

End of Watch: K-9 Maco

With deep respect and heavy hearts, we announce the passing of K-9 Maco on May 5, 2025, following an ongoing medical issue. K-9 Maco served faithfully alongside his handler, Illinois State Police Trooper Matthew Hunt (#7370), as a dedicated member of our law enforcement family.

K-9 Maco began his service with the Illinois State Police in September 2023, bringing with him years of experience and an unwavering commitment to duty. Prior to joining the ISP, K-9 Maco and Trooper Hunt worked together at the Macon County Sheriff's Office, where their partnership began in August of 2018. Together, they graduated from the Macon County K-9 Academy in December of that year and went on to complete over 400 deployments through September 2022.



Following their transition to the Illinois State Police, K-9 Maco and Trooper Hunt served in Troop 7 before joining the HIT Central East Unit. During his tenure with ISP, K-9 Maco continued to excel in service to the people of Illinois. His deployments contributed to the following seizures:

- Over 73,600 grams of cocaine, valued at more than \$4.3 million
- 46,000 grams of heroin, valued at over \$1.1 million
- 37,459 grams of marijuana, valued at nearly \$87,000
- 15 illegal firearms
- Numerous arrests and successful interdictions that prevented illicit substances from reaching our communities

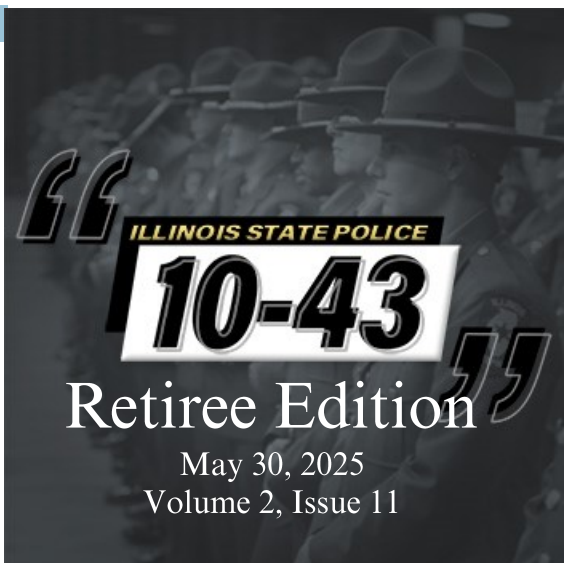
K-9 Maco was not just a working dog; he was a partner, protector, and loyal companion. His service saved lives, upheld the law, and brought immeasurable value to every agency he served. The bond between K-9 Maco and Trooper Hunt was forged through years of unwavering teamwork, courage, and shared purpose.

We honor K-9 Maco's memory and extend our deepest sympathies to



Trooper Hunt, his family, and all who had the privilege of working with this exceptional K-9. His legacy of service and sacrifice will never be forgotten.

Rest easy, K-9 Maco. You served with valor and heart. We have the watch from here.



Inside this issue

News.....	2-5
ISP Community	6-16
Thank a Trooper.....	17
LODD and Obituaries.....	18-20



**ILLINOIS
STATE POLICE**

Brendan F. Kelly—Director

Chicago Man Arrested for Attempted Murder in Expressway Shooting

CHICAGO – Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Criminal Investigation Zone 1 arrested 34-year-old Keyon White of Chicago for Attempted Murder, stemming from a 2024 expressway shooting investigation.

On March 1, 2024, ISP officers responded to an expressway shooting on Interstate 94 southbound at 83rd Street. The victim had been struck by gunfire and was taken to an

area hospital in serious condition. After a thorough investigation, ISP agents identified White as a suspect.

On May 15, 2025, ISP officers arrested White and the Cook County State's Attorney's Office approved one count of Attempted Murder (Class M Felony) and Aggravated Battery with a Firearm (Class X Felony).

