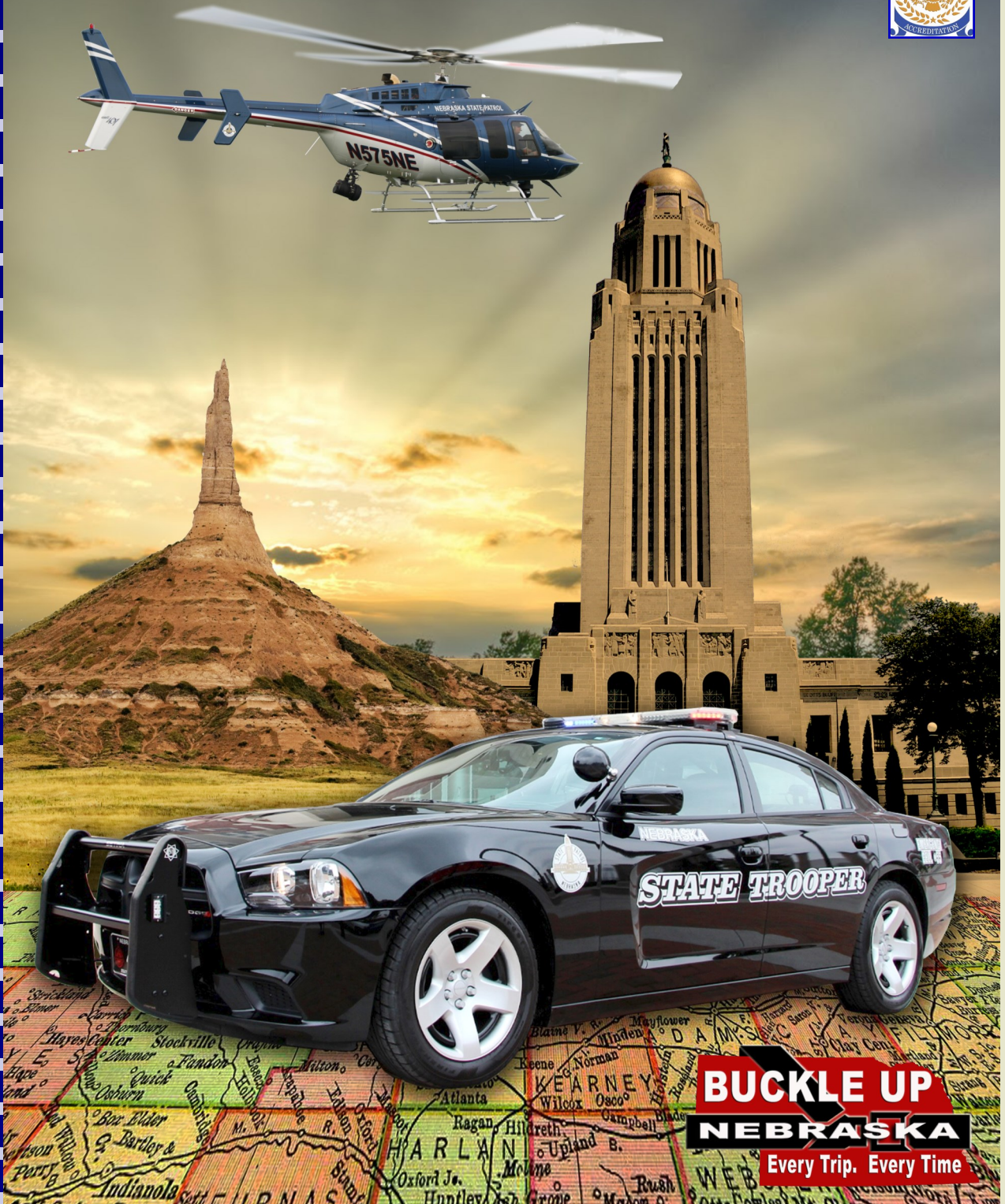




Nebraska State Patrol 2015 Annual Report

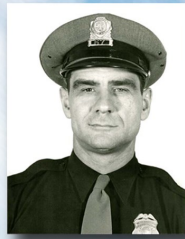


BUCKLE UP
NEBRASKA
Every Trip. Every Time

The 2015 Nebraska State Patrol Annual Report is dedicated to the members of the Nebraska State Patrol who have made the ultimate sacrifice while protecting the citizens and visitors of the State of Nebraska



