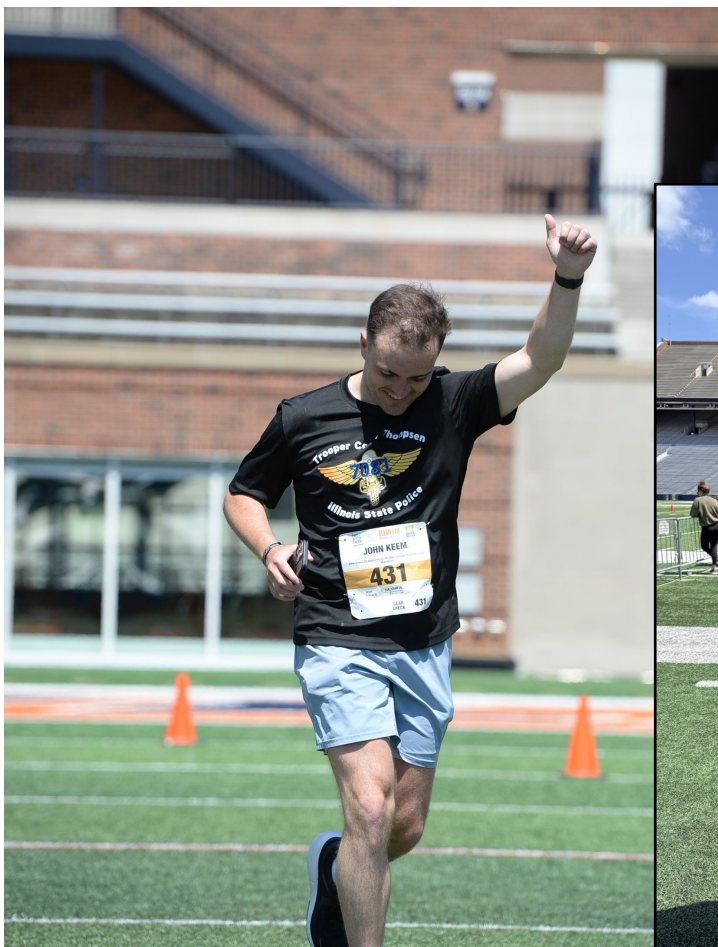
Runners started the course at the State Farm Center, traveled through the University of Illinois campus, looped through Urbana, into Champaign, then into Savoy, before finishing on the 50-yard line of Memorial Stadium.

Both troopers were wearing shirts honoring the late Trooper Corey Thompson #7081,

who was killed in a traffic accident in 2024.

M/Sgt. Daron Barge #5722 said this about the event:

I want to take a moment to highlight Tpr. John Keen #7254 completed a marathon today while wearing a T-shirt featuring the late Trooper Corey Thompson's name on the front. Our whole team, Evenings B North and South, takes pride in his achievement in positively representing our platoon, Troop 8, and the ISP. Thank you, Trooper Keen, for your commitment to excellence.



Trooper Keen and Trooper Peebles, thank you, too, for keeping Trooper Thompson's memory alive.



Guns and Hoses Basketball Game Raises Money for St. Jude

Wenona, IL – The spirit of community and friendly competition lit up the gym on Saturday, April 12, 2025, during the third annual *Guns and Hoses Basketball Game*. Law enforcement officers and firefighters from across central Illinois hit the hardwood to raise money for a cause close to many hearts: the children and families of St. Jude.

Officers from the Marshall County Sheriff's Office,



Putnam County Sheriff's Office, Chillicothe Police Department, Illinois State Police, Henry Police Department, and Illinois Conservation Police took on firefighters from the Wenona Fire Department, Minonk Fire Department, and Henry Fire Department in a basketball game.

The event pulled in **\$17,000** through donations, ticket sales, raffles, concessions, food sales, and a bake sale—**topping last year's total by over \$2,000**. This brings the overall three-year fundraising total to **\$44,000** for the *Marshall County to Peoria St. Jude Run* group.

Among the law enforcement participants were **Illinois State Police Troopers Andrew Scott and Logan Wunder**, representing **Troop 4** with pride and teamwork on the court.

ISP's Nicholas Gray is 2025 Fusion Center Employee of the Year



The 2025 National Fusion Center Association (NFCA) annual conference was held last week in Washington, DC. Illinois State Police (ISP) Geographic Information Specialist II Nicholas Gray, who is assigned to the Statewide Terrorism & Intelligence Center, was awarded the 2025 Fusion Center Employee of the Year. Applicants were nominated from fusion centers across the nation and Nick was honored to be recognized as the

best in the US among all 80 fusion centers. Nick provides the STIC and the ISP with exceptional work daily. The attached nomination outlines Nick's most recent work.