Suspect Charged in Connection with Shooting of Three Fairview Heights Police Officers

FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS – The Fairview Heights Police Department requested the Illinois State Police investigate an officer incident that occurred on May 17, 2025. As a result of that investigation, the Saint Clair County State's Attorney's Office has charged 22-year-old Elijah Thompson of Belleville, IL with four counts of Attempted Murder (Class X), three counts of Aggravated Battery (Class X), and one count of Resisting Arrest (Class 4 felony).

On May 17, 2025, at 9:44 p.m., Fairview Heights Police officers responded to a call of a suspicious individual prowling around a nearby residence. Upon arrival, officers encountered the individual, Thompson, who opened fire striking three Fairview Heights Police officers. Thompson was taken into custody uninjured and the gun recovered.

Officer Molly Muennich was shot in the face and underwent emergency surgery. She remains in critical, but stable condition. Officer Herminio Raimundi was shot in the arm and has since been released from the hospital. Officer

Andrew Ward was shot in the chest, but his vest stopped the bullet and he was treated and released.

"The Fairview Heights Police Department is united during this challenging time, drawing strength from our officers' resilience and the community's support," said Fairview Heights Police Chief Steve Johnson. "We are committed to providing every resource necessary to aid their recovery and ensure they know they and their families are not facing this alone. Evil comes in many forms and our officers confronted it head on. Our mission remains the same, to protect with vigilance and serve with honor."

"We pray for the officers involved and their families and we intend to do all in our power to ensure that the perpetrator is held accountable for his actions that night," said Saint Clair County State's Attorney James Gomric.

Thompson is being held in the Saint Clair County Jail.



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 Arrests Man on Charges of Threatening a Public Official

HOMER GLEN – The Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Criminal Investigation Zone 1 West Violent Crimes Unit arrested 40-year-old Steven Brady of Homer Glen, IL for threatening a public official. The Will County State’s Attorney’s Office charged Brady with one count of Threat to a Public Official (Class 3 felony).

an alleged threat made to State Representative Nicole Laha. ISP agents conducted a thorough investigation, and on May 19, 2025, ISP agents took Brady into custody without incident.

Brady is being held at the Will County Adult Detention Center.

On May 16, 2025, ISP agents were notified of

ISP Investigation Leads to Predatory Criminal Sexual Assault Charges

CARMI – On May 20, 2025, the Eldorado Police Department requested Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Investigation Zone 8 to investigate Predatory Criminal Sexual Assault against a teacher aide in the Eldorado School District. As a result, the Saline County State’s Attorney’s Office filed charges of Predatory Criminal Sexual Assault, Aggravated Criminal Sexual Abuse, Aggravated Kidnapping, and Kidnapping for 23-year-old Isaac Murray of Eldorado.

If you have additional information, please contact ISP Master Sergeant Gwen Basinger at 618-484-7382. Guardian Center and the Survivor Empowerment Center offer resources for victims of sexual assault. Due to the nature of this investigation, no additional information is being released at this time. ISP thanks the Eldorado Police Department and the Eldorado School District for their assistance with this investigation.

ISP Arrests Missouri Man for First Degree Murder After Washington Park Shooting

WASHINGTON PARK – The Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Criminal Major Crimes Unit Zone 6 arrested 27-year-old Donovan Davis from St. Charles, MO for Unlawful Use of a Weapon (Class 4 Felony) and First-Degree Murder (Class M Felony).

St. Louis, MO. An off-duty Washington Park Police Department officer who was working armed security then shot Davis, stopping the threat. Morris Jr. was pronounced deceased on scene. Davis was transported to an area hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

ISP and the Washington Park Police Department continued the investigation. On May 22, 2025, the case was presented to St. Clair County State’s Attorney James Gomric, and the above-mentioned charges were filed against Davis. He is currently being held at the St. Clair County Jail.

On May 12, 2025, ISP special agents were requested by the Washington Park Police Department to assist with a homicide investigation that occurred in the 2200 block of Kingshighway. The suspect, identified as Davis, shot the victim, 26-year-old Mark Morris Jr. of

ISP Investigation Leads to Charges in 14-Year Old Homicide

EAST ST. LOUIS – Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Criminal Investigation Zone 6 Major Crimes Unit led an investigation resulting in charges against 34-year-old Alan Davis of East St. Louis, IL for First Degree Murder (Class M Felony).