#43
*Loyal M.
Zink*
6/13/45



#67
*John T.
Meistrell*
4/10/53



#129
*Vernon C.
Rolfs*
5/30/53



98
*Marvin
Hansen*
4/8/54



#133
*Duane F.
Nichols*
7/24/58



108
*Raymond M.
Koerber*
9/18/61



#9
*George W.
Amos*
4/20/73



#427
*Michael D.
Farber*
8/24/80



#221
*Robert J.
Chab*
1/6/84



#192
*Donald
Matejka*
12/27/89



#168
*Mark
Wagner*
3/4/99



Letter from the Colonel

The Nebraska State Patrol expended a good portion of 2015 transitioning at all levels of the Agency. Following a vigorous assessment of the Agency's performance, insight was assembled to accomplish, and move forward, many goals.

Personnel appointed to the senior command staff are quality individuals committed to the betterment of the Nebraska State Patrol and the citizens of the state of Nebraska. A strategic process was developed that links changes to the Agency environment which includes a clear plan for which to tackle challenges. Realignment of staff to maximize skillsets was implemented and we are confident the effect will provide dividends for our stakeholders.

Cooperation at all levels within the Agency is required to manage a more effective and efficient operation. Law enforcement in the 21st century has to be fully committed by engaging other law enforcement agency partners who share our many challenges. The Nebraska State Patrol is proud of the relationships we have fostered with other organizations and will continue to work closely and cooperate with them.



Engaging officers to be forward thinking and to maintain ties with the community they serve is paramount to successful policing. The Nebraska State Patrol possesses employees with better education and training than ever before which translates to a better understanding of maintaining a quality style of life in Nebraska.

The private sector has or will play an important part in the future of our success. A new records management system is currently being executed, along with many upgrades to our intelligence databases. Additionally, the Nebraska State Patrol Crime Lab moved into a new facility during the fall of 2015, and is better able now to provide services ensuring the punctuality of processing DNA and all types of evidence to allow for more timely prosecutions by attorneys at all levels.

Many employees within the Nebraska State Patrol are stepping forward and offering their unique talents and creativity in developing new resolutions. Fresh opportunities for growth create possibilities for better efficiency, and employees who are not afraid to "think outside of the box" help to reduce Agency spending.

Anticipating what the future holds by identifying key trends will achieve high output for the lowest disbursement of capital and effort. Safety to all Nebraska citizens and visitors to the state is the primary goal of the Nebraska State Patrol. Providing a safe and secure place to live also compliments Governor Ricketts' mission of "Growing Nebraska."

I am honored and pleased to present the 2015 Annual Report for the Nebraska State Patrol. Take your time reading it over and remember to visit the Agency through our website, as well as on Facebook.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL SCHWARTEN

The Superintendent's Office of the Nebraska State Patrol has day-to-day interaction and oversight of the Agency's three divisions to include Administrative Services, Field Services, and Investigative Services. In addition to these areas, Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Schwarten has direct responsibility for the following:

- Executive Protection/Capitol Security
- Information Technology
- Public Information
- Professional Standards

Members of the Executive Protection Detail are charged with the safety and security of the Governor and his family, the Nebraska Supreme Court, the Appeals Court, and the Unicameral. Personnel from the Capitol Security Division are responsible for the protection of the State Capitol complex, as well as many other buildings and property owned by the state of Nebraska.

Members of the Information Technology Division specialize in certain technological aspects and work together with coordination from team supervisors. Much focus is placed on updating and enhancing current systems along with building in redundancy to enhance continuity of operations and help with disaster recovery. Through the use of shared systems with others in the public safety community, communication between agencies is enhanced throughout the state.

The Public Information Office works to promote the mission and services of the Nebraska State Patrol through all aspects of media relations. Utilization of social media in the form of Facebook and Twitter has also assisted in getting important announcements and updates to the public in a timely manner.

As a whole, the Professional Standards Division is tasked with ensuring the infrastructure of the Agency is such that employees can perform with a high degree of professionalism, thereby providing a high level of public service. This division is made up of the following: Accreditation/Inspections/Policy, Information Governance, Internal Affairs, Legal, and Legislative Liaison. The goal of the division is to ensure uniformity of professional conduct through the deployment of Agency policy, proper allocation of those policies, and an internal inspection process and an administrative investigation when alleged misconduct or complaints are reported.



