

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



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☎ 701-328-2447

MISSION, VISION, VALUES

Our Mission

The mission of the North Dakota Highway Patrol is to make a difference every day by providing high-quality law enforcement services to keep North Dakota safe and secure.

Our Vision

Public safety through quality service.

Our Values

LOYALTY: We will show allegiance to ourselves, our department, the state of North Dakota, our community, and to those who came before us and sacrificed so much to ensure the safety of our citizens.

INTEGRITY: We are honest, responsible, and ethical. Citizens place the highest trust in the NDHP. Each member must recognize that they are held to a higher standard of accountability than the public. We must always be mindful to NEVER violate the public trust. Our conduct, both on and off duty, must be beyond reproach.

COMMITMENT: To fulfill the vision of the NDHP each employee must deliberately carry out their duties and responsibilities to the best of their abilities.

RESPECT: Because we are a diverse culture, we value each other and all members of our community regardless of age, race, gender, appearance, individual beliefs or lifestyles. We will always show understanding, respect, and appreciation for our similarities and differences.

PROFESSIONALISM: To be considered professional we must conform to the technical and ethical standards of our profession. Because we are highly trained and dedicated, we are capable of handling the daily demands of law enforcement and devoting our full energy and talents to the department's vision.

ACCOUNTABILITY: Employees at all levels and ranks must accept responsibility for their actions both in their personal life and in their professional life.

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LETTER TO GOVERNOR



June 30, 2025

Honorable Kelly Armstrong
Governor
State of North Dakota
600 E Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505

Dear Governor Armstrong,

On behalf of the North Dakota Highway Patrol, I respectfully submit to you and the citizens of this great state, the highway patrol's 2024 Annual Report.

As the newly appointed Superintendent of the North Dakota Highway Patrol, I am honored to share with you our significant achievements and the strategic direction we are taking to enhance the safety and well-being of our citizens. The 2024 Annual Report not only highlights our accomplishments but also marks a pivotal moment in our organization's history – a transition in our vision from focusing solely on highway safety to embracing a broader mandate of overall public safety.

Over the past year, we have seen the evolving needs of our communities and the challenges they face. While ensuring highway safety remains a crucial part of our mission, we recognize that public safety encompasses a wider spectrum of responsibilities. Our strategic shift aims to address these comprehensive needs, fostering a safer environment for all residents of North Dakota.

In this report, you will find detailed accounts of our efforts to reduce traffic fatalities and injuries, enhance emergency response, and engage with community stakeholders to build trust and cooperation. Furthermore, we have initiated programs aimed at combating drug trafficking, human trafficking, and other criminal activities that threaten the safety of our communities.

Our transition towards overall public safety is guided by our commitment to proactive policing, community engagement, and interagency collaboration. By integrating these elements into our daily operations, we strive to create a holistic approach to public safety that not only addresses immediate concerns but also builds a foundation for long-term security and resilience.

In conclusion, the 2024 Annual Report is a testament to our unwavering dedication to serving and protecting the people of North Dakota. I am confident that with your continued support, we will achieve our vision of a safer and more secure state for all.

DANIEL J. HAUGEN
Colonel, NDHP
Superintendent



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PHONE: 701.328.2447 | TOLL-FREE: 1-844-474-6347 | [ND.gov/NDHP](https://nd.gov/NDHP)

VISION ZERO
Zero fatalities. Zero excuses.

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



Colonel Daniel Haugen

The North Dakota Highway Patrol (NDHP) has been proudly serving the citizens of North Dakota since 1935. It is comprised of two main components: field operations and administration. Field operations include four geographical regions and motor carrier operations. Administration includes finance, safety and education, support services, human resources, and the North Dakota Law Enforcement Training Academy (LETA).

Today, our vision is broadening to overall public safety, by becoming partners in local community specialty teams like SWAT teams, dive teams and narcotic task forces. Our 171 sworn troopers and 34 civilian staff members are committed to the safety of all citizens, regardless of their location.

A variety of specialized assignments and programs contribute to the highway patrol's success including canine officers, crash technicians and reconstructionists, emergency response team members, criminal interdiction team members, drug recognition experts, an aircraft section, and a motor carrier safety assistance program.

State troopers work diligently to eliminate injuries and fatalities that result from traffic crashes, and the NDHP is a primary sponsor of the Vision Zero initiative. Core areas of enforcement include impaired and distracted driving, right-of-way and speed violations, and occupant protection. Troopers investigate complex crashes, enforce all criminal laws, protect highway infrastructure, and conduct commercial motor vehicle safety inspections.

Highway patrol team members focus on prevention and education efforts to improve driving behavior. In 2024, the NDHP provided 299 safety presentations to a variety of educational institutions and civic groups.

The NDHP is committed to fulfilling our public safety mission and providing professional law enforcement services to North Dakota citizens. Our employees value and respect the trust and authority that has been placed in them.

The North Dakota Highway Patrol's Emblem

The North Dakota Highway Patrol's emblem contains a profile of Marcellus Red Tomahawk, a Teton Dakotah (Sioux) Indian who served as a government officer in the early years of North Dakota's statehood.

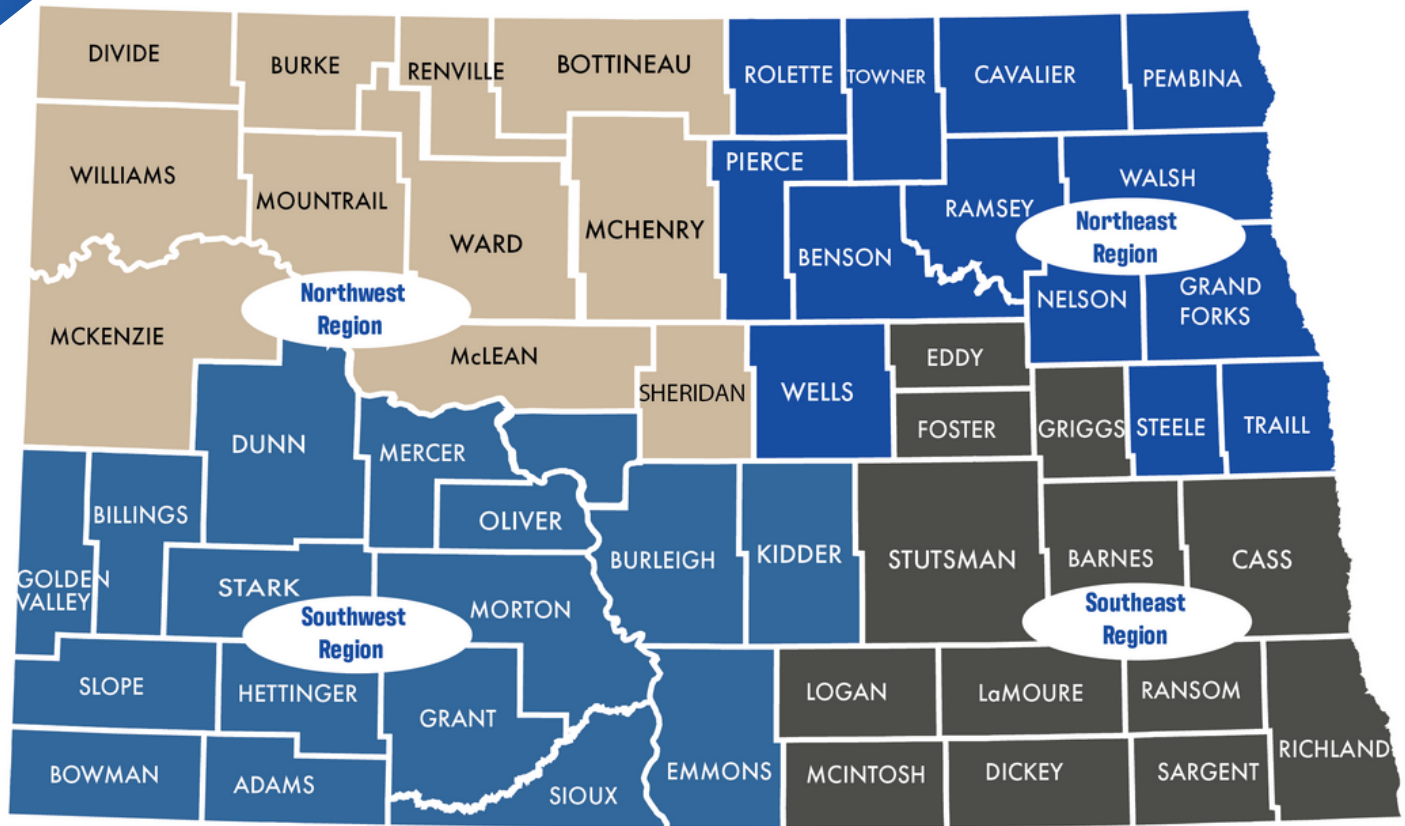
Red Tomahawk, a sub-chief, encouraged harmony among all Americans. He lived on his land near the Cannon Ball River on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation south of Mandan. He was considered a champion of his people, a noble American, and a just man.



Marcellus Red Tomahawk

The North Dakota Highway Patrol officially adopted the profile of Red Tomahawk as the department symbol in 1951. Red Tomahawk was inducted into the North Dakota Native American Hall of Honor in 2016, and he was recognized for his efforts in education, law enforcement, and leadership.

REGIONAL SERVICE MAP



2024 OUTPOST LOCATIONS

NORTHEAST

- Cando
- Devils Lake
- Grand Forks
- Grafton
- Hillsboro
- Northwood
- Rugby

SOUTHEAST

- Carrington
- Fargo
- Jamestown
- LaMoure
- Lisbon
- Oakes
- Valley City
- Wahpeton

NORTHWEST

- Bottineau
- Crosby
- Garrison
- Minot
- Stanley
- Watford City
- Williston

SOUTHWEST

- Beulah
- Linton
- Bowman
- New Salem
- Bismarck
- Steele
- Dickinson
- Washburn
- Glen Ullin
- Hettinger

AUTHORIZED STRENGTH

as of December 31, 2024

Authorized: 205 Present: 199 Vacancies: 6

Sworn Officers:

Authorized: 171 Present: 165 Vacancies: 6

Motor Carrier Inspectors/Safety Auditors:

Authorized: 4 Present: 4 Vacancies: 0

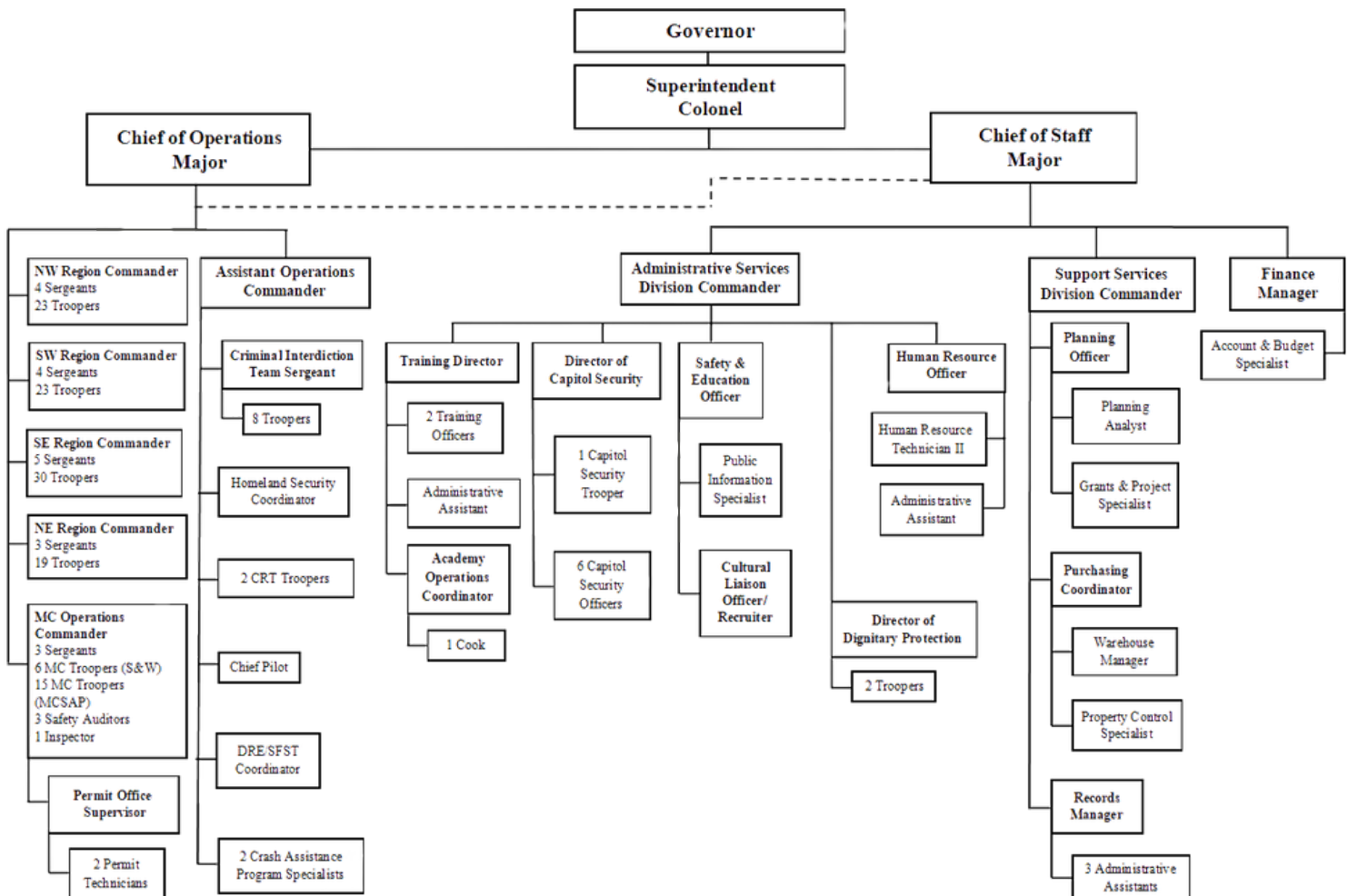
Capitol Security:

Authorized: 6 Present: 6 Vacancies: 0

Support Staff:

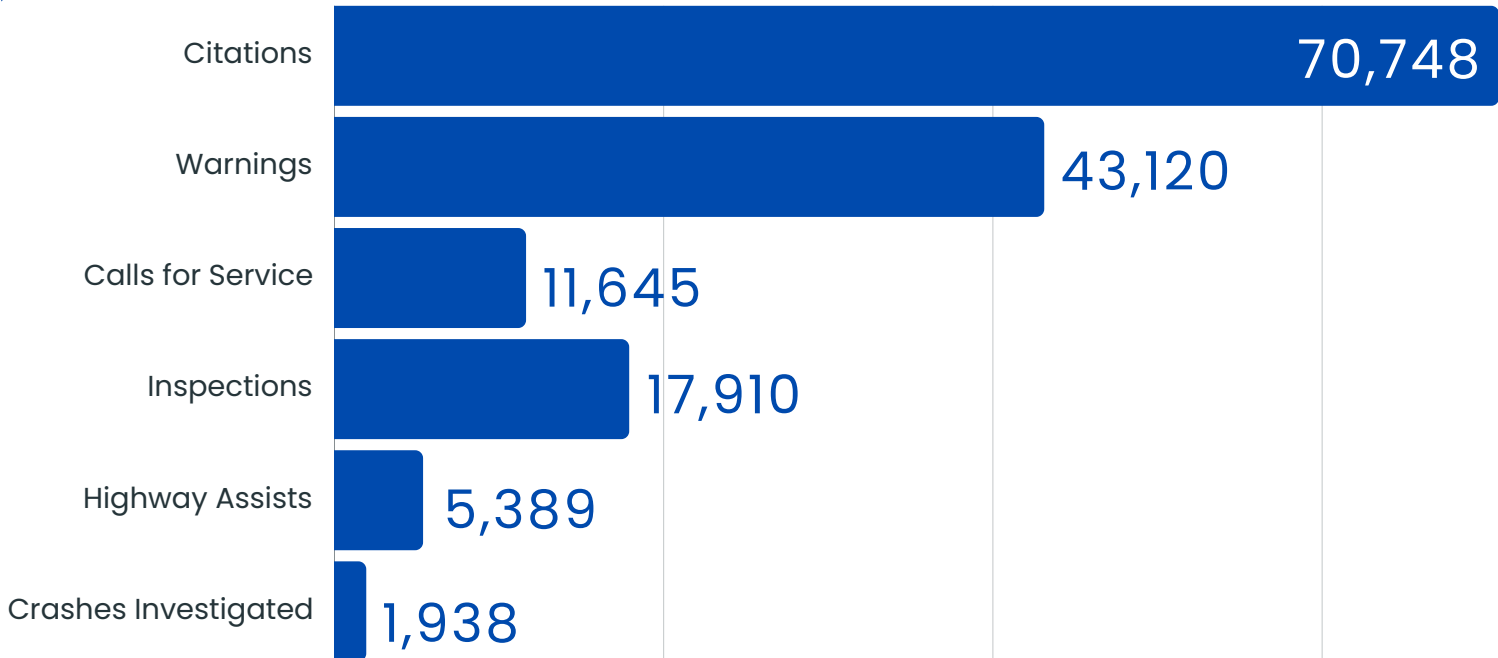
Authorized: 24 Present: 24 Vacancies: 0

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

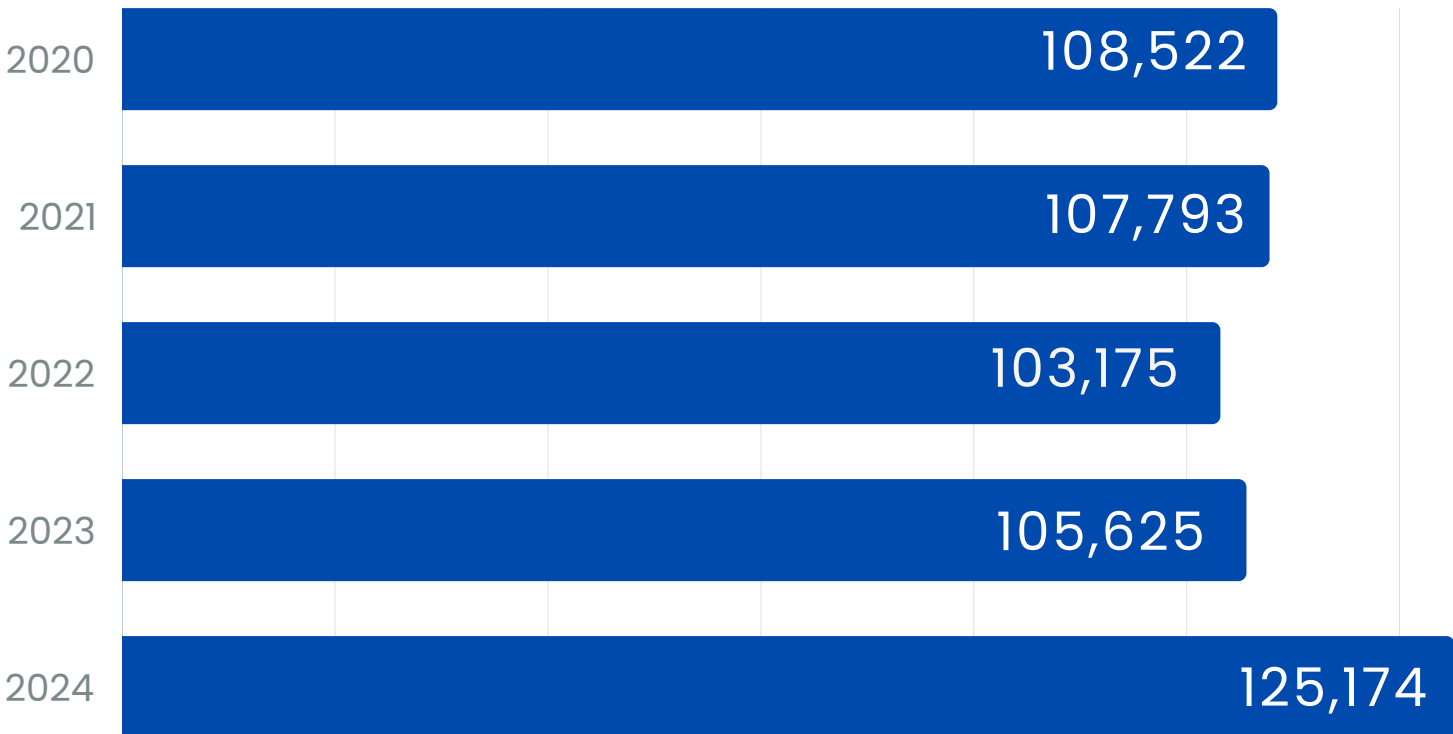


FIELD OPERATIONS

Activities: 2024

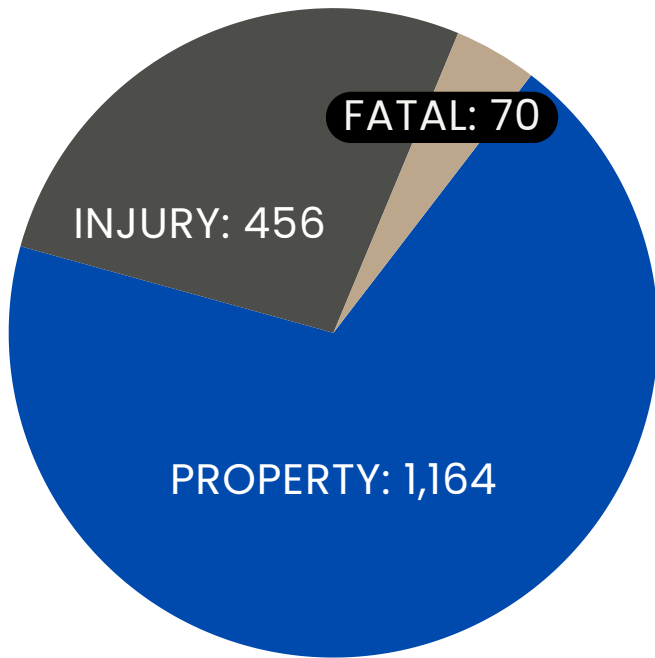


Contacts: 2020-2024

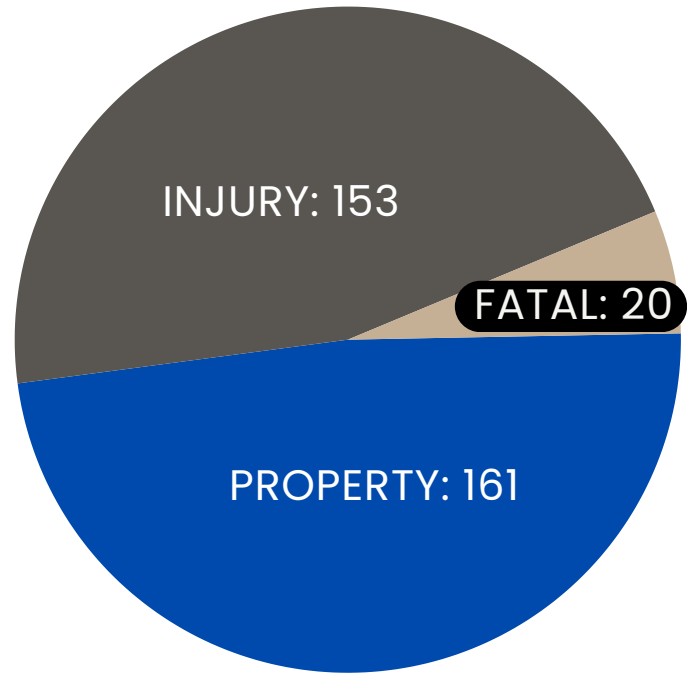


NDHP CRASH STATISTICS

Traffic Crashes by Type

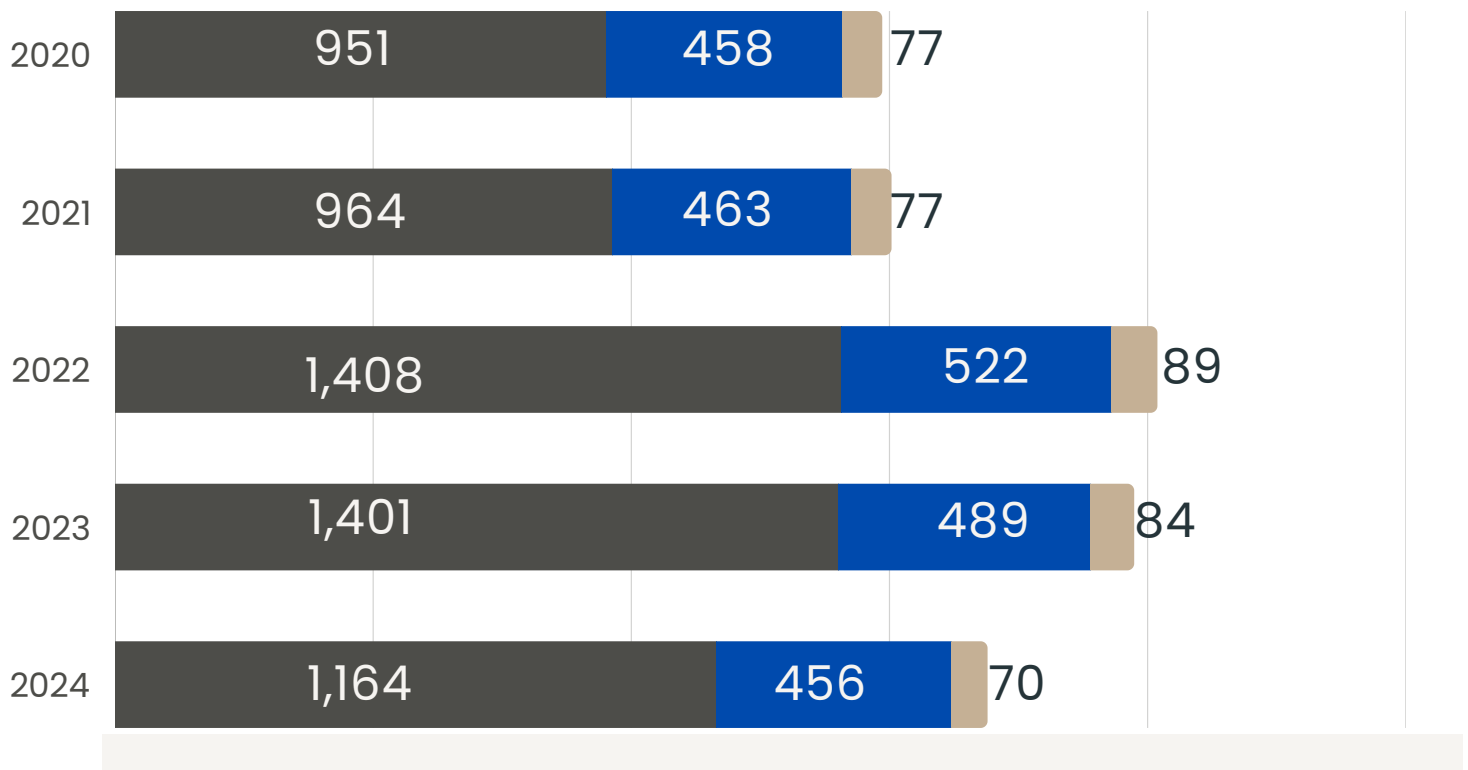


CMV Crashes by Type



Crash Investigation Type: 2020-2024

● PROPERTY ● INJURY ● FATAL



FIELD OPERATIONS

ND Crash Statistics: 2014-2024

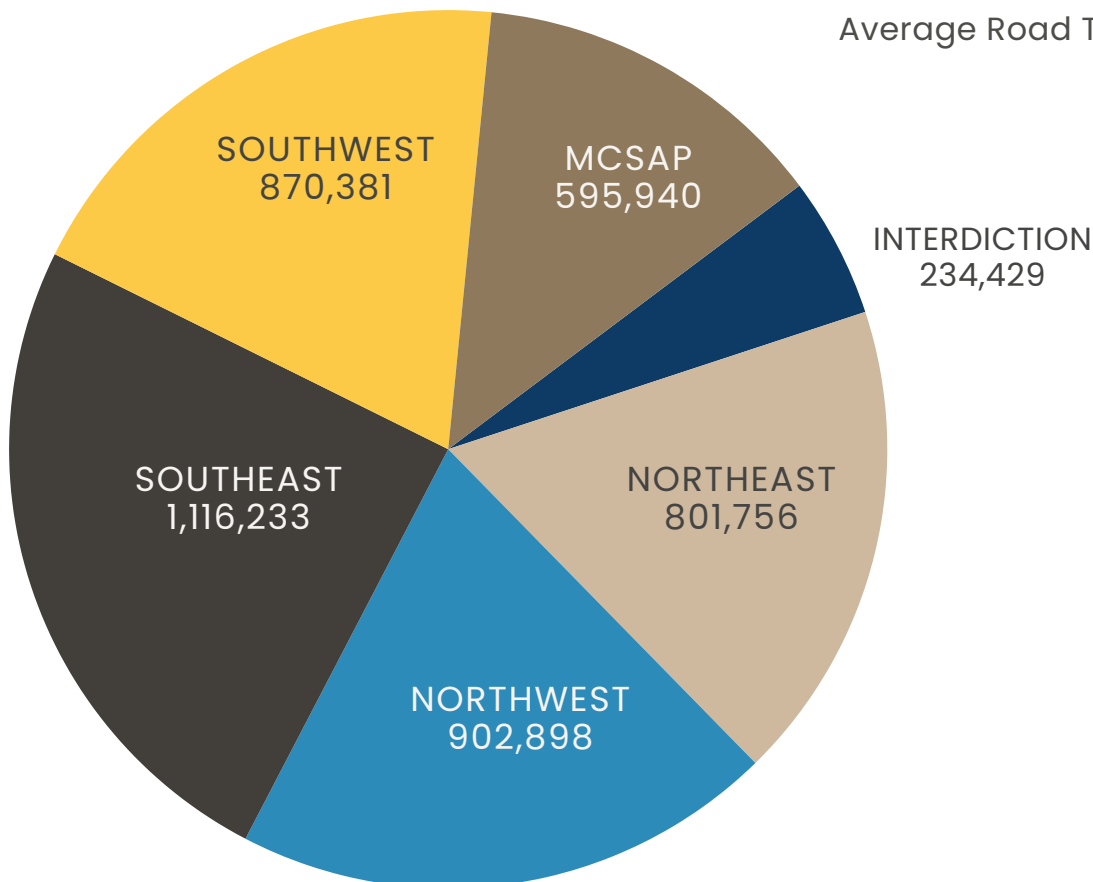
<u>Year</u>	<u>Crashes</u>	<u>Fatalities</u>	<u>Injuries</u>
2014	16,134	135	5,278
2015	15,077	131	4,917
2016	15,017	113	4,614
2017	15,280	116	4,432
2018	15,242	105	4,230
2019	14,221	100	4,258
2020	8,820	100	3,426
2021	9,585	101	3,947
2022	10,734	98	3,763
2023	10,475	106	2,828
2024*	9,698	83	2,700

*Data 2014-2023 North Dakota Crash Summary: https://visionzero.nd.gov/uploads/105/NDDOT_2022_Crash_Summary_hiresUPDATES.pdf

