

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

Nebraska State Patrol

Pro Bono Publico



LETTER FROM ACTING COLONEL RUSS STANCZYK

Dear Friends:

As the Acting Superintendent of Law Enforcement and Public Safety, it is my pleasure to present the 2016 Annual Report of the Nebraska State Patrol. Service to the citizens of the state of Nebraska is both an honor and a privilege. The Nebraska State Patrol has transformed greatly in its nearly 80-year existence. The importance of the purpose and mission of the agency is a tribute to the great success of the institution, and shows the commitment of many employees over a great deal of time.

In order to assist Governor Pete Ricketts to promote his vision of Growing Nebraska, utilization of the following mission statement helps lay the groundwork: "Create opportunity through more effective, more efficient, and customer focused state government." A number of significant priorities to convey this message include public safety, efficiency/effectiveness, and customer service followed by a number of values which are respect, transparency, and accountability. All levels of government are engaging their employees in this innovative and simple concept.



Throughout 2016, the Nebraska State Patrol experienced many rewarding and significant moments as well as faced a number of challenges. The positive impact our men and women make each and every day oftentimes goes unnoticed. The Nebraska State Patrol will continue to persevere and be the best police organization in the state.

Law enforcement in the 21st century, and in particular 2016, is far different than a decade ago. Many advancements in technology have led to greater productivity. The criminal element will always be a threat to our society. Through education and training, the Nebraska State Patrol will remain vigilant in staying one step ahead of this burden which offenders present. Significant changes in the world regarding computers and cell phones have assisted all levels of the organization in the ability to leverage intelligence and combat those who prey on the weak.

The Nebraska State Patrol is continually growing and evolving. This starts with a nucleus of the best and brightest employees who show up to work every single day committed and ready to face the challenges of the world. Many times, people think about a state trooper in uniform when they hear the Nebraska State Patrol mentioned. There are many civilian employees standing in the background who are important pieces to the puzzle and contribute greatly to the support needed to make the agency shine.



During 2017, let us not forget the Nebraska State Patrol will be celebrating 80 historic years serving the citizens of this great state. This will be a time to step back and take a moment to reflect on our past and look to the future for continuous improvement at all levels. At this same time in 2017, the state of Nebraska will commemorate 150 years of statehood with sesquicentennial events planned in many communities. The Nebraska State Patrol will take an active role in these important observances and we can only hope for another wonderful 80 years of public service.



Website - <https://statepatrol.nebraska.gov/>

LETTER FROM ACTING LIEUTENANT COLONEL KYLE OTTE

Dear Citizens:

Service to the state of Nebraska as the Acting Lieutenant Colonel of the Nebraska State Patrol is an extremely rewarding and challenging experience. The day to day operations of the entire agency falls on the desk of the Assistant Superintendent of Law Enforcement and Public Safety. The interaction and oversight has been an eye opener and a blessing for my personal and professional growth.

All levels of state government experienced budgetary restraints during 2016. The Nebraska State Patrol is no different in this regard and the agency seems to be weathering the storm. State government employment has been, and will continue to be, sought after by many competitive candidates. Nearly every open position within this agency has a large number of job seekers. This allows the Nebraska State Patrol to continue finding and hiring the best and brightest applicants at every level of the organization.



There is great importance in the continuation of moving forward while still showing fiscal restraint. These challenging economic times do not give the Nebraska State Patrol a pass to do less. In fact, the agency is doing more with far less people than ever before. Moving forward and being resourceful has allowed the agency the ability to provide safe communities for all Nebraskans. This holds especially true for children and vulnerable adults.

Through the proper use of time, dedication, and vigilance, the Nebraska State Patrol will be standing in an upright position staring down and conquering the face of evil. Edmund Burke wrote, "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing." The Nebraska State Patrol is filled with many fine women and men who will react at a moment's notice in an emergency, or who constantly care for the towns and villages where they reside.

Annual goals and objectives for every division are ambitious in nature and utilized by all personnel to help the Nebraska State Patrol stay the course for public safety. Commitment by these employees in their duties shows respect for one another, pride in their work, and honor in their service to the state of Nebraska. The Nebraska State Patrol has always been the premier law enforcement organization in the state and will remain in this status for many more years to come.