Drive
2 Save Lives

Superintendent's Division Highlights

The Legislative Liaison of the Nebraska State Patrol individually tracked 71 of the 664 bills introduced by the Nebraska Legislature in 2015 and provided timely updates of these bills. Training was conducted for all Agency personnel regarding the new legislative initiatives by utilizing an electronic format and self-paced study.

Employees of the Policy and Accreditation Division spent 2015 preparing the Agency for the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement (CALEA) assessment in the summer of 2016. Significant time was also spent restructuring the annual staff inspection process, auditing each troop area in-custody property rooms, and facilitating the Agency-wide self-inspections.

During 2015, the Information Governance Division spent considerable time with a records clean-up project which resulted in the review, scanning, disposition and transfer of all records and case files being stored at the Fusion Center and at the Grand Island long-term storage facility. The transferring of records represents a savings of \$231,600 for the Nebraska State Patrol.

The Internal Affairs Division noted the continued decline of complaints through 2015 regarding case investigations. Also in 2015, Internal Affairs reviewed roughly 275 reports generated from uses of force, unit accidents, damage to patrol vehicles, firearms discharges and complaints of misconduct. This division continues to work diligently as an integral component in maintaining the trust of the public we serve.

Responsibilities handled by the Legal Division in 2015 included responding to tort claims against the Agency, handling labor matters, representing the Agency at administrative hearings and serving as administrative hearing officers, promulgating Agency rules and regulations, responding to subpoenas for documents and public record requests, reviewing legal documents, responding to legal questions and providing training of troopers on legal matters.

A Project Manager has been assigned to implement a new records management system (RMS). Through extensive research, it was determined by the Nebraska State Patrol RMS committee that the NICHE system was best suited for the Agency. The Nebraska State Patrol has an aggressive timeline to get this product up and running in 2016.

Information Technology spent the year updating and enhancing current systems and equipment, building in redundancy to enhance continuity of operations and disaster recovery. As part of the continuity of operations plan, the State Patrol servers were moved to an off-site secure data center, and mission-critical servers are replicated at a remote disaster recovery site. The server network was also upgraded to a redundant architecture, and the Agency is sharing another system with the public safety community to enhance communication between agencies throughout the state.

In 2015, the Public Information Office issued 159 news releases and aided with the planning and coordination of two news conferences promoting statewide highway safety initiatives. Twenty informational and promotional videos on a variety of topics were also produced. The Nebraska State Patrol's use of social media continues to grow through the use of Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube.

Members of the Executive Protection Detail successfully completed the transition to Governor Ricketts' administration during January 2015. Planning and preparation continued during this time for the 2015 Chief Justices Conference which took place in Omaha during July.

The Capitol Security Division welcomed over 80,000 visitors to the State Capitol Complex in 2015. Planning took place year-round for 224 special events ranging from weddings, news conferences, ceremonies, and rallies at the Capitol.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

The Administrative Services Division of the Nebraska State Patrol is under the direction of Major Russ Stanczyk. Much of the work performed by the personnel in this division supports the troopers and investigators in the field. Major Stanczyk oversees the Training Academy, Accounting, Human Resources, Communications, Statewide Radio System, Grants, Vehicle Installation Building, Purchasing, and Research & Planning.

The Nebraska State Patrol Training Academy (NSPTA) is responsible for all training including Basic Recruit Training, In-Service Training, Specialized Training and Advanced Training for sworn and non-sworn personnel of the Nebraska State Patrol.

The Accounting Division is responsible for payroll, benefits assistance, accounts payable, cash receipts & deposits, accounts receivable, grants accounting and reporting, audit coordination, cash monitoring, budgeting and forecasting, Legislative Fiscal Notes, financial reconciliations, financial reporting and analysis. This team administers an \$80,000,000 annual budget.

Human Resources professionals promote a diverse, skilled, and productive work force while providing support to the Agency. The Division is responsible for labor relations and contract administration, policy and SOP, sworn officer promotional and selection processes, civilian recruitment and selection processes, and job classifications.