* 2024 Preliminary data from NDDOT

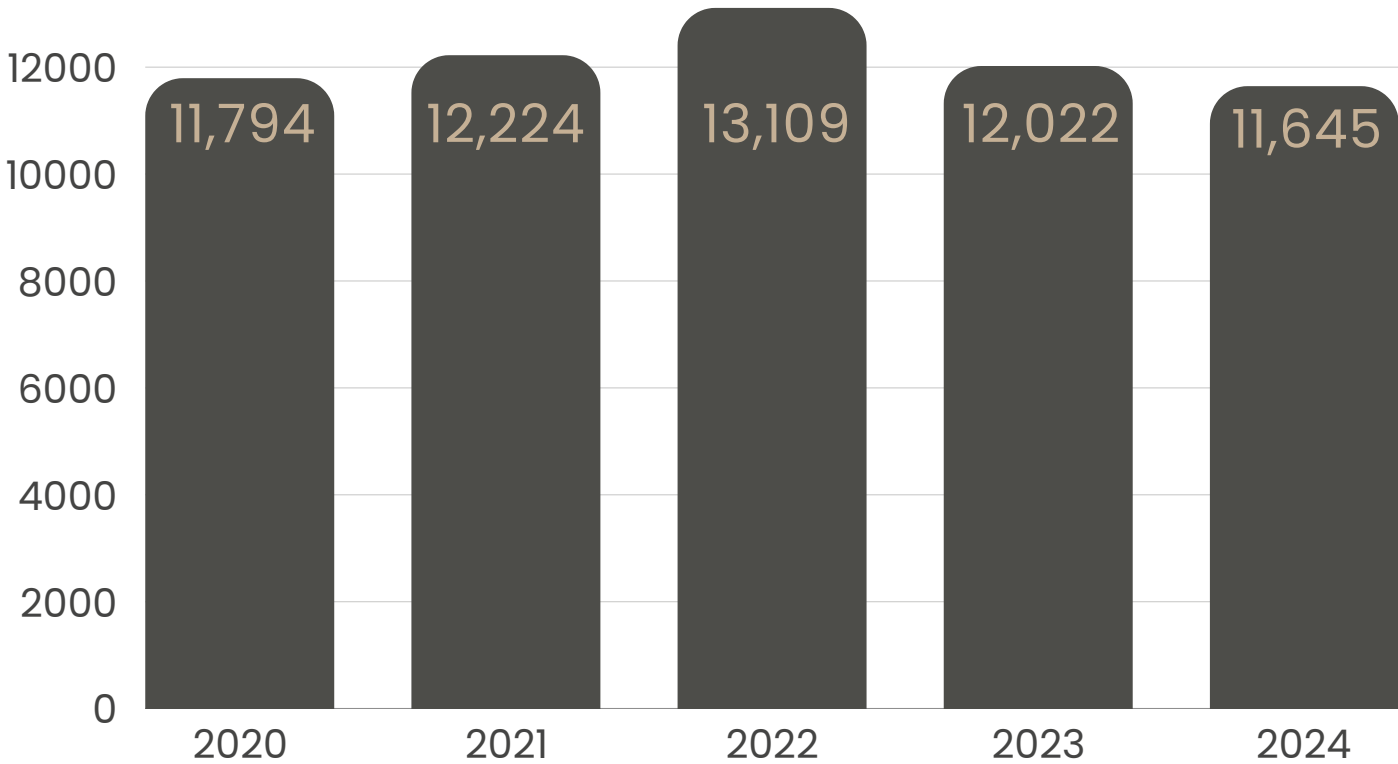
Patrol Miles:2024

Average Road Trooper Miles: 27,403

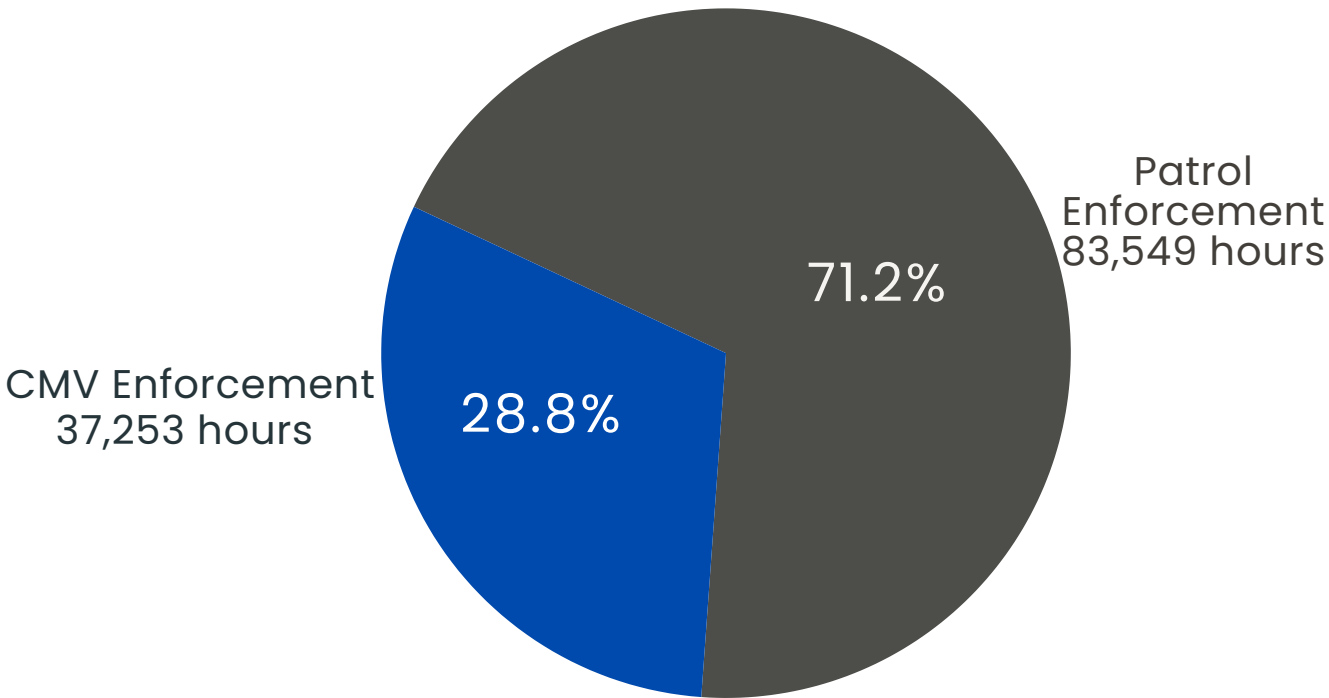


FIELD OPERATIONS

Calls for Service: 2020-2024



Patrol Hours: 2024



FIELD OPERATIONS

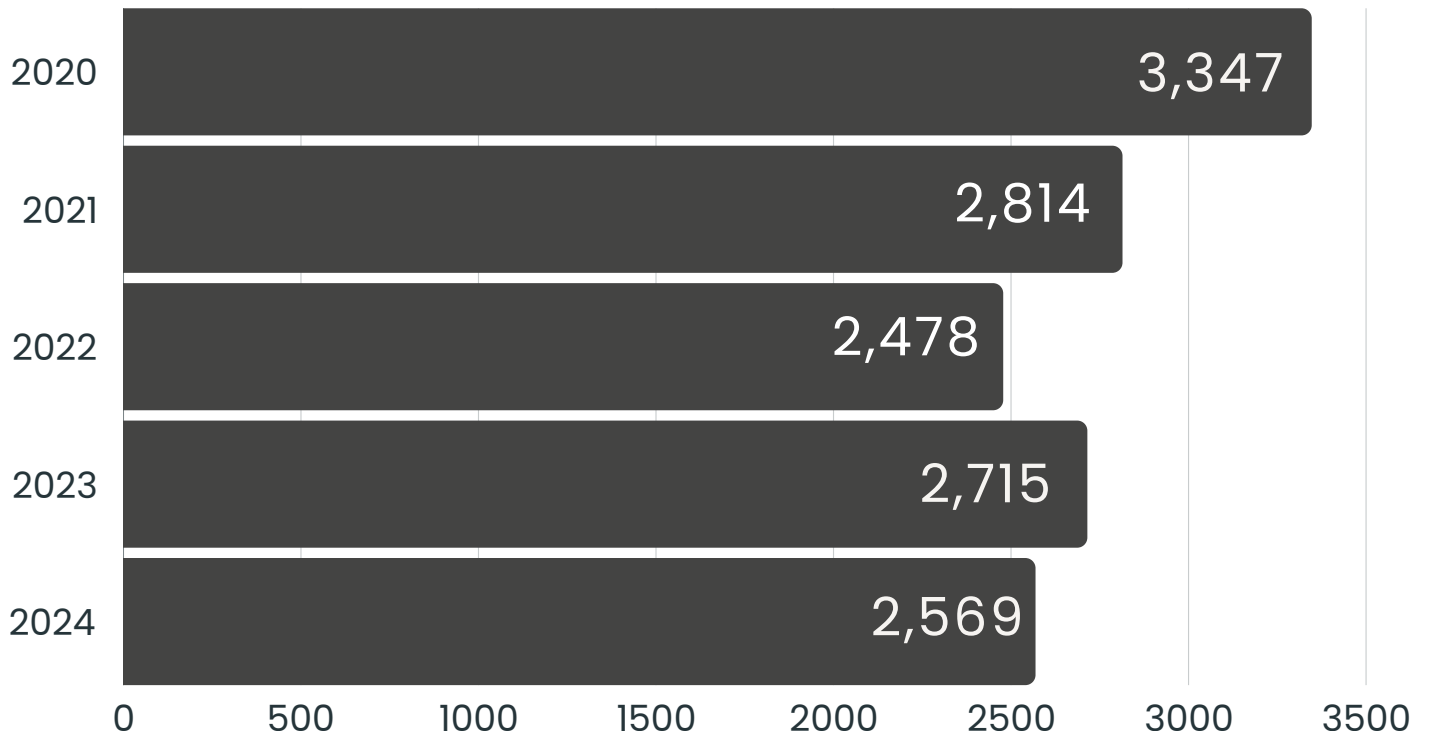
Crash Overview: 2024

Property: 1,164 Non-reportable: 503 Injury: 456 Fatal: 70

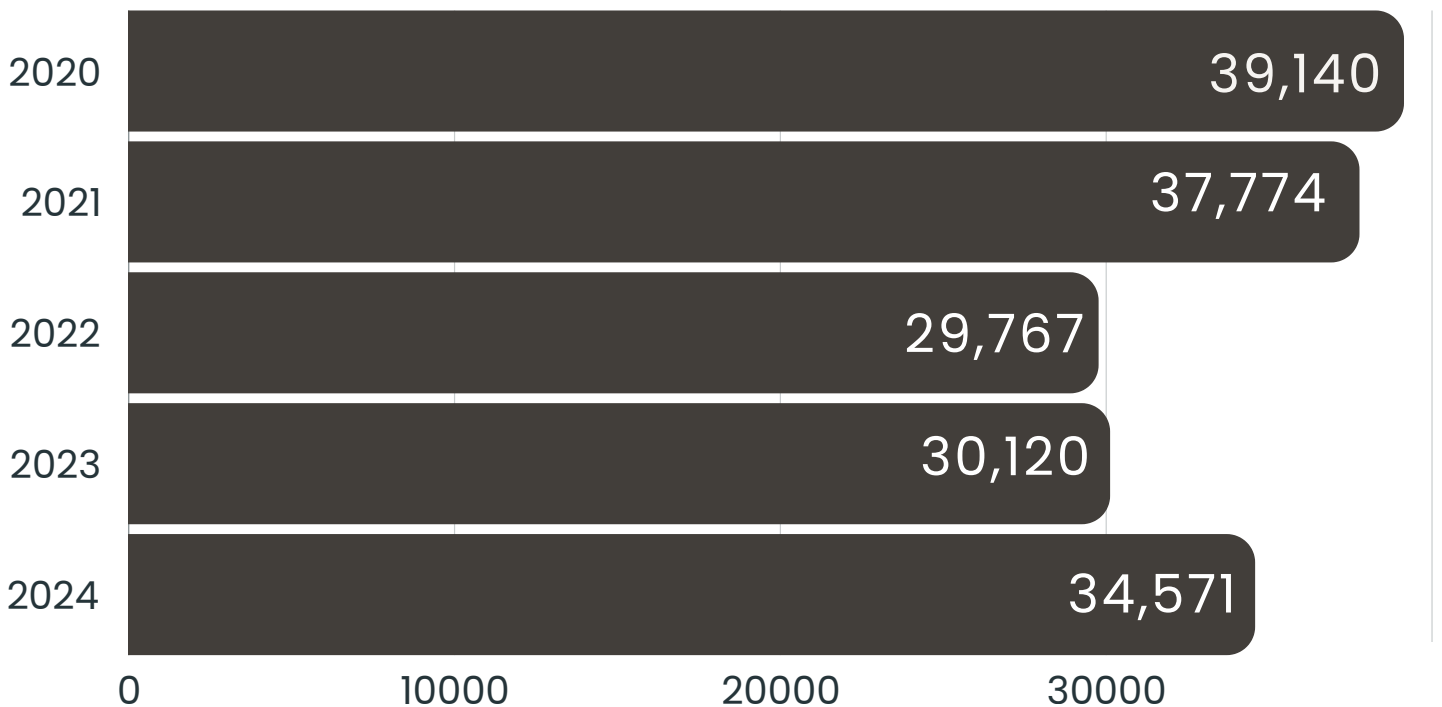
<u>County</u>	<u>Property</u>	<u>Injury</u>	<u>Fatal</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Property</u>	<u>Injury</u>	<u>Fatal</u>
Adams	0	1	1	McLean	1	4	1
Barnes	45	14	2	Mercer	0	2	1
Benson	5	12	2	Morton	102	28	5
Billings	7	6	1	Mountrail	9	5	3
Bottineau	3	0	0	Nelson	6	7	1
Bowman	0	0	0	Oliver	3	0	1
Burke	1	0	0	Pembina	4	3	1
Burleigh	91	30	3	Pierce	5	0	1
Cass	418	106	8	Ramsey	11	10	2
Cavalier	0	0	1	Ransom	2	3	4
Dickey	3	1	2	Renville	0	0	1
Divide	3	1	0	Richland	27	14	1
Dunn	3	2	1	Rolette	0	2	0
Eddy	0	3	0	Sargent	5	5	0
Emmons	3	6	1	Sheridan	2	5	1
Foster	6	0	0	Sioux	0	0	0
Golden Valley	4	2	0	Slope	1	1	0
Grand Forks	57	24	1	Stark	45	12	1
Grant	3	2	0	Steele	1	0	0
Griggs	2	4	0	Stutsman	56	13	1
Hettinger	2	0	1	Towner	1	1	0
Kidder	13	3	0	Traill	38	9	1
LaMoure	8	6	0	Walsh	7	9	1
Logan	3	1	0	Ward	58	41	3
McHenry	16	7	1	Wells	5	2	1
McIntosh	4	1	0	Williams	<u>45</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>9</u>
McKenzie	31	21	5	TOTALS:	1,164	456	70