Priorities regarding the budget and spending became difficult throughout the entire year. The Nebraska State Patrol has always placed an emphasis on the training and education of employees and 2016 was no different. Engagement at all levels; in every division, and by both the sworn and civilian personnel plays into the fine work being completed on a daily basis. The Nebraska State Patrol will remain devoted to the preparation of finding good people who will lead the agency in the future and answer tomorrow's challenges.



Perseverance in the face of adverse state revenues will be vital in assisting all state agencies in finding ways to become more efficient and effective. Operating a large entity such as the state of Nebraska requires dedicated individuals at every level to ensure a proper level of service. Faithful employees of the Nebraska State Patrol are performing outstanding work every single day and laying a footprint for others to follow.



<https://www.facebook.com/NEStatePatrol/>

SUPERINTENDENT'S DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

The Assistant Superintendent of the Nebraska State Patrol directly supervises the Capitol Security/Executive Protection Detail, Information Technology (IT), Public Information, and Professional Standards. Although several divisions report directly to the Assistant Superintendent, it is necessary for this position to be well-versed in all aspects and in every division of the organization in order to assist the Superintendent of Law Enforcement and Public Safety in leading the Nebraska State Patrol every single day.



Capitol Security changed and evolved during 2016 and continues to serve visitors to the State Capitol Building on a daily basis. This division also is responsible for the security of all state owned or leased buildings in the city of Lincoln, as well as monitoring access control points and alarms at various locations. The State Capitol remains an emphasis for those assigned to this division as there were nearly 100,000 visitors to the Capitol Complex, as well as 202 special events at the Capitol. Partnering with other state agencies assists the division in making sure safety of all visitors and employees is paramount.

The Executive Protection Detail continued service to Governor Pete Ricketts during 2016 with a number of personnel and administrative changes. As some troopers left the detail, other new faces stepped into a new assignment during 2016. Members of the staff switched to working ten hour shifts in order to cut down costs associated with overtime. The detail went on one overseas Trade Mission, handled 30 out-of-state trips, and escorted Governor Ricketts on 192 in-state trips. Finally, several troopers attended a 40-hour Executive Protection school in Texas in order to enhance their level of training specific to protecting dignitaries.

The Professional Standards Division is made up of many organizational components. To be precise, this division is composed of the following: Accreditation/Inspections/Policy, Information Governance, Internal Affairs, Legal, Legislative Liaison, and Project Management. These six entities help the senior command staff in their ability to lead a diverse work group of over 740 employees by providing assistance and advice on a variety of complex issues.



In 2016, the Public Information Office (PIO) issued 181 news releases. The PIO also produced a number of informational and promotional videos on a variety of topics. The Nebraska State Patrol's use of social media is a point of emphasis going forward with the goal of growing the audience, and enhancing engagement to distribute Nebraska State Patrol's public safety messages to more people.

Technology is an ongoing theme with the Nebraska State Patrol and it is no secret the Information Technology (IT) Division of the agency is very robust. Focus during the year involved updates and partnerships. All mobile data computers were replaced during the year along with an upgrade of 23 servers which included the operating system and hardware. A number of important joint interest projects took place to include an IT consolidation which allowed some sharing with the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) along with utilization of a grant to build the software needed for other law enforcement agencies to submit their accident reports online.

Internal Affairs Case Summary

In 2016, there was an increase in both complaints received and formal Internal Affairs case investigations. 2016 saw 141 complaints containing 169 alleged violations. This is an increase from 2015, which recorded 122 complaints alleging 131 violations. In 2014, there were 149 complaints alleging 163 violations and 2013 saw 180 complaints with 223 alleged violations. There were 58 formal Internal Affairs investigations initiated in calendar year 2016. This is an increase of 25 cases from the 33 in 2015 and an increase of 18 cases from the 40 in 2014.



<https://twitter.com/NEStatePatrol/>

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

The Administrative Services Division of the Nebraska State Patrol is under the direction of Acting Major Kevin Ryan. Personnel assigned to this division perform a support role to the troopers and investigators in the field. Acting Major Ryan oversees Accounting, Communications, Grants, Human Resources, Process Improvement, Purchasing, Research & Planning, Statewide Radio System, the Training Academy, and the Vehicle Installation Building.

