

Happy Retirement, K9 Diessel!

On New Year's Eve, Master Sergeant Jeremy "Elijah" Moyers' crime-fighting partner, Diessel, retired.

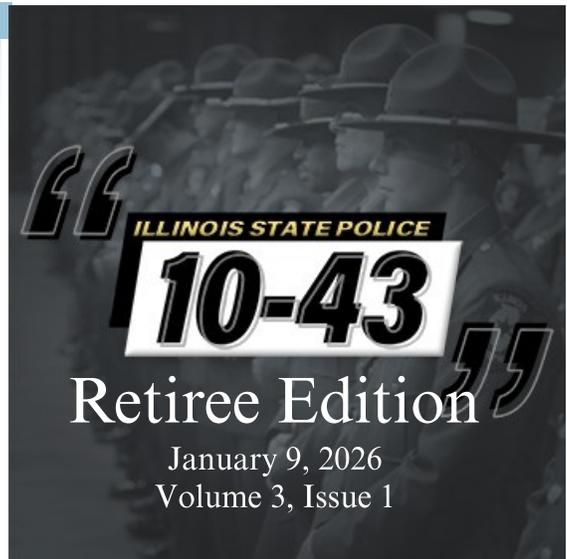
Master Sergeant Moyers began his career as a Canine Handler when he graduated from Canine Class 75 in the Spring of 2017. He was originally assigned a different canine, however, he has been assigned as Diessel's handler since the Fall of 2018.

During their partnership, they have had many accomplishments that include 6 bite apprehensions, 51 no bite apprehensions, \$226,829.25 in illicit United States Currency seized, 23 firearms seized, 2,355 pounds of marijuana seized, 13 kilograms of methamphetamine seized, 6 kilograms of cocaine seized, and 2 kilograms of heroin seized.



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It takes a special officer to become a Canine Handler and a special dog to perform these duties. We would like to congratulate Master Sergeant Moyers and Diessel on their service to the Illinois State Police and to the many other agencies they assisted and wish Diessel a very comfortable and relaxing retirement!



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**ILLINOIS
STATE POLICE**

Brendan F. Kelly—Director

K9 Zeus to Get Donation of Body Armor

COLLINSVILLE – Illinois State Police K9 Zeus will receive a bullet and stab protective vest thanks to a charitable donation from non-profit organization Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. K9 Remco’s vest was sponsored by Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. and will be embroidered with the sentiment “This gift of protection provided by Vested Interest in K9s, Inc.” Delivery is expected within ten weeks.

Vested Interest in K9s, Inc., established in 2009, is a 501(c)(3) charity whose mission is to provide bullet and stab protective vests and other assistance to dogs of law enforcement and related agencies throughout the United States. This potentially lifesaving body armor for four-legged K9 officers is U.S. made, custom fitted, and National Institute of Justice (NIJ) certified. Since its inception, Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. has provided over 6,225 vests valued at \$6.9 million to K9s in all 50 states, made possible by both private and corporate donations.



The program is open to U.S. dogs at least 20 months old, actively employed, and certified with law enforcement or related agencies. K9s with expired vests are also eligible to participate. There are an estimated 30,000 law enforcement K9s throughout the United States.

Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. accepts tax-deductible contributions in any amount, while a single donation of \$1,050 will sponsor one vest. Each vest has a value of \$1,800, weighs an average of 4-5 pounds, and comes with a five-year warranty. For more information, or to learn about volunteer opportunities, please call (508) 824-6978. Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. provides information, lists events, and accepts donations at www.vik9s.org, or you may mail your contribution to P.O. Box 9, East Taunton, MA 02718.

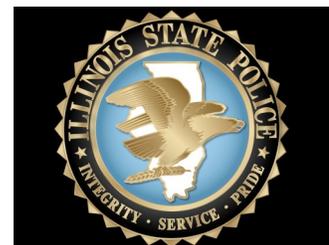


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ISP Spread Holiday Cheer Throughout Illinois



DII Toy Drive benefitted Children's Advocacy Center in Park Forest



Troop 9 apprehended the Grinch in Hamilton County



Team Illinois Youth Police Camp (Principia) counselors give gifts to six 2025 cadets, receive blessings in return