FIELD OPERATIONS

Right of Way Violations: 2020-2024

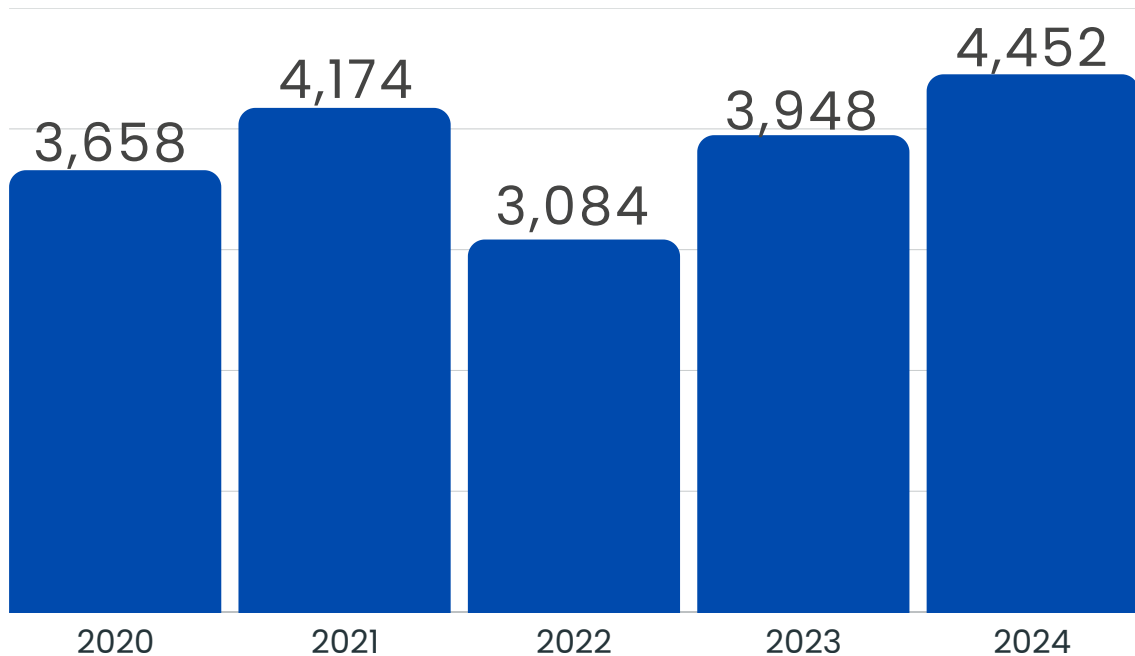


Speeding Citations: 2020-2024



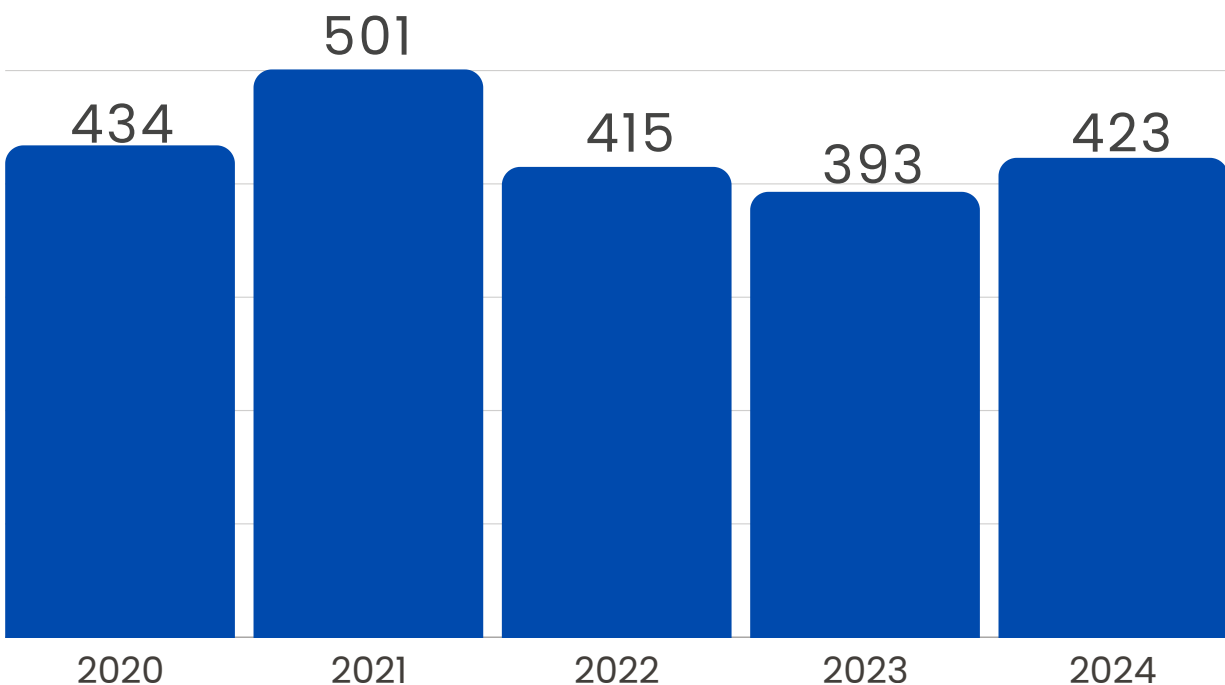
FIELD OPERATIONS

Seatbelt Citations: 2020-2024



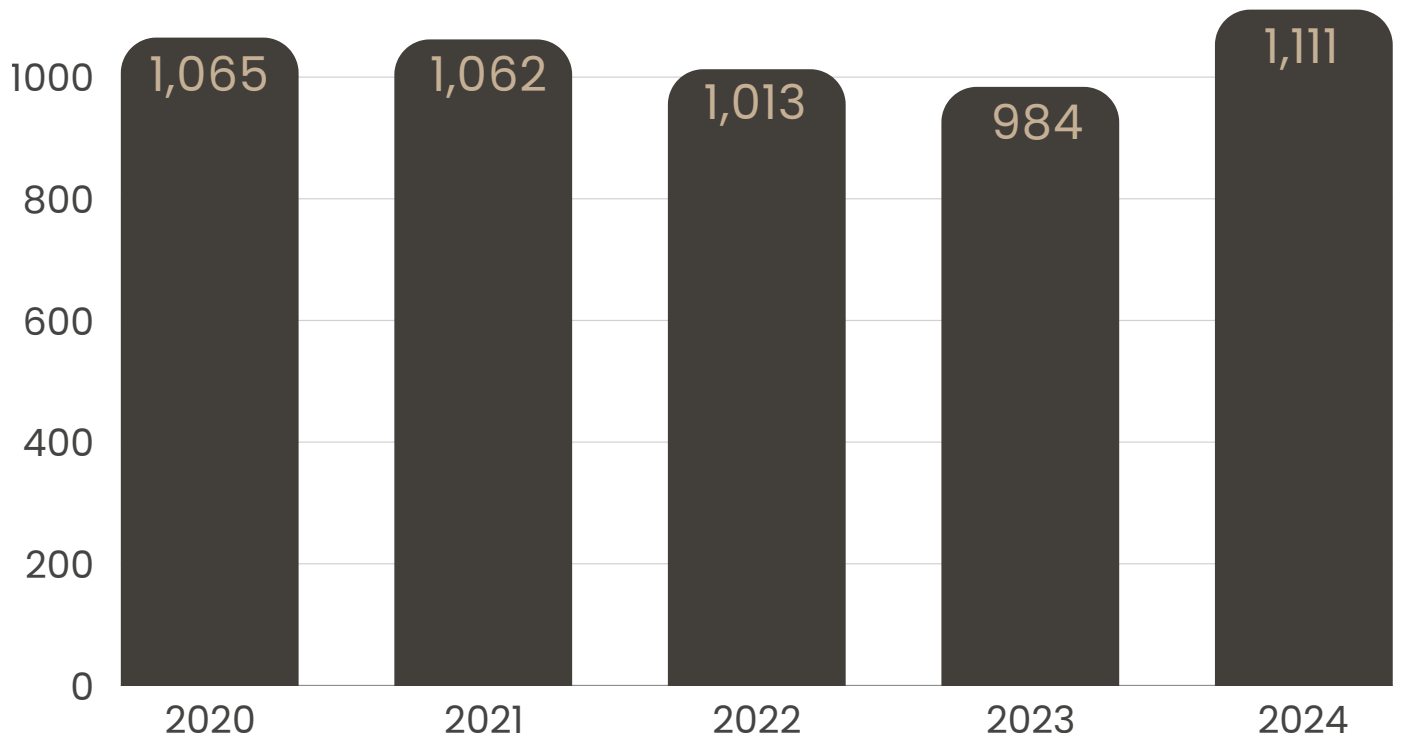
*North Dakota's primary enforcement seatbelt law went into effect August 1, 2023.