Award Category:

The NFCA Fusion Center Employee of the Year Award

This award is intended for an individual who has provided exceptional services to the National Network of Fusion Centers. These services have significantly contributed to the development or sustainment of the candidate's center and/or the fusion center network. Their efforts have im-

Lt. Derrick Taylor Balances the Badge and the Bible

by Meredith Flynn, Lifeway Research

As a new church planter, Derrick Taylor found himself wrestling with how to acknowledge his leadership role at Net Community Church in Staunton, Illinois, while still serving in his long-time role as a state trooper.



"As I started the planting process, I consistently battled with the phrase, 'I'm not a pastor; I'm a

police officer,'" said Taylor, who had served 12 years with the Illinois State Police when he first sensed a call to ministry.

Taylor still serves as a lieutenant with the State Police, but he also pastors a church that has grown from a group of 15 people in 2016 to a congregation of 400 on Sunday mornings. "It's been a wild ride," he said.

Read the full story at Lifeway Research: <https://research.lifeway.com/2025/04/29/bivocational-pastors-find-personal-purpose-congregational-benefits/>

American Association of State Troopers Names Trooper of the Year;

The American Association of State Troopers (AAST) named Trooper Ray Seaburg of the Washington State Patrol as its 2025 Trooper of the Year. AAST also released the names of 57 officers from around the nation who were nominated for the honor.

ISP members being acknowledged this year for their outstanding work are ISP Sergeant Eric David, Trooper Adam Fitts, Trooper Chad Lovelace, and Trooper Blake Thompson.

Full story at statetroopers.org

Troop 6 "Slipped" In to Wish Their Admin a Happy Administrative Professionals Day



Happy Administrative Professionals Day to Troop 6's own Brandy Gorda — a.k.a. "Slipps"!

Let's be honest, every team has that one person who quietly holds the whole thing together.

For Troop 6, that person is Brandy. She's our secret weapon: calm, capable, and always ten steps ahead. You'll never hear her complain, even when the rest of us are spinning in circles. Need an answer? She's got it. And if she doesn't, give her five minutes—she'll find it.

It's no surprise that every trooper ends up at her desk sooner or later. Brandy's the one we all count on, whether it's for the paperwork we forgot, the info we need, or just a dose of her spirited energy. She's sharp, dependable, and flat-out

great to work with.

As for "Slipps," rumor has it she was halfway to work one morning before realizing she still had hers slippers on. That makes her even more legendary in our book.

Episode 2 of The Illinois State Police Podcast - available now!

The newest episode of the Illinois State Police Podcast is out now! Step behind closed doors and pull up a chair with host Brendan Kelly, Illinois State Police Director. He and special guests discuss the sensitive topic of Sexual Assault.

Listen now on Spotify and other apps for a great listen! <https://lnk.bio/illinoisstatepolicepodcast>

ISP Investigating Fatal Crash at Chatham After School Camp

CHATHAM – The Illinois State Police (ISP) investigation into the fatal crash in Chatham on Monday, April 28, 2025 is ongoing and ISP will continue to work with the Sangamon County State’s Attorney’s Office. At this time, ISP can report initial toxicology test results are negative for alcohol and controlled substances.

At approximately 3:20 p.m. on April 28, 2025, a vehicle left the road, traveled through a field and into the east side of the YNOT After School Camp located at 301 Breckenridge Road in Chatham. The vehicle traveled through the building striking numerous individuals before exiting the other side. Four individuals were killed in the crash, 7-year-old Alma Buhnerkempe, 7-year-old Kathryn Corley, 8-year-old Ainsley Johnson, and 18-year-old Rylee Britton. Of the six additional children injured in the crash and taken to an area hospital, two have been released.

The driver and sole occupant of the vehicle, 44-year-old Marianne Akers of Chatham, was uninjured and transported to an area hospital for evaluation and released. The investigation is ongoing and no charges have been filed. “This horrific crash is heartbreaking for Chatham and all of Illinois,” said ISP Director Brendan F. Kelly. “Every possible law enforcement resource is being brought to bear on this investigation, as we relentlessly, but meticulously seek the facts surrounding this complex, and gut wrenching tragedy.”

Personnel from the ISP Division of Patrol, the ISP Division of Criminal Investigation, and the ISP Division of Forensic Services, including Crime Scene and Traffic Crash Reconstruction, responded directly to the scene and have been investigating non-stop since the crash. ISP thanks our fellow agencies that responded including Chatham, Springfield, Pawnee, Sher-

man, Auburn, Rochester, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and Springfield Park District police departments, Chatham and Springfield fire departments, the Sangamon County Sheriff’s Office, the Sangamon County Coroner, EMS, and other first responders.