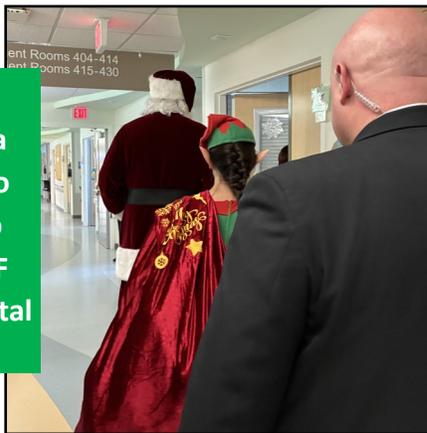
Holiday Cheer, continued



ISP Troopers kept a close eye on the Grinch while helping to pass out gifts at a Venice, Illinois church/community partnership



SOG North collected and delivered toys to Shriner's Children's Hospital, Chicago



EPU escorted a VIP in Peoria to deliver gifts to patients at OSF Children's Hospital



Troop 6 and CHQ employees donated toys to the Boys and Girls Club of Springfield

Troop 6 presented toys to PACT— Parents and Children Together— in Pittsfield, Illinois

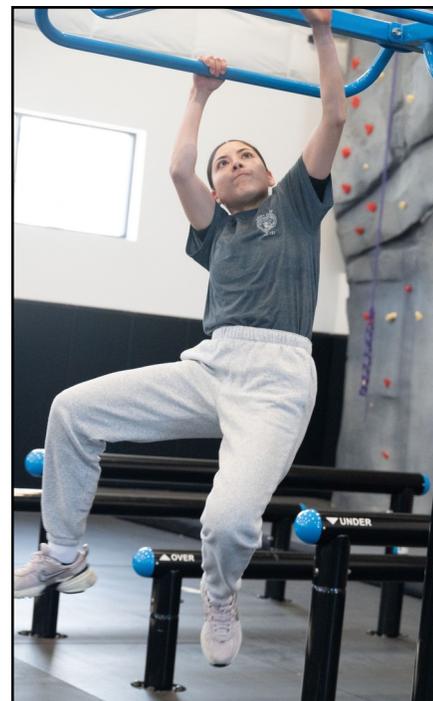


CC 151 Competes in Commander's Cup,

The Commander's Cup is a competition held for Cadet Classes during their final week of training. The competition is held at the PERF building in Decatur. Each Cadet in the class runs an obstacle course for time, and the Cadet with the fastest time is named the winner.

The winner for each class has their name, ID number, and Class etched onto a plate that is affixed to the trophy. The winner also gets a Commander's Cup challenge coin.

The competition, initiated by Lt. Rick Morris and LTC Malissa Feld, began with CC 146. The event offers the Cadets an opportunity to decompress, challenge themselves physically, and have one last event as a class and as a team.



On Thursday, December 18, 2025, ISP continued a tradition started earlier this year. Director Kelly, FDD Hooks, and several ISP command staff, along with the Cadets of Class 151, completed a run of approximately 1.5 miles, beginning at the ISP Central Headquarters and concluding at the Illinois State Capitol. Cadet Class 151 graduated from the ISP Academy the following day.

ISP Investigating Death at the Great Sauk Trail Rest Area

PRINCETON – The Illinois State Police (ISP) is investigating a death in Bureau County.

At approximately 9:51 p.m. on December 10, 2025, ISP Troopers, along with other local law enforcement partners, located a suspect vehicle wanted in connection to a homicide in Rock County, Wisconsin. A traffic stop was attempted, and a pursuit ensued, ending at the Great Sauk Trail Rest Area on I-80 westbound. Contact was attempted with the driver, and officers approached the vehicle. The driver, and sole occupant, was discovered deceased with an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound.

ISP will conduct a thorough investigation and remain in contact with the Bureau County State’s Attorney’s Office regarding the incident. The investigation is active and ongoing and no additional information is available at this time.

ISP Arrests Two Men for Human Trafficking and Involuntary Servitude

DECATUR –The Illinois State Police (ISP) Illinois Trafficking Enforcement Group (ITEG) announced the arrest of two Decatur men for human trafficking. During a thorough investigation, officers arrested 36-year-old Bryan M. Slater of Decatur, IL, and 31-year-old Jacob D. Miller of Decatur, IL, for Aggravated Involuntary Servitude/Threaten Physical Harm (Class X Felony), Involuntary Servitude/Physically Restrain (Class 1 Felony), Involuntary Servitude/Financial Harm (Class 4 Felony), Trafficking for Labor (Class 1 Felony), and Pro-

moting Prostitution (Class 4 Felony).

On Thursday, October 23, 2025, the Coles County Sheriff Department (CCSD) received a report regarding a theft. During the investigation, a woman was identified as a possible victim of human trafficking/involuntary servitude. ITEG Agents subsequently contacted the woman to further the trafficking investigation at the request of CCSD. ITEG Agents learned the woman had been abused, sexually assaulted, and forced into prostitution by two men identified as

Slater and Miller.