Accounting Division personnel deal with all financial aspects of the Nebraska State Patrol to include payroll, benefits, accounts payable, cash monitoring, budgeting, forecasting, reconciliations, and financial reporting and analysis. The division submitted a new biennium budget totaling \$86 million.

The Communications Division of the Nebraska State Patrol provide a critical element in enhancing officer safety and contribute to the productivity of the agency's sworn members by providing professional service every hour of every single day in 2016. Consolidation of dispatch centers is moving forward and once completed, the Nebraska State Patrol will operate with three communications centers.

Grants Division oversees the development and management of agency projects funded by external sources. During 2016, a majority of the \$9.42 million in grant dollars administered were federal and match funds devoted to crime, highway safety, and homeland security. Working with the Nebraska State Patrol Foundation allowed for the collection of approximately \$170,000 in funds which otherwise was not available to the agency.

The role of Human Resources continues to expand and 2016 was no different. This division handled 5,427 civilian applications, provided support for 76 transfers and/or promotions, spent time with the 2016 Sworn Officer Selection and Sergeant Promotional Processes, assisted with 13 grievances and sat on a total of six committees. Recruitment and training was also a huge priority for staff this year.

The Process Improvement Coordinator serves in a training capacity to apply the Lean Six Sigma continuous improvement tools for the Nebraska State Patrol. The coordinator establishes partnerships with agency leadership and stakeholders in order to serve as a change liaison by facilitating implementation of modifications to current practices.

Research & Planning, along with the Purchasing Division, work closely together in the day to day activities of the agency. Each division was involved in a variety of significant projects and committees throughout 2016. Preparation and presentation of the agency's dashboard took place on a monthly basis for the Governor's Office. The division performed specific analysis work and submitted all required reports.

The Statewide Radio System is the responsibility of one project coordinator and takes considerable time of many other staff members to monitor and enhance the capabilities of the network. The Nebraska State Patrol works closely with the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) in many aspects of the radio system. A number of towers have been added at strategic locations in the state to address areas of known coverage problems. As the agency began to update mobile radios, the older radios were repurposed and provided to other law enforcement agencies to facilitate improved interoperability.

The Nebraska State Patrol Training Academy (NSPTA) is responsible for all training to include basic recruit training, in-service training, specialized training, and advanced training. One of the biggest accomplishments of the NSPTA during 2016 was the graduation of Camp #57 on August 19, 2016. A total of 19 troopers graduated and began their duties with a field training officer.

Coordination of Radio Engineering, Radio Installation, and the Supply Division are conducted under one roof known as the Vehicle Installation Building (VIB). Radio Engineering was heavily involved in completing repairs of technological equipment to include upgrades of radios, firmware and code plugs for the Statewide Radio System. Radio Installation primarily works on getting patrol vehicles to the field, as well as venturing out across the state to perform vehicle repairs in each of the six troop areas. A restructuring of sorts took place in the Supply Division in order to make more room for supplies needing to be under lock and key.

FIELD SERVICES DIVISION

The largest division in the Nebraska State Patrol is the Field Services Division and is under the command of Acting Major Frank Peck. This division is responsible for Aviation Support, Carrier Enforcement Division, Community Service Officers, Emergency Preparedness, Hazardous Device Coordinators, all six Patrol Divisions, and the Police Service Dog Division.

The Aviation Support Division (ASD) continues to adjust to the dynamic operational environment as needed in support of agency goals and objectives. This division took part in searches, surveillance, disaster response, and assistance for allied agencies. Personnel acknowledge the fiscal challenges and are seeking cost effective means to upgrade and maintain capabilities of the division. In the coming year, a key consideration will include upgrades to a number of aircraft systems. This technology will allow for numerous advantages with a reasonably incurred expense.

Carrier Enforcement is a unique division providing law enforcement duties as well as administering the Commercial Vehicle Safety Program and the Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program. Officers assigned to Carrier Enforcement are the only persons employed by the state qualified to conduct level one safety inspections and hazardous materials inspections on commercial motor vehicles. Working closely with a number of state and federal agencies, the division is home to 88 sworn officers and 8 civilian personnel.