Smith during the altercation. Upon the arrival of officers, Smith was able to relay what had occurred and provided a description of the suspect. Smith was then transported to an area hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

On February 17, 2011, the East St. Louis Police Department (ESLPD) requested ISP's assistance with the homicide of 40-year-old Truman Lee Smith of Irondale, MO. ISP and ESLPD officers responded to the 2600 block of McCasland Avenue in East St. Louis. Officers determined Smith was in the area making a delivery as a truck driver when he was approached by an armed male. The male demanded money and shot

After an exhaustive investigation, Davis was ultimately identified as the suspect. On May 22, 2025, the St. Clair County State's Attorney Office filed the above charges against Davis.

Davis is currently being held at the Graham Correctional Center in Hillsboro, IL on an unrelated 2012 conviction for Aggravated Battery with a Firearm.

ISP Investigation Arrests Florida Man for Road Rage Expressway Shooting

GURNEE – Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Criminal Investigation Zone 1 arrested 34-year-old Robertas Nenadovic-Jasinskas of Clearwater, FL, for Reckless Discharge of a Firearm (Class 4 Felony) stemming from a road rage incident on Interstate 94.

On May 16, 2025, at approximately 11:05 p.m., ISP responded to the report of an expressway shooting on the Tri-State Tollway, Interstate 94 northbound near Grand Avenue in Gurnee. The suspect was driving a tractor-trailer and reportedly fired a weapon at the victim's vehicle. The victim's vehicle was not struck, and the victims were not injured. After a swift and thorough investigation, ISP special agents quickly identified Nenadovic-Jasinskas as the suspect.

On May 17, Nenadovic-Jasinskas was arrested by the Burlington, WI Police Department. ISP special agents presented the case to the Lake County State's Attorney's Office and the above-mentioned charge was filed. Nenadovic-Jasinskas is being held at the Racine County, WI Jail pending extradition to Illinois.

Two Men Arrested After Wrong-Way Crash Injures ISP Trooper

CHICAGO – Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Criminal Investigation Zone 1 arrested 44-year-old William Oiler and 57-year-old Herbert Needom, both of Harvey, after a crash left an ISP trooper injured. Both men were charged with one count of Felony Theft - Previous Conviction (Class 4 Felony). Oiler was also charged with three counts of Fleeing to Elude (Class 4 Felony), Fleeing to Elude, Great Bodily Harm (Class 4 Felony), Fleeing to Elude, Damage to Property Over \$300 (Class 4 Felony), and one count of Leaving the Scene of a Personal Injury Accident (Class 4 Felony). Needom was also charged with one count of Burglary Tools (Class 4 Felony).

On May 22, 2025, the Country Club Hills Police Department attempted a traffic stop on a vehicle occupied by two suspects who were wanted for theft. The vehicle fled the officer and drove the wrong-way onto I-57. At approximately 1:05 p.m., an ISP trooper was entering I-57 southbound from 159th Street when their squad car

was struck head-on by the fleeing vehicle which had continued in the wrong direction. After the crash, the two male suspects fled the scene on foot.

A short time later, Markham Police Department officers located and arrested the two suspects and identified them as Oiler and Needom. Oiler and Needom both sustained injuries from the crash and were transported to an area hospital with injuries. The ISP trooper was also transported to an area hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. ISP special agents assumed the investigation and took custody of both Oiler and Needom upon their release from the hospital.

On May 23, 2025, the Cook County State's Attorney's Office approved the abovementioned charges. Oiler and Needom are being held pending a detention hearing.

Division of Statewide 9-1-1 Announces Staff Changes

The Division of Statewide 9-1-1 recently welcomed Jordan Spreitzer as the new Bureau Chief for the Radio Network Services Bureau. Mrs. Spreitzer is replacing retired Bureau Chief Chris Miller, who is currently assisting with training and transitioning as he finishes up his 75-day contract.