On Wednesday, November 5, 2025, ITEG Agents secured arrest warrants for both men for the above-mentioned charges. On Friday, December 2, 2025, the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS) Fugitive Apprehension Task Force arrested Miller in Sangamon County. On Wednesday, December 17, 2025, the USMS Fugitive Apprehension Task Force arrested Slater in Sangamon County.

Miller and Slater remain in custody at the Macon County Jail.

Troop 7 Change of Command



ISP's Division of Patrol, Troop 7, recently held a Change of Command ceremony to install Captain Heather Apperson as Troop 7's Captain.

Lt. Heather Apperson, most recently Chief of

Staff in the Division of Internal Investigation, began a temporary duty assignment as Acting Captain of Troop 7 on November 1, 2024. Having served in that capacity for over a year, this ceremony marked her official promotion to Troop 7 Captain.

Congratulations, Captain Apperson!

ISP Leads Human Trafficking Demand Suppression Operation in Galesburg

GALESBURG – The Illinois State Police (ISP) Illinois Trafficking Enforcement Group (ITEG) arrested one person during a Human Trafficking Demand Suppression Operation near Galesburg in Knox County on December 18, 2025. The operation focused on identifying individuals seeking to engage in commercial sex acts.

As a result of the operation, ISP arrested 41-year-old John O’Leary of Chicago, IL for Promoting Commercial Sexual Exploitation of a Child (Class 1 Felony), Indecent Solicitation of a Child (Class 3 Felony), Traveling to Meet a Minor (Class 3 Felony), Possession of Methamphetamine less than 5 grams (Class 3 Felony), and Grooming (Class 4 Felony).

This operation was part of a multifaceted approach by ISP aimed at stopping human trafficking in Illinois. The Illinois Trafficking Enforcement Group, Quad City Metropolitan Enforcement Group, Zone 2 Major Crimes Unit, ISP Investigative Support Unit, ISP SWAT, Galesburg Police Department, North Central Narcotics Task Force, and Troopers from

Troop 3 and Troop 4 partnered for the operation. The Knox County State’s Attorney’s Office also provided support for the operation. The Illinois Trafficking Enforcement Group members currently include the Illinois State Police, Decatur Police Department, and the McLean County Sheriff's Office.

[Human trafficking](#) is the use of force, fraud, or coercion to compel a person into commercial sex acts, labor, or services against their will. ISP continues its multifaceted approach toward protecting those most vulnerable with its ongoing statewide human trafficking enforcement operations. The signs of human trafficking can be subtle; to learn more, please visit [Recognizing the Signs | National Human Trafficking Hotline](#).

If you suspect human trafficking, contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888 or text *233733. For more information visit www.humantraffickinghotline.org. You can also email ISP.CrimeTips@illinois.gov.

ISP Podcast: New Episode Alert



Everyone loves hearing stories from police officers - the amazing, outrageous, incredible, unbelievable things officers encounter on a daily basis. In the latest episode of Files From the Illinois State Police, we've got some great holiday memories, along with stories about some of the crazier things officers have encountered.

Available on 7 major streaming platforms. Don't miss it! <https://lnk.bio/illinoisstatepolicepodcast>

ISP Investigating Officer Involved Shooting

EAST ST. LOUIS – The Illinois State Police (ISP) is investigating an officer-involved shooting that occurred on January 4, 2026, at approximately 10:08 p.m., near a convenience store in the 4500 block of South State Street in East St. Louis, IL.

Preliminary information indicates Troopers were investigating a reported stolen vehicle. As Troopers attempted to stop the vehicle, the driver put the vehicle in reverse, striking an ISP squad car, and then drove in the direction of a Trooper, who then discharged his firearm, striking the driver, 40-year-old Rachel E. Tarrence of Maryville, IL. Troopers immediately called for EMS and began rendering medical aid. Tarrence was transported to an area hospital where she was pronounced deceased. No Troopers were injured.

Per standard protocol, the involved Trooper has been placed on administrative status pending the outcome of the investigation. In accordance with the Police and Community Relations Improvement Act (50 ILCS 727) and the Illinois State Police Law (20 ILCS 2605), ISP Division of Internal Investigation Special Agents are investigating this incident.

This investigation is open and ongoing. ISP is currently processing evidence and conducting interviews. Upon completion of the investigation, all evidence and facts will be submitted for review to the St. Clair County State's Attorney's Office. No additional information is available at this time.