The Communications Division is comprised of five Communications Centers located in Lincoln, Omaha, Grand Island, North Platte and Scottsbluff. Approximately 45 dedicated Communication Specialists staff these communications centers 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The Grants Division is responsible for all aspects of securing and managing public and private sector grants and contributions. Annually, the Division secures approximately \$8,000,000 in funding and contributions.

The Supply Division provides and directs the issuing and inventory of equipment, uniforms, weapons, vehicles and supplies for the Agency. The Electronic Engineering Division oversees radio communication and the repair of electronic and radio equipment for the Agency in addition to providing installation of equipment in Agency vehicles.

The Purchasing Division facilitates the procurement of goods and services for the Nebraska State Patrol at pricing and quality which meets or exceeds the end user's expectations. Responsibilities include providing employees of the Nebraska State Patrol a service that fosters an ethical, responsive, and efficient environment and recognizes the division's obligations to suppliers and internal customers.

The Research and Planning Division provides decision-making support and assistance to the Command Administration. This division provides management information studies concerning feasibility, design, modification cost factors and recommendations regarding implementation methods for the Agency.



Administrative Services Division Highlights

On May 1, 2015, the NSPTA graduated 39 new Troopers from Camp 56 after 23 weeks of training. Immediately following this graduation, the staff was heavily involved in the recruiting process for Camp 57 which commenced on February 22, 2016, and will graduate on August 19, 2016. The Training Academy also scheduled and completed various training throughout the year for Agency employees as well as outside entities.

The Human Resources Division posted 92 job openings and processed 1,644 applicants during 2015 along with handling 107 transfers and/or promotions within the Agency. Human Resources devoted hundreds of hours in the recruiting process for Camp 57. Personnel from the division also sat on six committees and took part in a number of training sessions specific to managing human resources.

Coordinating several audits and reviews related to the Agency's financial transactions kept the Accounting Division busy during 2015. The Department of Justice (DOJ) performed a review in conjunction with the State Auditor's Office which allowed some federal directives to be lifted. On a continuous basis throughout the year, the division processed 26 bi-weekly payrolls, 12 monthly payrolls, and submitted 30 fiscal notes during the 2015 session of the Nebraska Legislature.

The Nebraska State Patrol (NSP) has one dedicated staff member assigned to work on issues arising out of the Statewide Radio System (SRS). This employee acts as a liaison between the Agency and other entities and is able to immediately mitigate any concerns with the system. In 2015, over 250 trouble reports were submitted and handled.

Communications Specialists support troopers in the field through the use of highly technical software programs to include Mobile Architecture for Communications Handling (MACH) and Computer-aided Dispatch (CAD). The five Communications Centers across the state handled 4.2 million 'push to talks' on the Statewide Radio System (SRS) which accounted for 82% of the number.

The Combined Law Enforcement Information Network (CLEIN) is responsible for training and certifying over 3,800 users of the National Crime Information Center. This division had been linked with the Communications Division but is now being supervised by staff from the Information Technology Division.

Grants personnel administered \$8.2 million dollars in funds for salaries and equipment while another \$1.3 million went to 16 other entities. The NSP Foundation has direct oversight from the Grants Division and received \$175,000 in 2015. About 20% of those funds went to helping the Community Services Officers with decreasing fatalities involving youthful drivers.

The Vehicle Installation Building houses the Supply Division, Radio Engineering, and Vehicle Installation. In 2015, 98 vehicles were issued to Agency personnel along with 28 units to other state agencies. Technicians also calibrated equipment and provided upgrades to over 1,800 radios in the Statewide Radio System. These employees also continued traveling to the troop areas in order to perform repairs in the field which allows for less down time for the troopers.

The Research & Planning Division was busy throughout 2015 assisting with multiple projects, written Agency reports, policy development and implementation, committee assignments, and completing over 7,000 purchase orders. Starting in 2015, the Agency began producing a Dashboard for Governor Ricketts and his senior staff. The Dashboard provides a snapshot of important updates, issues, and concerns which is helpful to the Governor's management team.

FIELD SERVICES DIVISION

The Nebraska State Patrol Field Services Division encompasses uniformed patrol troopers, carrier troopers, police service dog handlers, and the aviation support pilots. The Field Services Division has been serving Nebraska since 1937 in a wide variety of responsibilities. Those duties include working with communities to improve public safety; enforcing traffic, criminal and drug laws; as well as enforcing the laws and federal regulations pertaining to commercial motor carriers.