Mrs. Spreitzer graduated from Clemson University with a BS in 2005 and The Citadel with an MA in 2006. She served over 15 years in the Army National Guard as a 25B I.T. Specialist and 25U Signal Support Systems Specialist Instructor, currently serving with the Air Force Reserve 932nd Air Lift Wing out of Scott AFB. Prior to her time with ISP, she focused on IT System Administration and DoD-level Cybersecurity with the Illinois Army National Guard full-time. Mrs. Spreitzer brings a wealth of knowledge to the position, and we are excited to have her on board.

John Gotter was promoted to Assistant Bureau Chief (ABC) for Radio Network Services Bureau.

ABC Gotter started his career with the Illinois State Police in D2-Elgin on May 3, 1999, as a Communications Equipment Technician I. In 2000, he was promoted to Communications Equipment Technician III for D2-Elgin, and then later also for D16-Pecatonica. Along with responsibilities as the Tech III in D2-Elgin and D16-Pecatonica, he assisted in District Chicago, D5-Joliet, D17-LaSalle, D1-Sterling, and D7-East Moline. ABC Gotter holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Mathematics from Northeastern Illinois University and served 6 years active duty in the US Navy as an Electronics Technician E-5. ABC Gotter embraces the responsibilities of the new Assistant Bureau Chief position and is ready to meet the challenges by using the 35 years of experience he has in the communications industry.

ISP Announces Results of Commercial Motor Vehicle Detail



SPRINGFIELD – Illinois State Police (ISP) conducted a Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance detail on May 13-16, 2025. This commercial motor vehicle enforcement campaign occurred at fixed and portable scale locations in Cook, Will, Madison, Montgomery, and St. Clair Counties.

Officers successfully enforced state and federal motor carrier safety regulations by conducting North American Standard Inspections and educated drivers on the importance of safe driving, seat belt use, and safe equipment.

Detail Results	
Total Motor Carrier Safety Inspections	1,870
Total Motor Carrier Safety Out of Service Notices	339
Total Citations	112
Total Warnings	2,124
Total Criminal Arrests	1



Troop 4 and SOG Central Fatal 4 Officers Attend Galesburg's Annual Touch a Truck Event

On Wednesday, May 7, 2025, from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m., Troop 4 and the SOG Central Fatal 4 officers proudly participated in the annual *Touch a Truck* event in Galesburg, held in the Lake Storey Pavilion parking lot.

This free, family-friendly event drew an enthusiastic crowd of children, parents, teachers, and caregivers—all excited to get an up-close look at a variety of amazing vehicles. From emergency response units to construction and utility trucks, there was no shortage of impressive machines to explore. Even a little rain couldn't dampen the excitement, as the event went on rain or shine.

Touch a Truck is more than just a chance to see big vehicles—it's a fantastic field trip opportunity for families, day cares, and elementary school groups. Many attendees made a full day of it by reserving a shelter for a picnic lunch and enjoying a nature hike around beautiful Lake Storey.

Check out the event photos at <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/19TbJSSp7e/> to see all the fun!



3rd Annual Community Partner and Volunteer



ISP attended the 3rd Annual Community Partner and Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at Dunbar School in East St. Louis. ISP was recognized for our partnership with Dunbar School and support to the community for attending back to school rallies, Real Women Read, and Donuts with Dad.

On April 3, 2025, Trooper William Reagan #7130 and other Troop 10 officers helped to safely move a house from Murphysboro to Pomona, IL. The trip was 12 miles and took approximately 10 hours.

Slow Move



Troop 10 Conducts Active Threat Training

On April 16, 2025, officers from Troop 10 conducted Active Threat training at the ICAT National Facility in Decatur, IL. Solo Trooper and Team Tactics were trained for response to a variety of active threat scenarios.