The Hazardous Device Technicians assigned to the Bomb Squad perform a technical support function for the agency and are nationally accredited through the Federal Bureau of Investigation. (FBI) There are four certified technicians within the agency and another new technician is scheduled to attend a Hazardous Devices School. Technicians maintain an inventory of specialized equipment and vehicles in order to respond to explosive-related incidents of which 36 were handled during 2016. Training plays an important aspect of this program and three technicians instructed at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms Advanced Explosives Destruction Techniques course and two technicians completed FBI recertification.

The Police Service Dog (PSD) Division of the Nebraska State Patrol is staffed by 11 dual purpose dog teams certified in narcotic detection and patrol work, while one team is certified in explosive detection and patrol work. Teams are spread across the entire state with assistance provided to many other entities, as well as providing demonstrations for communities and groups. Police dogs were deployed a total of 566 times in 2016 and officers spent 2,400 hours helping with instruction of different canine disciplines.

State troopers assigned to the Field Services Division represent the largest group in the state. The spatial diversity of Nebraska necessitates the need for troop areas to be split up into six separate areas. The primary responsibility of this division is to reduce the number and severity of accidents through enforcement of traffic laws. Troop commanders utilize relevant data to direct troopers to known problem areas. Additionally, all six troop areas participated in locally important and relevant events during 2016 and are too numerous to list for this publication. Finally, it has become readily apparent that many victims of fatality and serious-injury accidents were not wearing a seat belt so enforcement of this important statute has been receiving significant attention by Nebraska troopers.



INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

The Investigative Services Division of the Nebraska State Patrol is commanded by Acting Major Jeff Pelowski. The division includes the Crime Laboratory, the Nebraska Information Analysis Center, Troop Area Investigative Units, and many other specialized units to include: Auto Theft/Fraud, Criminal Identification Division, Cyber Crimes, Internet Crimes Against Children, Liquor Compliance/Enforcement, and the Nebraska Sex Offender Registry.

All six troop areas in the State house an Investigative Services Division and are home to a Criminal Division, Drug Division, as well as investigators assigned to the Alcohol/Tobacco Division. Additionally, there are some unique divisions assigned to certain troop areas. For instance, the Headquarters Division has an Auto Fraud Unit and Cyber Crimes, while Troop A in Omaha has a Criminal Interdiction Unit spending considerable time at the bus station, train station, and Eppley Airfield.

The Nebraska State Patrol Auto Fraud Division has the responsibility of investigating vehicle fraud and identity thefts, processing out-of-state titles, and performing salvage yard inspections. A partnership with the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles Fraud Unit has allowed Nebraska State Patrol employees the ability to utilize facial recognition software which was used 333 times during 2016 assisting investigators from within, as well as outside the agency strengthen cases and identify suspects.



The Nebraska State Patrol created a Computer Crimes Division to address the rise of technology in investigations. The division has one investigator assigned to the Child Exploitation Task Force, and one investigator assigned to the Cyber Task Force. The state of Nebraska realizes a benefit through these assignments by receiving training and experience with cyber threats and network intrusions. The ability to leverage this training involving threats against State infrastructure is valuable. The Nebraska State Patrol manages the coordination of child exploitation cases and training throughout the entire state.

The Nebraska State Patrol Crime Laboratory experienced a 16.5% increase in case submissions during 2016 as compared to the previous year and saw an increase in completed case assignments by 24%; thus, minimizing the negative impact of the large case submission number. The lab has a number of different sections which include: Automated Fingerprint Identification System, Biology Unit, Combined DNA Index System, Controlled Substance Section, Firearms/Tool Marks and Trace Sections, and the Toxicology Section. Crime Lab personnel began working closely with the Center for Operational Excellence in November of 2016 and hope to identify cost and time saving opportunities to better serve the state.

The Criminal Identification Division (CID) serves as the central repository of all criminal records for the state of Nebraska. CID is located in the same building as the NIAC in Lincoln and maintains criminal history records, dissemination of criminal history record information, issuing concealed carry and explosives permits, and providing fingerprinting to the public. CID also includes the Sex Offender Registry (SOR) and the Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Program. (DVSA)

The Nebraska Information Analysis Center (NIAC) is Nebraska's only Department of Homeland Security recognized Fusion Center. The NIAC is a high priority project to Nebraska's Homeland Security and the efforts of the center further the state's ability to detect, prevent, respond to, and recover from a terrorist event or natural disaster. Homeland Security grant funds are needed to keep the center operational so annual assessments of baseline capabilities are required. During the 2016 assessment, the center met all of the critical operational capabilities.