Uniformed troopers assigned to six Troop Area Headquarters patrol more than 10,000,000 miles of Nebraska roadways. Specially trained troopers operate twelve weigh stations and numerous portable scale units throughout the state.

It is the mission of our troopers to strive for fatality free roadways through highway enforcement operations and public education. This goal cannot be achieved by the Nebraska State Patrol alone but by working with our partners in highway safety which include the Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR), Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), Nebraska Office of Highway Safety (NOHS), local law enforcement, first responders, highway safety advocate groups and our citizens.

Although the primary mission of the Agency is unchanged, what has been altered is the approach to making our roadways safer. The Nebraska State Patrol uses modern technology to place troopers where they can be the most effective by utilizing real time crash data and analyzing calls for service. With this information, the Agency can take a real-world approach to enforcement and education concepts. Directed patrolling, high visibility patrols, the targeting of impaired drivers and occupant restraint compliance are just a few of the models utilized by the Agency employing this data.

With up-to-date technology, troopers are sent to calls for service by Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD), and their actions are documented by a Records Management System (RMS), and digital in-car cameras. Mobile Data Computers (MDC) allow troopers to issue electronic citations and motor vehicle accident reports. A digital Statewide Radio System (SRS) allows troopers to have expanded and more clear interoperable communication.

Even with all of the technological advances, the goal of the Field Services Division remains the same, to protect and serve the motoring public traveling Nebraska roadways.



if you
SEE something,
SAY something

Report suspicious activity...call 911



Field Services Division Highlights

The Headquarters (HDQ) Troop Area covers 15 counties in southeast Nebraska and is served by 50 uniformed officers out of the main office in Lincoln. Volunteers from the Nebraska Motorist Assist Project (NeMAP) provided 4,486.8 hours of service while responding to 3,314 calls for service. Fatalities rose by 25% during 2015 so resources will be deployed during 2016 to areas where an increase in fatality and serious injury crashes was observed.

Troop A has 41 uniformed officers serving 4 counties in and around Omaha with additional service provided to the northern half of Cass County. NeMAP volunteers in Troop A spent 4,029 hours responding to 4,159 calls for service. Just like in the HDQ Troop Area, Troop A also noted a rise in the number of fatalities during 2015. Command Staff in Troop A are using a data-driven approach to address the rise in fatalities throughout 2016.

Troop B is headquartered in Norfolk and is made up of 45 uniformed officers serving 23 counties in northeast and north central Nebraska. Commanders have noticed a steady decline in fatality numbers from 2013-2015. Education and enforcement have played a vital role in this area.

Grand Island is home to Troop C Headquarters which has a staff of 46 uniformed officers patrolling 17 counties in the central part of the state. Troop C experienced a decline in fatalities from 2014 to 2015. Some of this success can be attributed to selective enforcement operations taking place in areas with high accident numbers.

Troop D is headquartered in North Platte and covers 23 counties in west central and southwest Nebraska with 39 uniformed officers. Like several other troop areas, Troop D saw a 14% decline in fatalities when comparing 2015 to 2014. Goals and objectives which are communicated to all levels is one strategy to keep fatality accidents at a minimum.

Scottsbluff is home to Troop E which is made up of 11 counties and home to 34 uniform troopers. With the help of a strategy focused on statistical data, Troop E maintained the fatality rate from 2014 to 2015. Fatalities associated with alcohol reached a record low of 18%. In September, Troop E started providing Internet-based TV programs with 90 second prerecorded safety messages.

The Carrier Enforcement Division covers the entire state of Nebraska with 89 uniformed troopers. This division statically weighed 1,290,429 trucks while issuing 22,568 enforcement contacts. A total of 21,459 roadside inspections of commercial motor vehicles were completed resulting in the discovery of 40,957 violations. A total of 66 compliance reviews revealed fines of \$177,950 being assessed. Educational programs and materials are provided to the trucking industry in order to gain voluntary compliance with the law.

The Nebraska State Patrol Special Operations Division is comprised of the following components: Aviation Support Division (ASD), Police Service Dog Division (PSD), Special Weapons and Tactics teams (SWAT) and the Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator. The PSD division conducted two basic canine camps and certified 80 Narcotic Detector Dog Teams and 62 Patrol Dog Teams. The PSD also had a hand in seizing numerous amounts of illegal contraband and a number of weapons. Pilots flew 1,500 hours and completed 250 hours of proficiency training. Emergency Preparedness handled two disasters in 2015 and deployed the Mobile Command Post five times.

INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

The Nebraska State Patrol Investigative Services Division is under the command of Major Kyle Otte. The division includes troop area field investigative units; the Nebraska State Patrol Crime Laboratory; the Nebraska Information Analysis Center; as well as many specialized units to include Liquor Compliance/Enforcement, Nebraska Sex Offender Registry, Cyber Crimes, Internet Crimes Against Children, Auto Theft/Fraud, Criminal Identification Division and the Hazardous Device Coordinator/Technicians.

Creating a safe community to help grow Nebraska requires citizens to believe they and their children are safe within those communities. Ensuring effective criminal investigations and prosecution occurs is a collaborative effort between public and private partnerships. These partnerships create the ability to share information which is relevant to address the crimes which cause our citizens concern.

The Investigative Services Division works proactively and reactively to maintain the public's trust that reports of crimes will be addressed quickly and fairly without prejudice to a socially/culturally diverse population. This is accomplished by working collectively in order to conduct methodical and complete investigations.

Personnel assigned to the Investigative Services Division provide accurate and comprehensive investigations of all criminal matters mandated by Nebraska state statute and established Agency Policy. These services are provided to federal, state, county and local law enforcement agencies, including the Nebraska State Attorney General's Office.

From border to border, Nebraska is fairly spatially diverse. This requires the Nebraska State Patrol to place investigators strategically across the state in order to more efficiently respond to calls for service. This also provides opportunities to support local law enforcement with major investigations as well as serving on interagency groups.

Improving the quality of life for all citizens and visitors to the state of Nebraska by utilization of investigative methods, intelligence gathering, and deterrence helps to eliminate the criminal acts and element. The Nebraska State Patrol is considered a full service police organization providing comprehensive and professional assistance.

Community assistance allows for this division to better investigate, avert, disrupt, and recognize criminal activity undermining the safety and security of all citizens. By engaging members of a town, city, or neighborhood to feel comfortable in reporting what they see and hear has provided valuable in our investigations. This division particularly likes the Homeland Security slogan of, "If you see something, say something." Our officers can't be everywhere so getting tips from the community enhances our ability to serve effectively.



Investigative Services Division Highlights

The Headquarters Investigative Services Division is made up of 17 sworn officers along with several civilians supporting the 15 counties of the Troop Area. Investigators work in Criminal, Drug, and Liquor/Tobacco Enforcement. Criminal Investigators opened 159 cases and made 18 arrests while Drug Investigators initiated 93 new cases. The Liquor Enforcement Investigators conducted 661 licensee premise inspections, processed 232 liquor license applications, and conducted a number of alcohol compliance checks. The most time consuming case in 2015 brought all divisions together on May 10 and 11 for the prison riot at the Tecumseh State Correctional Institution which involved two homicides.

Investigative Services in Troop A has evolved into a highly effective investigative division serving not only the people in the Omaha Metro area but statewide as well using 18 investigators and several support staff members. Troop A Investigators offer unique skill sets in cyber investigations, digital forensics, child exploitation investigations, determining cause and manner of death, enforcement of the Sex Offender Registry and the interdiction of controlled substances.

The current authorized strength for Troop B Investigative Services Division is 15 sworn officers and several support members. These officers responded to 838 calls for service in 23 counties and generated 323 new cases which resulted in 136 arrests. Liquor Investigators conducted 76 alcohol compliance checks and 98 tobacco compliance checks. A drug investigation starting in September has led to 20 individuals being implicated and indictments are currently pending. And finally, on December 21, Investigators were called to rural Pierce County to investigate the murder/suicide of a husband and wife.

Troop C Investigative Services Division is made up of 14 sworn officers and several support personnel. Criminal investigators investigated the armed robbery of a gas station in Blue Hill where four minors and one adult were arrested along with several other highly publicized death investigations. The Liquor Enforcement Division set a goal of obtaining a 90% compliance rate and actually ended the year with a 94.3% compliance rate. This division uses allied law enforcement agencies to assist with compliance checks.