ISP Wins Basketball Game vs. Mary Brown Youth Center

On April 23, 2025, ISP took on the Mary Brown Center Youth for their annual basketball game in East St. Louis, IL. ISP posted their first victory AND highest scoring game in the matchup's history. Congrats, ISP!



Troop 10 Joins Other First Responders for Mock Crash

In late April, emergency services "responded" to a mock traffic crash.

Students from Cobden High School, DuQuoin High School, Christopher Community High, and Murphysboro witnessed Illinois State Police troopers, DuQuoin fire, Perry County ambulance, and DuQuoin Police Department officers investigate the scene.

After the mock crash, Melissa Moehring of Anna IL shared her story with students about how she was involved in a crash at the age 20 that caused her to be thrown through the windshield and suffered many injuries including a traumatic brain injury.



Cop on a Rooftop Raises Money for Special Olympics

SOCOM SWAT

Silver Team did COP on a Rooftop at the Dunkin Donuts on State Street in Rockford, Illinois on 05/16/25 from 5am-12pm. Total collected = \$2,747.90—a new record collected for ISP SWAT!



PEORIA and MACOMB

Officers, volunteers, and community members came together Friday, May 16, 2025, for the annual “Cop on a Rooftop” fundraiser, benefiting Special Olympics Illinois—and the results were inspiring.

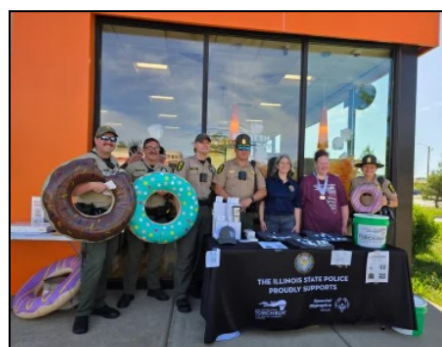
Thanks to generous local support and a strong collaborative effort between the Macomb Police Department and event organizers in Peoria, a total of **\$4,558** was raised to support the state’s Special Olympics athletes.

In **Macomb**, officers perched on the roof of Dunkin’ Donuts to draw attention and donations, ultimately raising **\$2,527**. Meanwhile, a companion event in **Peoria** collected an impressive **\$2,031**.

ROCK ISLAND AND PERU

What a fantastic day for a Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Event...especially the Cop on a Rooftop! The last several years we have gotten rained on. Thank you to all who came out and helped with the event. This year Troop 2 had two locations, one in Rock Island and one in Peru. This was a test to see if we could get it done and GET IT DONE we did!!

Troop 2, along with SOG members, and Rock Island PD had some fun interactions within the community and raised funds for Special Olympics while doing it. The Peru location team raised \$1,235.17 and Rock Island team raised \$2,119.78.



Troop 1 Hosted Trap Shoot for Youth

On Friday, May 16, 2025, the first annual Kids & Cops Trap Shoot was held at the Morrison Sportsman's Club. Numerous area high school trap shooting teams participated in the event along with area law enforcement officers. In total, approximately 92 kids and 40 officers attended the event. The kids were all paired up with an officer and they shot one or two rounds of trap together. The shooters went through approximately 4,000 rounds of 12 ga. ammunition. The entire event was free to the participants as everything was donated.

Troop 1 personnel included Trooper Richard Corbett, Trooper Brennan Coward, Trooper Alexander Welsh, Sergeant Nathan Anderson, M/Sgt. Michael Steele and Lt. Eric VanDyke.

News Article: <https://aroundptown.com/on-target-youth-and-law-enforcement-connect-at-2025-trap-shoot/>



Officers From Across Illinois Receive Illinois Law Enforcement Medal of Honor

SPRINGFIELD – Governor JB Pritzker, Illinois State Police (ISP) Director Brendan F. Kelly, the Law Enforcement Medal of Honor Committee, and law enforcement officials from across the state gathered today for the Law Enforcement Medal of Honor Ceremony in Springfield to honor officers who performed acts of heroism. The Law Enforcement Medal of Honor Committee awarded 23 officers from 10 agencies the Medal of Honor in recognition of their brave and sacrificial service to the people of Illinois.