Child Restraint Citations: 2020-2024

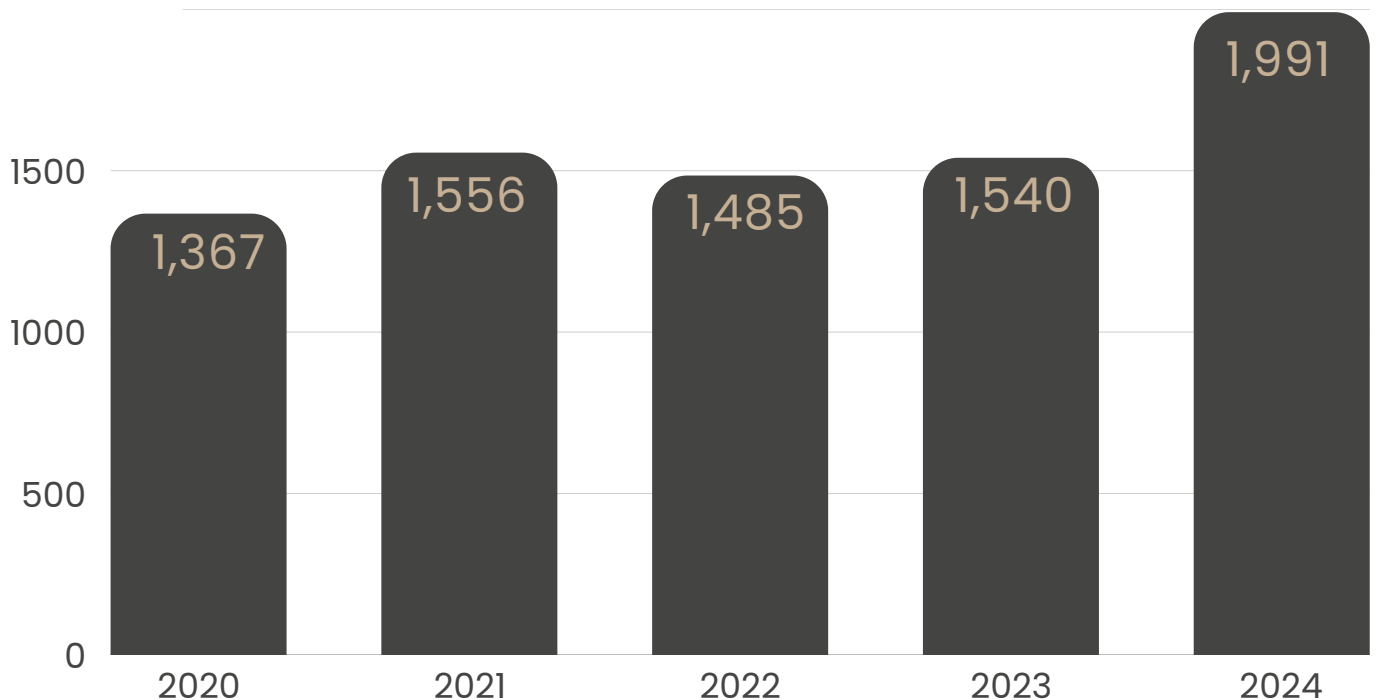


FIELD OPERATIONS

DUI Arrests: 2020-2024

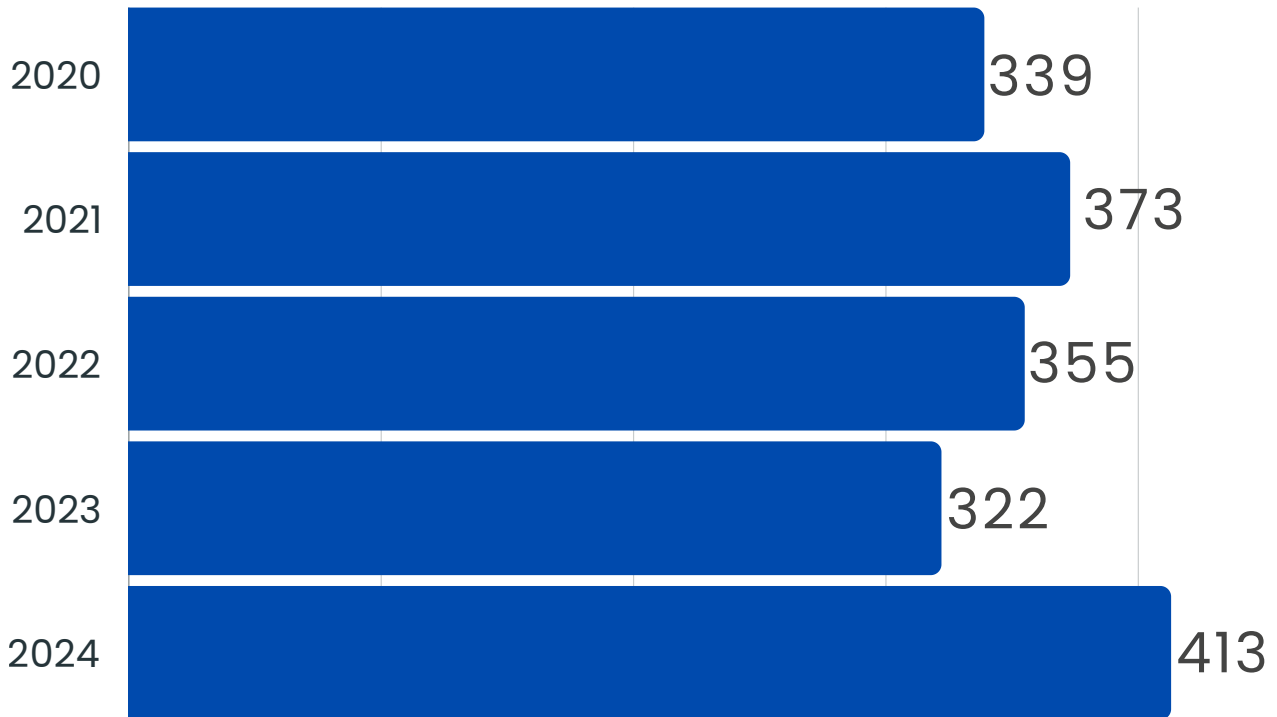


Criminal Arrests: 2020-2024

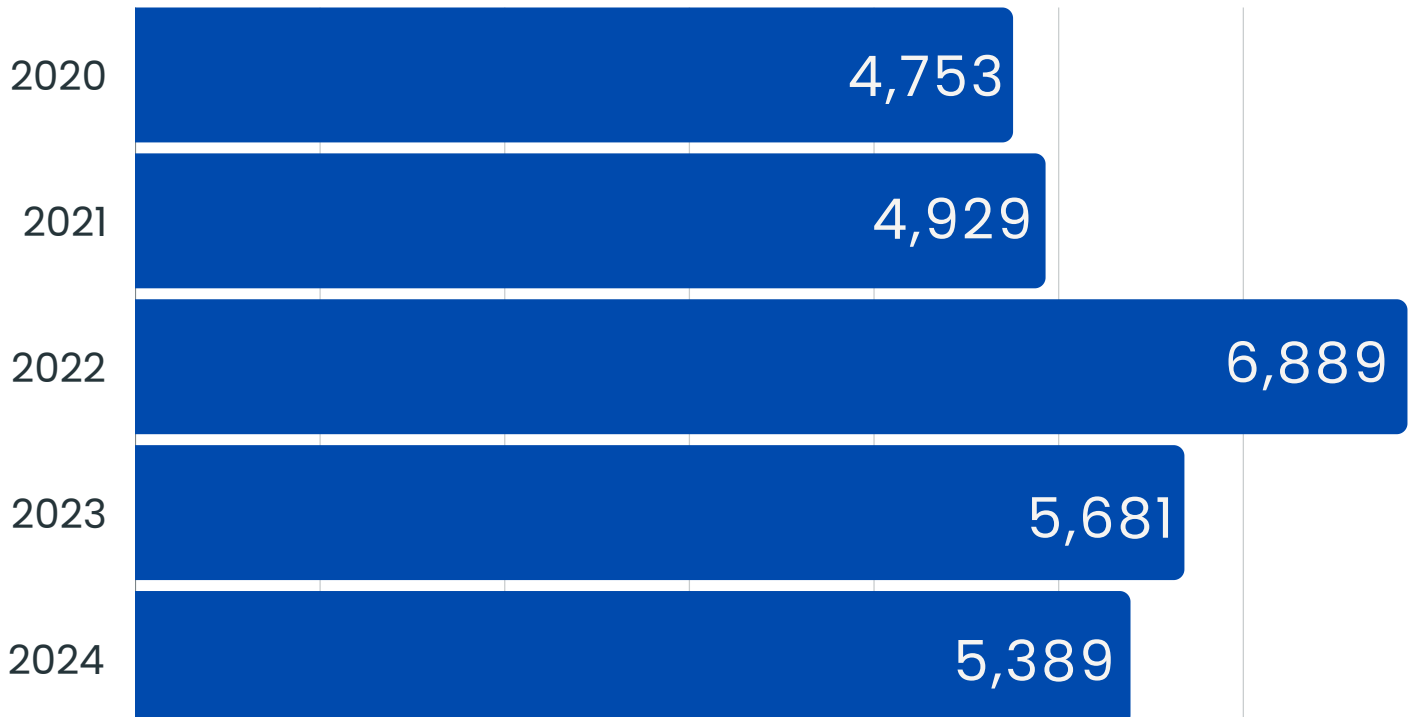


FIELD OPERATIONS

Arrests Based on Warrant: 2020-2024

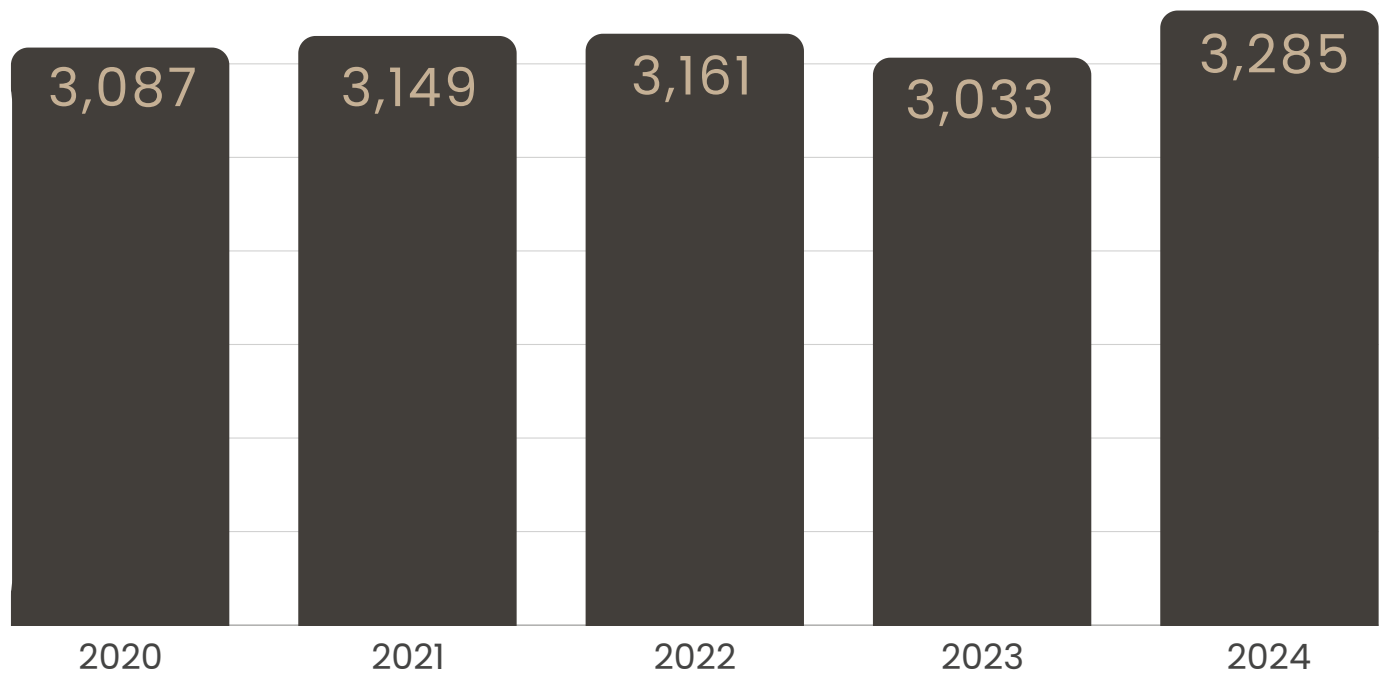


Highway Assists: 2020-2024



FIELD OPERATIONS

Assisting Other Agencies: 2020-2024

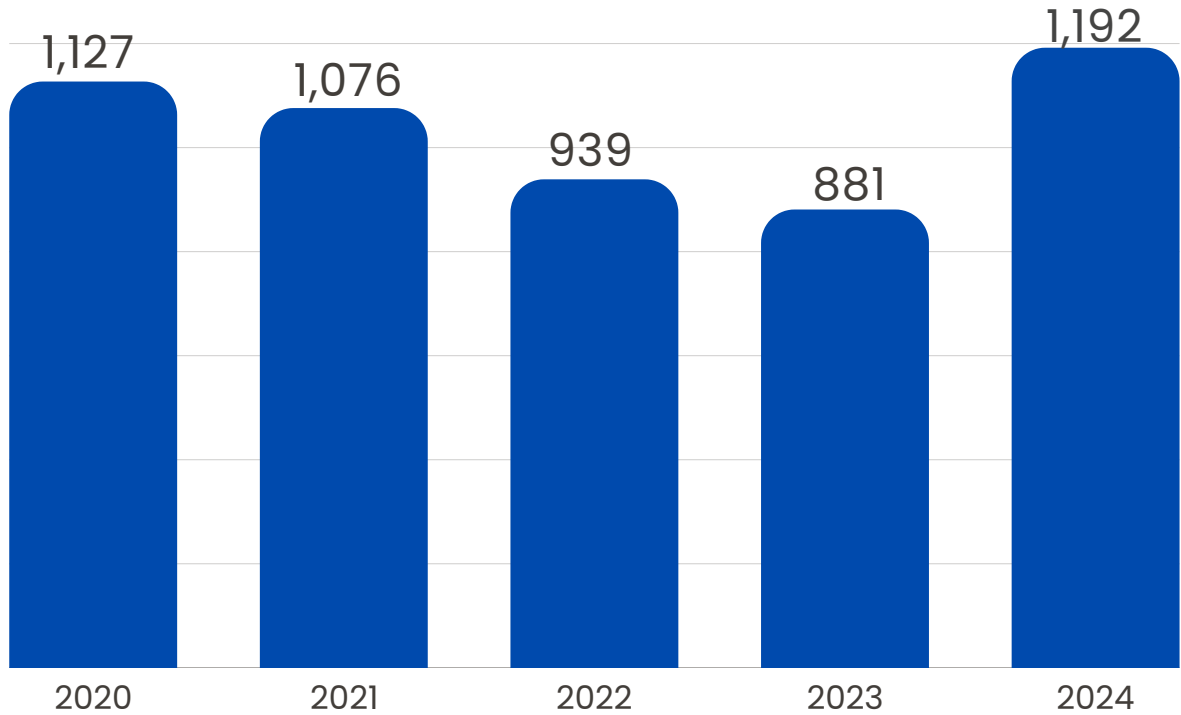


Permits Issued: 2020-2024



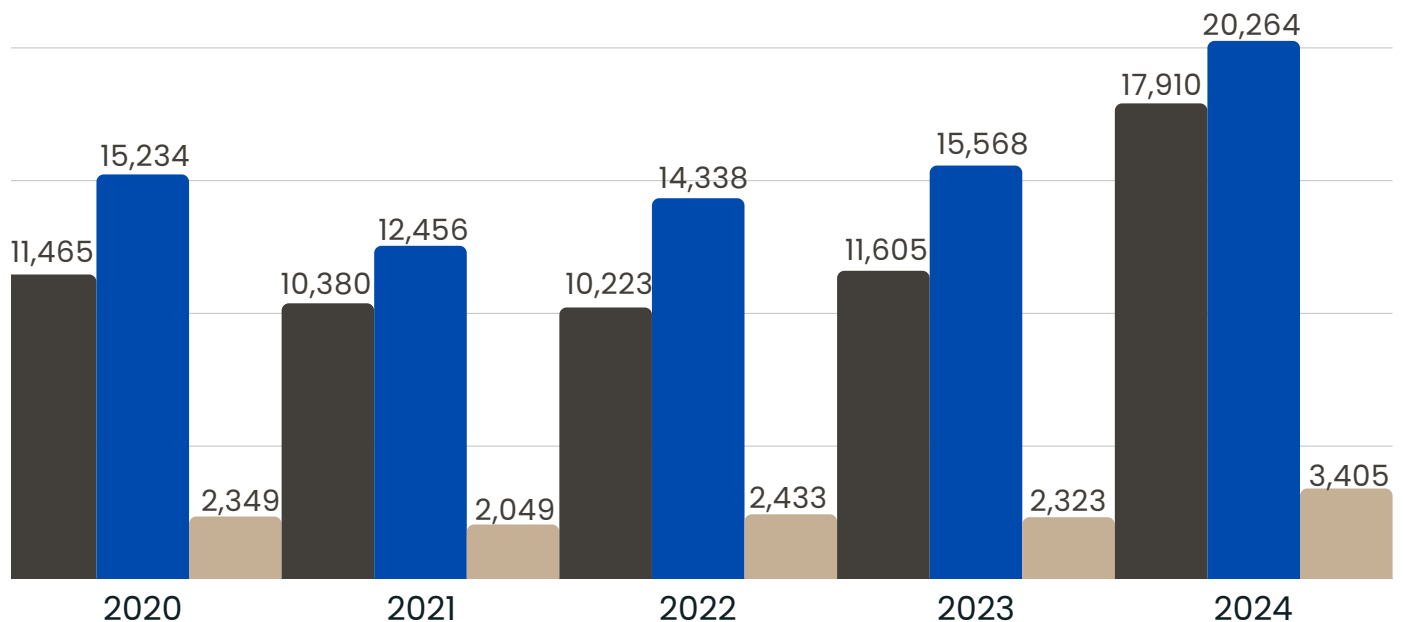
FIELD OPERATIONS

CMV Overload Enforcement Contacts: 2020-2024



CMV: Violations & Inspections: 2020-2024

● INSPECTIONS ● VIOLATIONS ● OUT OF SERVICE VIOLATIONS



REGIONAL REPORTS

Northeast Region

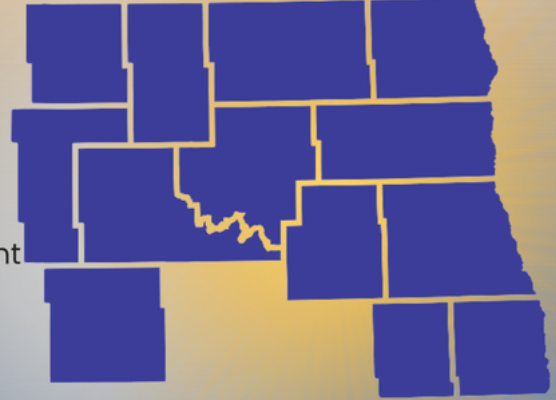
Authorized Sworn Personnel: 23

Commander: Lieutenant Ryan Panasuk

Counties: Benson, Cavalier, Eddy, Grand Forks, Nelson, Pembina, Pierce, Ramsey, Rolette, Steele, Traill, Towner, Walsh, and Wells.

NE REGIONAL SNAPSHOT 2024

- Total Traffic Stops: 17,231
- Total Citations: 10,553
- Total Warnings: 7,112
- DUI Arrests: 121
- Drug Related Charges: 297
- Criminal Violations (non-drug, non-DUI): 473 + 92 based on warrant
- Occupant Protection Contacts: 1,182
- Right of Way Contacts: 1,509
- Speed Contacts: 6,472
- Distracted Driving Contacts: 140
- Safety Talks/Presentations: 23
- Driver/Vehicle Examinations: 1,425
- Overloads: 57
- Crashes Investigated: Property: 124; Injury: 75; Fatality: 11
- Highway Assists: 821
- Calls for Service: 1,828
- Assist Other Governmental: 663



The Northeast Region contains North Dakota's third-largest city, Grand Forks, along with the nearby Grand Forks Air Force Base. Other notable locations include the city of Devils Lake and its namesake lake, which is a popular sport fishing destination throughout the year; the Pembina Port of Entry where Interstate 29 reaches Manitoba, Canada; and the Cavalier Space Force Station near Cavalier. Other population centers include Rugby, Rolla, Belcourt, Langdon, Walhalla, Cando, Cavalier, Grafton, Park River, Larimore, Northwood, Thompson, Petersburg, Michigan City, Lakota, Mayville, Hillsboro, and New Rockford. The NE Region also shares borders with two Native American nations, the Spirit Lake Nation near Devils Lake, and the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa near Belcourt.

Interstate 29 (I-29) is the primary significant highway through the NE Region, carrying north and south traffic. International commercial traffic comprises a large part of vehicles traversing I-29. US Highway 2 crosses the region east to west and is the next most significant highway.

REGIONAL REPORTS

Northeast Region

The NE Region is home to two of the NDHP's Canine Teams, one narcotic detector (as part of the Criminal Interdiction Team) and one tracking canine. The NDHP Canine Team assistant coordinator resides in the region, as does the NDHP's Crash Reconstruction Team coordinator and the Critical Incident Response/CISM Team Coordinator.

Winter 2023-2024 was a relatively easy one, with snowfall well below average and few wind/snow weather events. Likewise, spring flooding was a non-event for the region.

Among more notable NDHP-involved events and incidents that occurred in the NE Region and garnered attention were a fatality crash that occurred at the intersection of US Highway 2 and Airport Road (16th St NE) west of Grand Forks, in which a young child was killed by an impaired driver; a fatality crash at the intersection of 16th St NE and 32nd Ave S, in which a juvenile driver failed to stop for a stop intersection which resulted in the death of another driver and injuries to several passengers; and a murder/barricaded subject incident in Larimore where a subject was barricaded in a home and troopers were the first law enforcement on scene. The crash at Highway 2 and Airport Road again stirred area discussion about perceived safety deficiencies of the intersection, leading county commissioners and state legislators to weigh in and several possible redesigns to be brought to the public.

Larger events that occurred in the region included the Annual Devils Lake Volunteer Fire Department Ice Fishing Tournament; the Devils Run Car Show in Devils Lake; the Greater Grand Forks Fair; weekly car races during the summer in Grand Forks; University of North Dakota Fighting Hawks Hockey; and various other events throughout the region, including at the Spirit Lake and Sky Dancer Casinos. Larger concert events in Grand Forks included Sam Hunt in March 2024; Chris Stapleton in April 2024; and Zach Bryan in August 2024. UND Hockey routinely draws sold-out crowds of 11,000-12,000 to the Ralph Engelstad Arena in Grand Forks, equating to nearly 20% of the city's population.