ISP offers its sincere and heartfelt condolences to the families, friends, and Chatham community during this difficult time .

Links to obituaries:

[Alma Buhnerkempe](#)

[Kathryn Corley](#)

[Ainsley Johnson](#)

[Rylee Britton](#)

Editor’s note:

Eight-year-old Ainsley Johnson was the granddaughter of ***retired captain Galen Johnson***



TROOPER REYNALD PEETE

Last month, a woman was stranded on the side of the road and needed some assistance. Trooper Reynald Peete stepped in to assist her to safety.

Here is an excerpt from her thank you letter:

I was stranded on I-57 southbound with my two children after calling 18 towing companies and trying to flag down vehicles. Trooper Peete stopped and got a tow for us. He made sure the children and I were safe, drove us to many hotels to get a room, and even made sure they were pet friendly. Trooper Peete

was very professional, cautious, and kind at the same time. I cannot thank him enough.

Great work, Trooper Reynald Peete! Thank you for your quick response and for continuing to live out ISP's value of Service.



Thank A Trooper



TROOPER MICHAEL STEELE

M/Sgt. Michael Steele's interaction with a citizen in northern Illinois prompted this e-mail:

"The world needs not just more troopers but more people like this guy. I wish all the 'abolish the police' people could have an interaction with this trooper I bet it would change their mind. Thanks."

TROOPER PATRICK YOUNG

Carl M., a motorist on I-88, had the following to say about Trooper Patrick Young:

Trooper Young went above and beyond for my wife and I during the breakdown of our rental vehicle on the evening of Jan 4. After first stopping to ensure we were safe Trooper Young circled back to find that we were still awaiting a tow. With temperatures falling he not only provided us a place to warm up he also arranged a ride for us to get to the airport to get a replacement vehicle. His friendly and helpful demeanor was incredibly welcomed and appreciated during that time. Not only did Trooper Young insure we were safe, he went out of his way to support. What was most appreciated was his choice to go above and beyond in helping us. Thank you and God bless to Trooper Young.

Way to go, Trooper Young!

TROOPER DAVE FIGGINS

On March 10, 2025, Dave Figgins responded to a request for assistance/flat tire on I-57 northbound. The motorist was grateful for Trooper Figgins' help and skill. He writes:

"At approximately 1500 hours on Monday 10 March, I called 911 for assistance near mile marker 90 on I57 North. A Trooper soon arrived to my location on the right side of the road where there was no room to safely change a flat tire. The Trooper provided a well-coordinated strategic movement to an overpass where a vertical pillar would act as a shield to some of the traffic. The Trooper then kept me out of harm's way while he repaired my vehicle... This Trooper absolutely saved me from a very bad situation and should be recognized for his outstanding judgment and help to an old Army combat veteran. Please help me recognize him. Steven S."

Trooper Richard Warner was shot and killed by a suicidal man at the Illinois State Police Headquarters, District 5 in Joliet. He brought a man to the station for questioning after he had been involved in an accident. It was suspected that the accident was an attempt by the subject to

commit suicide. While in the headquarters, the subject was able to gain control of another officer's weapon and shoot two officers, fatally wounding Trooper Warner. The shooter then turned the gun on himself and committed suicide

Trooper Warner was a 12-year veteran of the Illinois State Police, assigned to District 5, Joliet. He is survived by his wife and four children.



**IN MEMORY OF OUR
FALLEN TROOPER**

**Trooper
Richard Warner**

End of Watch
April 21, 1969



**IN MEMORY OF OUR
FALLEN TROOPER**

**Trooper
Robert Fisher**

End of Watch
April 24, 1929

Trooper Robert Fisher was killed in a motorcycle accident on the Dixie Highway four miles south of Hoopeston.

He was following a bus across a bridge when an oncoming car sideswiped it before it collided with his motorcycle.

The driver of the offending vehicle was arrested and convicted of manslaughter.

Trooper Fisher had served with the Illinois State Police for five years and had previously served as a railroad police officer and a sheriff's deputy. He was survived by his wife and two children.

In Memoriam



Edward Raymond Bean

May 31, 1941 — April 15, 2025

Edward Raymond Bean Jr. was born on May 31, 1941, in Chicago, Illinois, and passed away at his home in New Lenox on April 15, 2025, with his loving family by his side. He dedicated his life to public service, beginning with a commendable 35-year career as an Illinois State Trooper. Edward's commitment to his profession was evident throughout his tenure, demonstrating unwavering dedication and integrity. Following his tenure as a state trooper, he devoted another 20 years to a role he cherished deeply as the System's Manager for the Will County Radio System, where his skills and passion truly shone.