“Today, we pay tribute to our heroic police officers who have gone above and beyond the call of duty while protecting our communities,” said Governor JB Pritzker. “From Palatine to Chicago to Granite City, our honorees saved lives and offered comfort and support to countless others. While we will never be able to repay their bravery in full, we hope that this recognition can serve as a public reminder of our gratitude and a symbol of the sincere reverence we hold them in.”

The Medal of Honor is awarded to officers who have been killed or seriously injured in the line of duty, or who have displayed exceptional bravery or heroism while performing their duties as a law enforcement officer.

“Today we recognize and praise these outstanding examples of courage,” said ISP Director Brendan F. Kelly. “These men and women faced extreme danger, remained brave in the face of imminent threats, and performed with the highest heroism. Today and forever, we thank and honor them.”



The Law Enforcement Medal of Honor Committee was established in statute through the [Law Enforcement and Fire Fighting Medal of Honor Act](#) in 1990. Current committee members include ISP Director Kelly, Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board Executive Director Keith Calloway, Chicago Police Department Superintendent Larry Snelling, DeKalb Police Department Chief David Byrd, retired ISP Master Sergeant and St. Clair County Coroner Calvin Dye, Lake County Sheriff John D. Idleburg, and Central Illinois Police Training Center Director Brian Fengel.

The 2024 recipients for the Law Enforcement Medal of Honor being honored this year are:

Chicago Police Department

Officer Roy De La Huerta
Officer Michelle Drapala
Officer Edwin J. Gramajo
Officer Luis M. Huesca
Officer Omar Jimenez
Officer Carlos Martinez
Officer Enrique Martinez

Chillicothe Police Department

Officer David J. Buchanan

Cicero Police Department

Officer Luis Martinez
Officer Reynol Ramos

DeKalb County Sheriff's Office

Deputy Christina M. Musil

DeKalb Police Department

Officer Brian Bollow
Chief David Byrd
Sergeant Keunte Mallett

East Moline Police Department

Sergeant William R. Lind

Granite City Police Department

Officer Douglas B. Nicolson

Illinois State Police

Trooper Clay M. Carns
Trooper Adam D. Fitts
Master Sergeant Ross A. Green
Trooper Corey S. Thompson
Trooper Blake D. Thompson

Palatine Police Department

Officer Shane P. Murray

Rockford Police Department

Officer Jonathan A. Vargas

Team Trooper Walked 20 Miles for Veteran's Charity



Team Trooper participated in the 11th annual Chicago Veterans Ruck March and walked 20 miles to represent the 20 veterans who lose their battle to suicide every day.

Ruck March 2025 was led by Master Sergeant Susana Matias and Sergeant Ramon Coss. Their Goal was \$500 and they raised \$657.

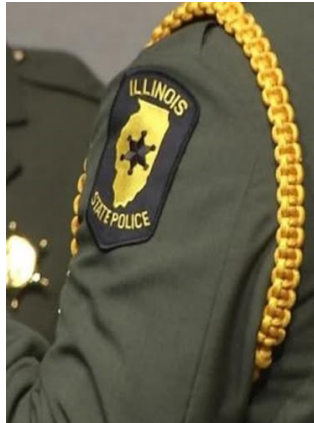
Team Trooper

Trooper Vitto Lozada
Trooper Nick Martinez
Trooper Vidal Martinez (Ret. ISP)
Trooper Neill Mooney
Trooper Mark Nytko
Trooper Brian Pacholski
Trooper Kevin Turenne
Trooper Juan Vazquez & son Khris Vazquez
Trooper Ark Wozniak
A/MSGT Kyle Blakemore
A/MSGT Marcos Diaz
SGT Ramon Coss
SGT Michael Kelley
MSGT Rei Acosta & wife Michelle
MSGT Susana Matias

TROOPER CALEB BILLINGSLEY

Shortly after midnight on March 29, 2025, Trooper Caleb Billingsley responded to a medical emergency at the Marion north scale house. The driver was transported by ambulance to an area hospital with chest pain. The driver followed up with this email:

"I was having pain on my left side and had to call 911. When Officer Billingsley arrived to my location, he showed the utmost professionalism and compassion for my situation. I immediately felt at ease and knew I was in good



Thank A Trooper



hands when he arrived. Please thank the officer and all other emergency personnel that came to the scene and helped me that night myself as well as my family is very appreciative of all their help."