Northeast Region team members participated in a number of community outreach and education events: NDSU Lake Region Roundup; Grand Forks High School law enforcement forum; Traffic Incident Management training with Dunseith Fire Department and area first responders; the Northern Valley Law Enforcement Police Week Memorial; North Dakota Special Olympics Torch Run and Polar Plunge; Grand Cities Celebration; Steele County Night Out; Thompson Community Fair; a K9 event in conjunction with ND State Historical Society's Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile

REGIONAL REPORTS

Northeast Region

Museum facility; car seat checks; career fairs; and many other safety presentations. NE Region personnel also assisted the Spirit Lake Nation with a search for missing persons in April 2024. Several NE Region personnel participated in a joint active threat exercise with area law enforcement and first responder agencies in Larimore. The NE Region hosted two NDHP interns in 2024.

In late 2024, local agencies in Grand Forks and Grand Forks County, along with the Grand Forks Public Safety Answering Point, transitioned to encrypted radio communications on the 800 MHz networks. Good working relationships among agencies and the dispatch center allowed NDHP portable radios capable of operating on the 800 MHz network to be rapidly updated with encryption keys to permit NDHP personnel to maintain communications with partner law enforcement agencies.

Staffing Changes:

- Five new troopers graduated from the LETA and joined the Northeast Region:
 - **Trooper Zackary Kennedy** (Cando)
 - **Trooper Kolton Krance** (Grafton)
 - **Trooper Jorge Elizondo** (Hillsboro)
 - **Trooper Shane Rothenberger** (Rugby)
 - **Trooper Alekzander Harvey** (Grafton)
- Transfers into and out of region
 - **Trooper Cody Harstad** (Hillsboro) transferred from the NE to MCSAP
 - **Trooper James Myers III** (Grand Forks) transferred from the NE to the Criminal Interdiction Team
 - **Trooper Brett Mlynar** (Devils Lake) transferred from the NE to the Criminal Interdiction Team
 - **Trooper Reese Burckhard** (Rugby) transferred from the NE to the SW Region
 - **Trooper Kolton Krance** (Grafton) transferred from the NE to the SW Region
 - **Trooper Camron McFarland** (Rolla) transferred from the NE to the NW Region
- Bloodhound **K9 Judge** joined **Trooper Nevon Heisler** (Grand Forks)
- Retirements/Resignations
 - **Trooper Kyle Stern** (Hillsboro) and partner **K9 Draco** retired from the NDHP
 - **K9 Tank** (teamed with **Trooper Cody Harstad**) retired
 - **Trooper Remington Timothy** (Rugby) resigned

REGIONAL REPORTS

Northwest Region

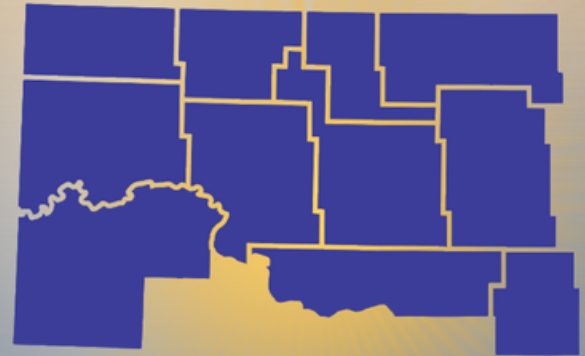
Authorized Sworn Personnel: 27

Commander: Lieutenant Christopher D. Messer

Counties: Bottineau, Burke, Divide, McKenzie, McHenry, McLean (north), Mountrail, Renville, Sheridan, Ward, and Williams.

NW REGIONAL SNAPSHOT 2024

- Total Citations: 15,721
- Total Warnings: 8,681
- DUI Arrests: 336
- Drug Related Charges: 243
- Criminal Arrests: 1,299
- Occupant Protection Contacts: 3,225 citations, 34 warnings
- Right of Way Contacts: 826 citations, 1,224 warnings
- Speed Contacts: 8,090 citations, 661 warnings
- Safety Talks/Presentations: 54
- Driver/Vehicle Examinations: 1,815
- Overloads: 159
- Crashes Investigated: Property: 182; Injury: 141; Fatality: 24
- Highway Assists: 1,128
- Calls for Service: 2,161
- Assist Other Governmental: 988



The Northwest Region contains population centers of Minot, Williston, Watford City, a large portion of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation and the Minot Air Force Base. The Northwest Region is home to several oil and gas producing counties with consistent commercial motor vehicle traffic and varying population counts and traffic volume dependent on this industry. The Northwest Region is also home to several ports of entry with Canada. Major traffic routes in the Northwest Region consist of Highway 2 (east/west), Highway 85 and Highway 83 (north/south), and Highway 52 (southeast/northwest).

Larger events that occurred in the region included the North Dakota State Fair with an attendance of 342,420 people over nine days. Multiple Troopers from all other regions came to the Minot area during the fair. Over 50 DUI arrests were made during the fair.