National Center for **Missing & Exploited** Children
www.missingkids.com

Command Staff

Superintendent

- Acting Colonel Russ Stanczyk

Assistant Superintendent

- Acting Lieutenant Colonel Kyle Otte

Administrative Services

- Acting Major Kevin Ryan

Field Services

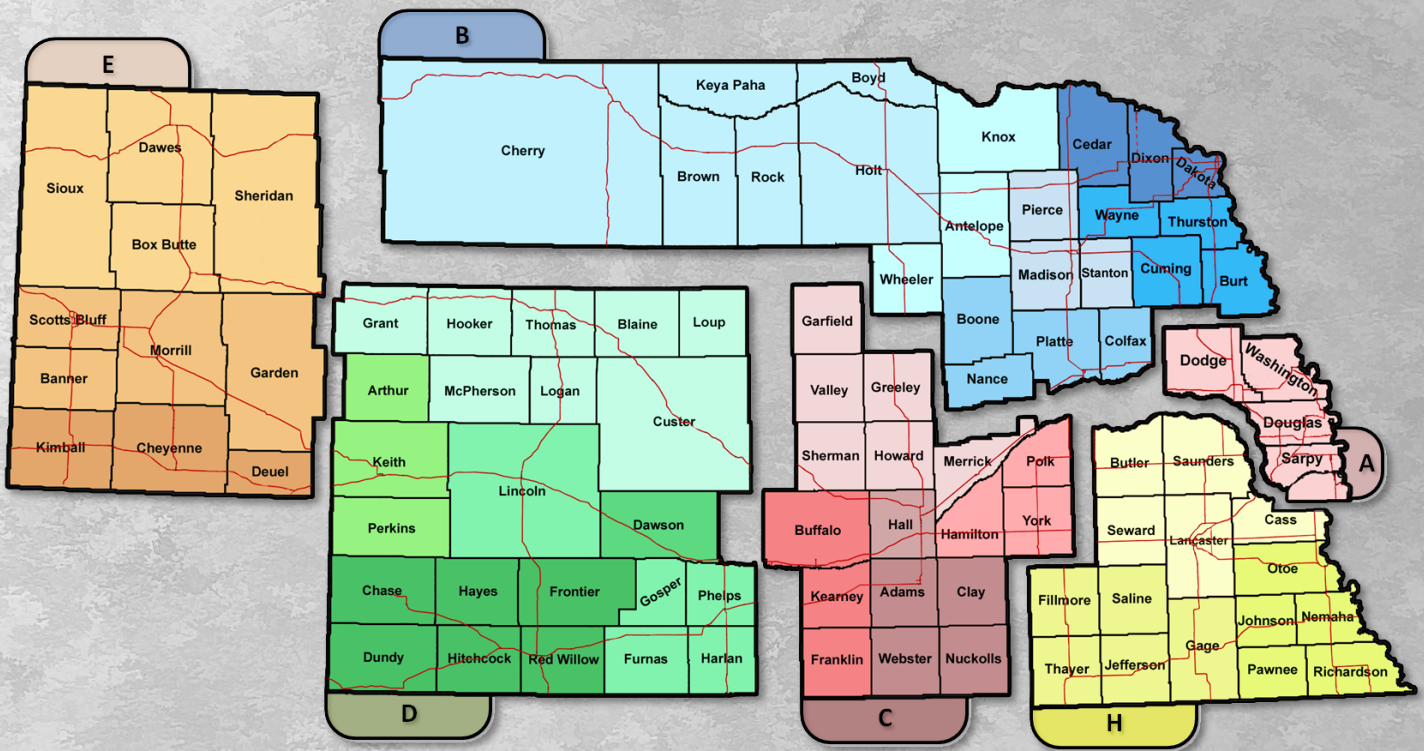
- Acting Major Frank Peck

Investigative Services

- Acting Major Jeff Pelowski

Troop Areas

Omaha / 1.402.331.3333	A
Norfolk / 1.402.370.3456	B
Grand Island / 1.308.385.6000	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



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.