SERGEANT TRAVIS HELKEY

Someone who interacted with Sgt. Helkey at last year's Illinois State Fair wrote in with these words of praise:

"Officer Helkey embodies the highest standards of professionalism and compassion, making him an exemplary role model for our children. His dedication and work ethic serve as a powerful example for aspiring officers, inspiring them to strive for excellence in their own careers."

SERGEANT MATTHEW MYERS

Mason B. had the opportunity to speak with Sgt. Matthew Myers during an event at the West Meadows Ice Arena and later had this to say:

"Very nice person to speak to, gave me insight into the ISP and I hope to do a ride-along in due time. I still have many questions that hopefully he can answer. Incredible person though. I hope he goes a long way within the ISP and I wish him and everyone the safest they can be."

Thank you, Sgt. Myers, for your positive representation of the Illinois State Police.

Thank An ISP Employee



FIREARMS SERVICES BUREAU BRIAN PHILLIPS

Attorney Tom Wilson of the Chicago law firm HeplerBroom LLC offers these kind words about Brian Phillips in the Firearms Services Bureau:

"I am an attorney representing an estate that includes firearms that the family is transferring to an individual. I have not previously handled a transfer of firearms and Brian went above and beyond to help explain the process and complete the transfer requests. He is very knowledgeable and went out of his way to help."

Thank you, Brian, for exhibiting ISP's value of service in your work!

In Memoriam



It is with deep sorrow to inform you of the death of retired

Captain John "Jack" Morscheiser #2429,

father of Troop 2 Lieutenant John Morscheiser and Pontiac Communications Center Telecommunicator Mark Morscheiser.

Jack passed away peacefully on Wednesday, May 14, 2025, surrounded by his family.

Jack was a 1968 graduate of LaSalle-Peru Township High School. He then graduated from University of Illinois in 1972, where he excelled in football and earned his Bachelor

of Public Health and Safety Education.

He was a graduate of the University of Illinois Police Training Institute, the Illinois State Police Academy, the Napa Valley College in Vallejo, CA, and the Northwestern School of Police Staff and Command.

Jack worked for the Peru Police Department, the LaSalle County Sheriff's Department and retired from Illinois State Police in 2006 as the Commander of District 17, after more than 30 years in law enforcement.

Jack was a member of Grace United Methodist Church, Illinois Police Association, Illinois Troopers Lodge #41, National Troopers' Coalition, Illinois Valley Chiefs of Police, University of Illinois Alumni Association, Varsity I Association, Elks, and Retired ISP Association.

He enjoyed health and fitness activities, boating, and coaching Illinois Valley Youth Football League. He loved spending time with family and loved watching the grandchildren participating in sports and other activities.

Please keep the Morscheiser family in your thoughts during this difficult time.

[Obituary for John "Jack" Morscheiser | Hurst Funeral Homes](#)

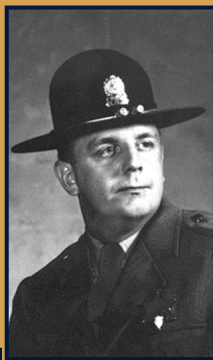
Trooper Bernard Skeeters was killed when his patrol car was struck from behind by a truck tractor semi on Interstate 55.