All subjects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Trooper Phillip McGill #7417

From a ride-along participant:

Trooper McGill is truly an exemplary officer who embodies the spirit of law enforcement. During our ride along, he treated everyone with respect and dignity, regardless of the circumstances.

Throughout the shift, Trooper McGill demonstrated a deep understanding of the laws and regulations governing his role. His ability to communicate these laws to the public in a clear and approachable manner fostered trust between the police and the community. His camaraderie with fellow troopers and local law enforcement was equally impressive. They worked together seamlessly, always supporting and uplifting one another. It was clear that Trooper McGill valued teamwork and believed in the strength of unity within the department.

Thank you, Trooper McGill, for your service and for allowing me to be a part of your shift.



S.A.V.E. North

SAVE North units were alerted to an incident on a Chicago Transit Authority platform. Arriving at the scene, Troopers noted stabbing victims surrounded by a large crowd.

One victim was observed to have a life-threatening wound. Two Troopers applied a dressing while additional SAVE personnel managed the chaotic crowd.

Chicago Fire and Police Departments arrived shortly thereafter; both victims were taken to a city hospital and were expected to recover.

Great job, Troopers!

Happy Anniversary!



ILLINOIS STATE POLICE ACADEMY
Cadet Class 149 - "Bridging Experience, Forging Excellence"
January 4, 2025 - March 28, 2025



Illinois State Police Academy
Cadet Class 107 - "Strength through Diversity, United to Serve"
January 4, 2004 -- July 2, 2004

Happy Anniversary!



ILLINOIS STATE POLICE ACADEMY
Cadet Class 150 - "Never give up, Never surrender"
January 5, 2025 - July 11, 2025



ILLINOIS STATE POLICE ACADEMY
Cadet Class 141- "Live with Honor, Serve with Pride"
January 7, 2023 - March 24, 2023

Happy Anniversary!



Illinois State Police Academy
Cadet Class 111 - "One Team, One Goal, One Mission"
January 8, 2006 -- July 7, 2006



ILLINOIS STATE POLICE ACADEMY
Cadet Class 142 - "Integrity, Service, Pride"
January 8, 2023 - July 27, 2023

In Memoriam

William Heim retired radio technician



William F. Heim 73, of Springfield, died at 1:36 am, Monday, December 29, 2025, at his home. He was born January 21, 1952, in Springfield, the son of Kenneth C. and Ruth M. (Horton) Heim.

Survivors include one son, William “Zachary” (Tonya) Heim of Chatham;

three grandchildren, Owen, Benjamin and Madelyn; two sisters, Kristine Heim of Springfield and Laurie Jamison of Goodyear, AZ and two nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

William retired after many years of service from the Illinois State Police where he worked as a Radio Technician.

He was an avid sportsman and was a member of the Lefthanders Gun Club. His greatest joy was spending time with his grandchildren.

<https://www.staabfuneralhomes.com/obituaries/William-F-Heim?obId=46818442>

Frank Straub retired District 9 Commander



Frank W. Straub, 94, of Springfield, IL, went home to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Monday, November 3, 2025, at his home.

He was born on June 19, 1931, in Chicago, Illinois, son of Otto and Ruth Straub.

Frank married Barbara Lee Jones on December 14, 1958, in Chicago, IL. She preceded him in death on August 7, 2017.

Frank was a Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps during the Korean conflict. He began his career with the Illinois State Police in 1957 in the old District 3 (Cook County, Chicago). Frank was transferred to District 9 January 1, 1977, and retired as the District Commander December 31, 1989.

He, along with his wife Barbara served with Stonecroft Ministries of Kansas City, MO, the umbrella organization for Christian Women's Clubs of America on a voluntary basis for approximately 28 years. They traveled throughout the U.S. and Canada sharing their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

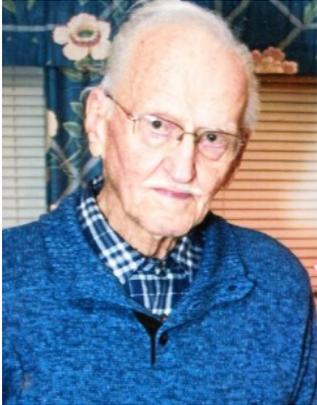
A graveside service with military honors was held on Wednesday, December 3, 2025, at Camp Butler National Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Cherry Hills Church, 2125 Woodside Road, Springfield, IL 62711, where Frank and his wife were members.

The family was served by Butler Funeral Home-Springfield, 900 S. 6th St., Springfield.