Edward's life was marked not only by his professional achievements but also by his service to his country. He proudly served in the military from 1963 to 1965, fulfilling duties as a radio operator and earning recognition as a Marksman. His disciplined and detail-oriented nature set the foundation for success in both his military and civilian careers.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Edward was a loving and caring husband to Irena Bean. Together, they celebrated life's joys and supported each other through life's challenges. Edward was father to Edward and Michael Bean, a grandfather to one grandchild, and a fond uncle to Marta, Jerry, and Janusz. His love for family was evident, and he often took pride in every opportunity to create lasting memories with them.

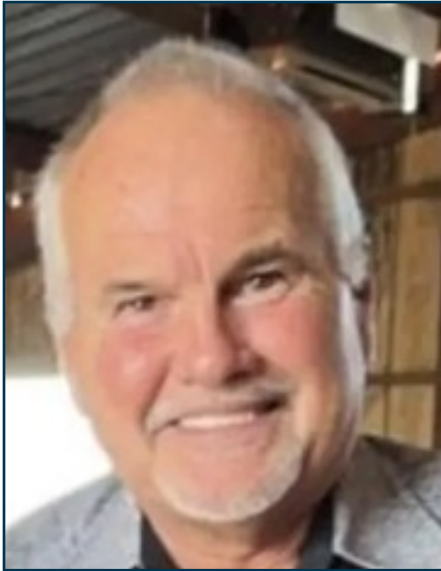
Outside of his career, Edward had a passion for golf, enjoying both the sport and the camaraderie it brought. He was also an avid amateur radio enthusiast, having started this lifelong passion at the age of 15. His involvement in the amateur radio community led to numerous international accolades, which he accepted with humility and pride.

Edward is preceded in death by his parents, Edward R. Bean Sr. and Agnes Bean, who instilled in him the values of hard work and dedication that he carried throughout his life.

Edward Raymond Bean Jr. leaves behind a legacy of service, love, and dedication that will be remembered by all who knew him. As we reflect on his life, we celebrate a man who selflessly gave to his community and cherished his family above all else.

A visitation was held on Wednesday, April 30, 2025 at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Mokena, IL, followed by a Mass and Burial with full Military Honors at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood, IL.

In Memoriam



Robert "Bob" Short

April 12, 1962—April 21, 2025

Robert "Bob" Short, 63, of Eagletown, OK passed away on April 21, 2025, in Eagletown. Born on April 12, 1962, in DeQueen, Arkansas, to parents, Emerson and Vada Lou (Smith) Short.

Bob was affiliated with Eagletown Assembly of God. His positive outlook on life was infectious, and he often reminded his friends and family that every day was "another day in Paradise."

He proudly served in the U.S. Army as a drill sergeant, a role that exemplified his dedication and leadership. After his military service, he continued to serve his community as an **Illinois State Trooper for twenty-four years, retiring as a Master Sergeant in 2012**. He was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed the times he spent grilling, hunting, fishing, and horseback riding. His competitive nature shone through in his love for playing cornhole. Bob was also a devoted fan of the Eagletown Eagles, and he took great joy in watching the kids play sports, always cheering them on with enthusiasm.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Emerson and Vada Lou (Smith) Short, brothers, Ricky, Randall, and Jeremy Short.

Bob leaves to cherish his memory, his wife, Tami Short of Quincy, Illinois; daughter, Jessica and husband, Adam Johnson of Moyock, North Carolina; stepchildren, Craig and Jen Hufford of Quincy, Illinois, Kristi and John King of Camp Point, Illinois, and Blake Houston and Brooke of Pensacola, Florida; brothers, Rodney Short and his wife Johnna, and Ray Short all of Eagletown, Eric Short of Wichita, KS; his sisters, Ramona Compton of DeQueen, Arkansas, Ranell Short of Indiana and Amber Provence of Vandervoort, AR; grandchildren, Aiden, Grace, Nathan, Audriana, Natalie, Dani, and Sully; his beloved dogs, Kali, Draco, and Gracie; a host of other relatives and friends.

Visitation was held Friday, April 25, 2025 at Bunch-Singleton Funeral Home Chapel. Funeral Services were held Saturday, April 26, 2025 at Eagletown High School Gymnasium, Eagletown, OK. Interment followed at Eagletown Cemetery.