The Nebraska State Patrol Troop D Investigative Services Division is headquartered in North Platte and covers 20,000 square miles. The authorized manpower strength in 2015 was 12 sworn personnel and a number of support staff personnel. Troop D Investigators conducted 206 new investigations, assisted 234 allied law enforcement agencies, conducted 302 alcohol premise inspections, processed 84 new alcohol license applications, and presented 30 educational programs to the public.

The Investigative Services Division in Troop E contains 11 Investigators and a couple of support staff members. 2015 was a productive year as investigators conducted 53 child forensic interviews, attended 43 autopsies, conducted 47 polygraphs examinations, completed 134 liquor inspections, 61 liquor applications and gave 72 public programs to over 2,500 people. Additionally, there were 74 new drug cases, 110 criminal cases, and 25 liquor cases. Investigators made 71 arrests and cleared 118 cases. Members of the division continue to be involved in their communities donating time to special causes.

The Nebraska Information Analysis Center (NIAC) houses many different divisions who work in concert to make sure all citizens and visitors to the state of Nebraska are safe. Here are just a few highlights from several divisions: there were 11,951 Concealed Carry Weapon (CCW) permits issued in Nebraska during 2015, the Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Division continued training and collaboration in order to enhance the criminal justice response to these crimes and finally, the Agency was awarded a grant of \$264,582 from the Department of Justice in 2015 to aid in the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force.

Command Staff

Superintendent

- Colonel Brad Rice

Assistant Superintendent

- Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Schwarten

Administrative Services

- Major Russ Stanczyk

Field Services

- Major Mike Gaudreault
- Major Bret Friesz (Ret. 3/2016)

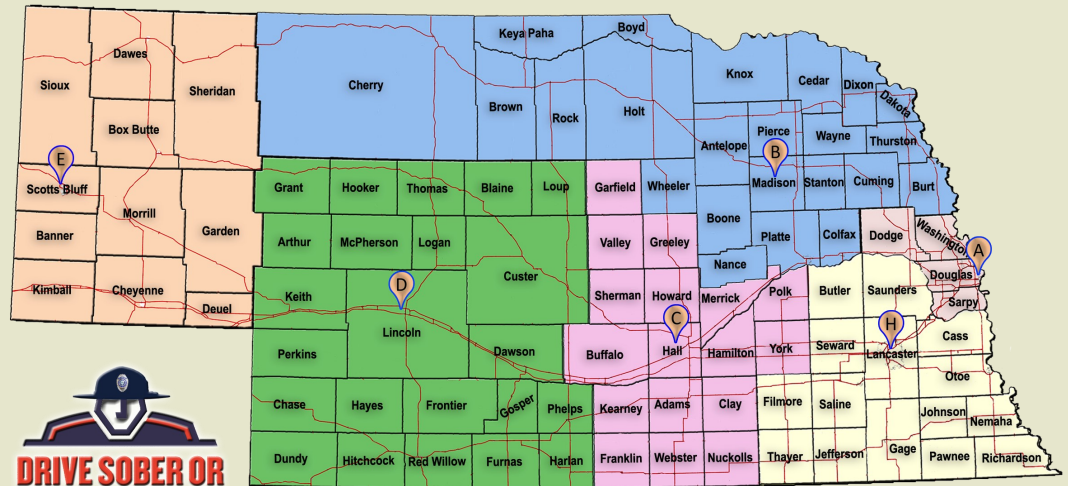
Investigative Services

- Major Kyle Otte



Troop Areas

Omaha 1.402.331.3333	A
Norfolk 1.402.370.3456	B
Grand Island 1.308.535.8047	C
North Platte 1.308.535.8047	D
Scottsbluff 1.308.632.1211	E
Lincoln 1.402.471.4680	HQ
Lincoln 1.402.471.4545	SHQ



Organization

VALUE STATEMENT

The Nebraska State Patrol (NSP) is committed to professional public service reflecting recognition of the inherent value of each individual in our society. Our officers strive to earn and maintain trust, respect, and confidence by exemplifying the belief that the freedoms, rights, and dignity of all citizens must be protected and preserved. To this end, we pledge ourselves to the highest standards of morality, fairness, honesty, dedication, professionalism, and courage.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Nebraska State Patrol shall provide law enforcement of the highest quality to ensure a safe and secure Nebraska – Pro Bono Publico.