In Memoriam

Rollie Brooks
retired Statewide
Communication System
Administrator



Rev. Rollie C. Brooks, 101, passed away Wednesday, November 19, 2025 in Weatherford, Texas.

Rollie was born November 16, 1924 in Bowling Green, Kentucky to Oakley and Nona Ruth (Hudnall) Brooks. At the age of 8, his family moved to Lincoln, Illinois. He attended Lincoln Community High School. Rollie furthered his education at Valparaiso Technical Institute in Valparaiso, Indiana, Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, and the University of Illinois in Springfield, Illinois.

Rollie pastored churches in Indiana, Illinois, Arizona, and Texas. He is the former pastor of Clear Fork Baptist Church in Weatherford. He also spent nearly 30 years with Illinois State Police Communications, where he served as a statewide Communication System Administrator.

Rollie served 4 years in the United States Navy as a radio operator on the LST-309, participating in the invasions

at Sicily, Normandy, and in the Pacific Theater. His ship was at Omaha Beach on D-Day, June 6, 1944

Rollie was married to Marcella (Board) for 76 years until her death in 2022. They were married on April 27, 1946.

He is preceded in death by his wife; his son, Thomas; his parents; and his sisters, Ruth and Erlene.

Survivors: He is survived by 4 of his 5 children, William Douglas Brooks (Linda) of Lincoln, Illinois, Elisabeth (Betsy) Warren of Sanger, Texas, Susan Adams (Billy) of Aledo, Texas, and John Brooks (Christine) of Boca Raton; 12 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Graveside service: A private interment will be held at Dicey Cemetery, Weatherford.

Memorials: In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to Clearfork Baptist Church, 100 Ragle Road, Weatherford, Texas, 76087.



In Memoriam

Sgt. Lewis Baker retired

It is with great sadness that Troop 8 announces the death of retired ISP Sergeant Lewis E. Baker #1849.

He was 76 years old and passed away on December 30, 2025. Retired Sergeant Baker is survived by his wife, Connie Baker (nee Colmone), and his children, Shayna Munch (nee Baker) of Wentzville, Missouri, Sergeant Marc Baker (Troop 8) of Girard, Illinois, and Brent Baker of Woodson, Illinois, along with their spouses and 9 grandchildren.

Retired Sergeant Baker served with the ISP for 27 years, where he was assigned to Chicago, District 17, the ISP Academy, and District 18. Retired Sergeant Baker was cremated in Harlingen, Texas, where he had been residing, and there will be a celebration of life at a later date. Condolences may be directed to the family through Sergeant Baker. Please keep the Baker family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.



Sgt. Dwain Goss retired

Dwain Lee Goss, 88, of Paducah formerly of Eldorado passed away on Friday, January 2, 2026, at his home with his family by his side.

Dwain was retired IL State Trooper and a member of Waldo Baptist Church. Dwain loved to fish, making birdhouses, and spend time with his family.

Surviving is his wife of 65 years, Diane Goss of Paducah; four children, Dallas Goss, Darrin (Traci) Goss, Daphne (Mike) Keller, Dustin Goss; four grandchildren, Katie (Zack) Keiler, Logan Goss, Adam Goss, Kolby (Hayley) Keller.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Dwain and Edith Goss; and four siblings, Ruby Martin, Paul Goss, Wilburn Goss, and Melissa Banks.

Graveside services were held at 2:00pm on Monday, January, 5, 2026, at Lindale Cemetery in Eldorado, IL with the Rev. Jack Russell officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made in his honor to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital at 501 St. Jude Place Memphis, TN 38105.

The family would like to express thanks to Mercy-Health Compass Hospice for the wonderful care they provided our family during this difficult time.

Online condolences may be left at www.lindseyfuneral.com





**IN MEMORY OF OUR
FALLEN TROOPER**

Trooper
Floyd Farrar

End of Watch
December 17, 1968



**IN MEMORY OF OUR
FALLEN TROOPER**

Trooper
Clay Carns

End of Watch
December 23, 2024



**IN MEMORY OF OUR
FALLEN TROOPER**

Trooper
Glen Gagnon

End of Watch
December 28, 1952



**IN MEMORY OF OUR
FALLEN TROOPER**

Lieutenant
Clarence Robinson

End of Watch
December 28, 1963



**IN MEMORY OF OUR
FALLEN TROOPER**

Trooper
Dale Van Vooren

End of Watch
December 29, 1962



**IN MEMORY OF OUR
FALLEN TROOPER**

Trooper
April Styburski

End of Watch
January 5, 1990