Working a safety detail at about 9:00 a.m., Trooper Skeeters was patrolling southbound on Interstate 55 behind an Illinois Department of Transportation paint truck. A truck tractor semi driver

fell asleep behind the wheel and slammed into Trooper Skeeters' squad car. Trooper Skeeters' squad car was forced into the IDOT paint truck which was carrying flammable paints and thinners. Both the squad car and paint truck exploded and were engulfed in flames. The three-vehicle accident instantly killed Trooper Skeeters. The drivers of both the IDOT truck and the truck tractor semi survived the accident.

The semi-trailer driver was charged with reckless homicide. However, a jury could not reach a unanimous decision to convict him.

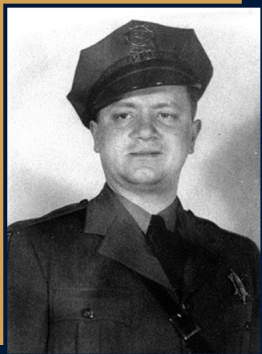
Trooper Bernard Skeeters was a U.S Army veteran of the Vietnam war and was a 12-year veteran of the Illinois State Police; He was assigned to District 9 in Springfield. Trooper Skeeters was survived by his wife and three sons.



**IN MEMORY OF OUR
FALLEN TROOPER**

**Trooper
Bernard Skeeters**

End of Watch
May 20, 1982



**IN MEMORY OF OUR
FALLEN TROOPER**

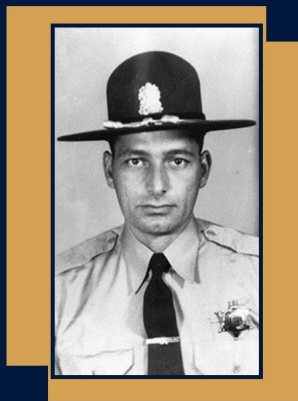
**Trooper
Samuel Mangiamele**

End of Watch
May 25, 1945

Trooper Samuel Mangiamele succumbed to injuries received five days earlier when his police motorcycle went out of control on loose gravel at 11th Street and Field Boulevard in Chicago, Illinois. He was taken to St. Luke's Hospital where he remained until his death.

Trooper Mangiamele had served with the Illinois State Police for three years and was assigned to District 3. Trooper Mangiamele was survived by his wife.

Trooper Frank Doris was shot and killed during a traffic stop. Trooper Doris had just finished his night shift working the desk at District 12 Headquarters. He was on his way home to Clay City when he pulled over a bright red Mustang for speeding on Route 45 near Flora.



**IN MEMORY OF OUR
FALLEN TROOPER**

**Trooper
Frank Doris**

End of Watch
May 27, 1967

As he sat in his squad car issuing a citation, Trooper Frank Doris was shot in the head by the speeder, who then fled. A reflex made the slain trooper's foot press against the accelerator, causing the car to overheat. Nearby residents pulled Trooper Doris' body from the car just before it burst into flames. He was taken to Clay County Hospital where he was pronounced deceased.

Troopers quickly located the assailant, a 60-year-old ex-convict, who led officers on a three-county chase with speeds reaching as high as 130 mph. Troopers were able to box in and apprehend the killer near Albion in Edwards County. In the car, they found Trooper Doris' ticket book and a .38 caliber revolver that was used as the murder weapon.

The killer was charged with murder. He was subsequently found guilty and died in prison while serving his sentence.

Trooper Frank Doris was a 10-year veteran of the Illinois State Police - District 12, Effingham. He was also a World War II veteran and a local businessman before joining the Illinois State Police. He was survived by his wife and three sons.



**IN MEMORY OF OUR
FALLEN TROOPER**

**Trooper
Richard Groja**

End of Watch
May 28, 1933

Trooper Richard Groja was killed in a motorcycle accident.

Trooper Groja was responding to a call in Chicago when he failed to show up. He was found five hours later at Rand Road and Garland Place. It appeared that he lost control of the motorcycle on an S-curve colliding with a tree.

Trooper Groja was U.S. Army veteran of WWI and served with the Illinois State Police for only two months. He was survived by his wife and child.