REGIONAL REPORTS

Northwest Region

Other events included the McKenzie County Fair, the Upper Missouri Valley Fair, and multiple other events that occur at event venues across the region in Minot, Williston, Watford City, Four Bears Casino, and Lake Metigoshe.

Community outreach and engagement is a critical piece to traffic safety in the NW Region.

Northwest Regional Troopers participated in the following community outreach events:

- Numerous school visits and safety talks
- TIMS training for area Fire Department
- “Coffee with a Cop”
- Car Seat Checkups
- College career fairs
- Back to school drive – Williston Walmart
- National Night Out
- ND State Fair Booth
- Alive @ 25 classes

Staffing Changes:

- Seven troopers graduated from the LETA and joined the Northwest Region:
 - **Trooper Jacob Hudson**
 - **Trooper Landon Jacobson**
 - **Trooper Mykal Porter**
 - **Trooper Arlen Rohrich Jr.**
 - **Trooper Dawson Brost**
 - **Trooper Tucker Williams**
 - **Trooper Warden Dahlgren**
- Transfers into and out of region:
 - **Trooper Anthony Potter** returned to the agency
 - **Trooper Landon Jacobson** transferred to the SW Region
 - **Trooper Alyson Moses** transferred to the Motor Carrier Division
 - **Trooper Christa Kovarik** transferred to the Motor Carrier Division
 - **Trooper Darby Kessner** transferred to the Motor Carrier Division
- Promotions:
 - **Trooper Coby Hubble** was promoted to Northwest Regional Sergeant
- Resignations:
 - **Sergeant Michelle Romans**
 - **Trooper Peter Miley**
 - **Trooper Mykal Porter**
 - **Trooper Tucker McDonald**

REGIONAL REPORTS

Southwest Region

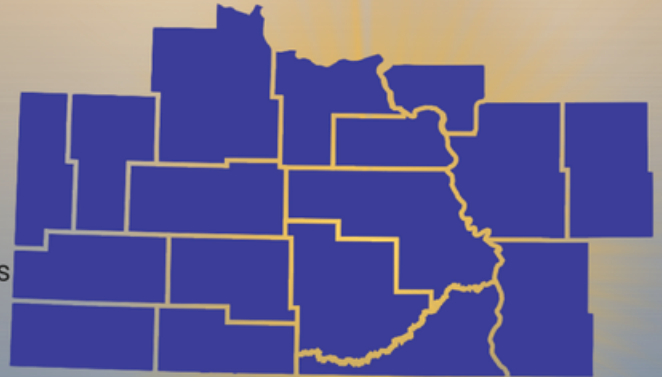
Authorized Sworn Personnel: 29

Commander: Lieutenant Ryan Duletski/Lieutenant Dan Haugen

Counties: Adams, Billings, Bowman, Burleigh, Dunn, Emmons, Golden Valley, Grant, Hettinger, Kidder, McLean (south), Mercer, Morton, Oliver, Sioux, Slope, and Stark.

SW REGIONAL SNAPSHOT 2024

- Total Citations: 14,084
- Total Warnings: 11,956
- DUI Arrests: 309
- Drug Related Charges: 300
- Criminal Violations: 1,306
- Occupant Protection Contacts: 2,060 citations, 68 warnings
- Right of Way Contacts: 786 citations, 1,668 warnings
- Speed Contacts: 6,939 citations, 1,838 warnings
- Safety Talks/Presentations: 78
- Driver/Vehicle Examinations: 941
- Overloads: 18
- Crashes Investigated: 368: Property: 258; Injury: 93; Fatality: 17
- Highway Assists: 1,026
- Calls for Service: 3,390
- Assist Other Governmental: 879



The Southwest Region contains North Dakota's Capital City of Bismarck and the second largest population center in the state. The Southwest Region has high traffic corridors that include Interstate 94 and US Highway 83 along with US Highway 85. Southwest Region Troopers remain vigilant in keeping our roadways and communities safe.

Larger events that occurred in the region included Country Fest in New Salem; McQuade's softball tournament in Bismarck; the ND State Track Meet in Bismarck; Memorial Day event at the ND Veteran's Cemetery; Roughrider Days in Dickinson; and the Medora musical. The region also conducted two DUI checkpoints and an aircraft detail with Mandan Police Department to target fleeing motorists.

Community outreach remains a priority for the Southwest Region, we participated in car seat checks, school safety talks, rollover simulator events, K9 demonstrations, Route 1000 presentations, Under the Trooper's Hat articles, Alive at 25 presentations, Safety Village presentations, ride-alongs and Boys State.

REGIONAL REPORTS

Southwest Region

Staffing Changes:

- Transfers into and out of region:
 - **Trooper Reece Burckhard** transferred to Bismarck
 - **Trooper Joshua Rode** transferred to Motor Carrier Operations
 - **Trooper Brady Aberle** transferred to Bismarck
 - **Trooper Evan Johnson** transferred to Bismarck
 - **Trooper Kolton Krance** transferred to Steele
 - **Trooper Damian Wright** transferred to Bismarck
 - **Trooper Landon Jacobson** transferred to Beulah
- Promotions
 - **Lt. Daniel Haugen** was appointed to Superintendent and transferred to Headquarters

REGIONAL REPORTS

Southeast Region

Authorized Sworn Personnel: 35

Commander: Captain Bryan Niewind

Counties: Barnes, Cass, Dickey, Eddy, Foster, Griggs, LaMoure, Logan, McIntosh, Ransom, Richland, Sargent, and Stutsman.

SE REGIONAL SNAPSHOT 2024

- Total Citations: 27,495
- Total Warnings: 15,124
- DUI Arrests: 380
- Drug Related Charges: 862
- Other Criminal Arrests: 1,178
- Occupant Protection Contacts: 3,567
- Right of Way Contacts: 5,834
- Speed Contacts: 16,387
- Safety Talks/Presentations: 78
- Driver/Vehicle Examinations: 2,486
- Overloads: 79
- Crashes Investigated: Non-reportable: 177; Property: 558; Injury: 172; Fatality: 17
- Highway Assists: 2,467
- Calls for Service: 4,479
- Assist Other Governmental: 829
- State Property Investigations: 87



The North Dakota Highway Patrol Southeast Region remains the busiest region in the agency, serving as a central hub for manufacturing, business, education, healthcare, hospitality, and technology industries. Two federal interstate systems intersect in Fargo, creating unique challenges in Cass County. Several federal highways cross the region, and heavily traveled state and local roads are patrolled as well. These roadways see significant commercial and passenger vehicle traffic that is passing through, coming from or destined for the Southeast Region. Heavier traffic volumes generate significant workload for SE Region members each day. Along with the high traffic volumes, service calls, major events, and key businesses all contribute to the necessity of the SE Region's current staffing. Additionally, the presence of several universities increases the area's population during the academic year and add to traffic demands. Southeast Region personnel meet each day's challenges head-on and are committed to providing motorists a safe motoring environment, leading to safe communities.

REGIONAL REPORTS

Southeast Region

The SE Region continues to host many of North Dakota's largest events, including NDSU Bison Football, the Red River Valley Fair, RibFest in Fargo, the ND Winter Show in Valley City, Big Iron in West Fargo, and the Stutsman County Fair. In 2024, the Fargo AirSho attracted an additional 30,000 attendees over two days to witness the US Navy Blue Angels in action. While local communities hold celebrations year-round, most take place during the summer months and create larger concentrations of traffic in smaller communities. Major venues such as the Fargodome, Scheels Arena, Red River Valley Fairgrounds, The Lights in West Fargo, Bluestem Amphitheater, and UP District Festival Field host concerts and events that draw crowds from North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Montana, and parts of Canada. Meanwhile, the FM Diversion construction project continues to impact traffic throughout Cass County, including along I-94, I-29 and our local road network.

Community outreach and education remain top priorities for SE Region members, who dedicated 2,035 hours to community policing efforts throughout the year. The NDHP participated in National Night to Unite events in August in West Fargo, Jamestown, Hope, Grandin, and Buffalo. Other key events included the Hometown Heroes Academy and Honkin' Haulin' Hands on Trucks in West Fargo; the Sanford Kid's Safety Safari at the Red River Zoo; the Sanford Ambulance First Responder Appreciation Event; and the Fargo PD Picnic. In Jamestown, officers took part in the Park & Rec Kid's Safety Day at the Civic Center, while Cops N' Kids Christmas shopping programs were held in Fargo, Jamestown, Valley City, Wahpeton, Lisbon, New Rockford, and Carrington.

SE Region members also participated in the NDHP Toy Drive, collecting hundreds of donated toys outside the Fargo Walmart with the Cass County Sheriff's Office and outside the Jamestown Walmart with the Jamestown Police Department. These donations were distributed through local programs to benefit children during the holiday season.

Safety education efforts extended across the region, including presentations for driver's education courses, Route 1000 classes, Alive @ 25 programs, and various school and civic groups. Numerous ride-along opportunities were provided for high school and college students interested in law enforcement. ND Vision Zero remains a key initiative, with events held at Vision Zero schools in Oakes, LaMoure, Casselton, and Northern Cass. Additionally, SE Region members maintained a strong media presence, delivering safety messages to the public year-round.

REGIONAL REPORTS

Southeast Region

Staffing Changes:

- Seven troopers graduated from the LETA and joined the Southeast Region:
 - **Trooper Gregory Conlin** stationed in Fargo
 - **Trooper Casey Fetch** stationed in Jamestown
 - **Trooper Frank Holdburg** stationed in Jamestown
 - **Trooper Joshua Fastnacht** stationed in Jamestown
 - **Trooper Jordan Noyes** stationed in Jamestown
 - **Trooper Jacob Walker** stationed in Wahpeton
- Promotions
 - **Trooper Jonathan Skalicky** was promoted to Southeast Regional Sergeant, Jamestown
- Transfers into and out of region:
 - **Sergeant Evan Savageau** transferred to HQ-Bismarck
 - **Trooper Evan Johnson** transferred to the Southwest Region-Bismarck
 - **Trooper Damian Wright** transferred to Southwest Region-Bismarck
 - **Trooper Paul Sova** transferred to Motor Carrier Operations-Jamestown
- Departure:
 - **Trooper Trenton Stewart**, Fargo

REGIONAL REPORTS

Motor Carrier Operations

Authorized Sworn Personnel: 26

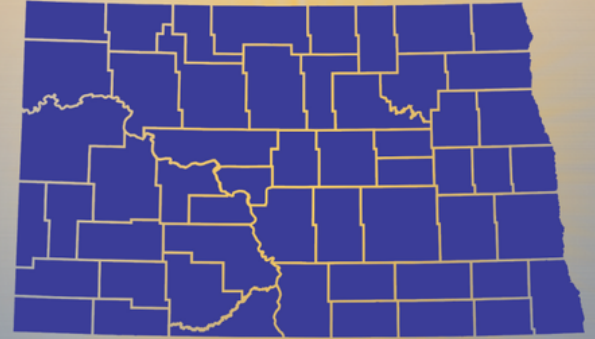
Commander: Lieutenant Luke Hendrickson

Counties: Statewide jurisdiction

Civilian Staff: 3 New Entrant Auditors; 1 Civilian Inspector, 3 Permit Technicians, and 1 Administrative Assistant

MCO REGIONAL SNAPSHOT 2024

- Total Citations: 1,905
- Total Warnings: 1,002
- DUI Arrests: 8
- Drug Related Charges: 10
- Criminal Violations (includes DUI and drug arrests): 85
- Occupant Protection Contacts: 216 citations, 1 warning
 - CMV Seatbelt Violations: 178
- Right of Way Contacts: 129 citations, 199 warnings
- Speed Contacts: 603 citations, 159 warnings
- Safety Talks/Presentations: 53
- Driver/Vehicle Examinations: Level I: 2,994; Level II: 2,628; Level III: 958; Level VI (radioactive): 4
- Overloads: 840
- Crashes Investigated: Property: 49; Injury: 11; Fatality: 1
- Highway Assists: 413
- Calls for Service: 735
- Assist Other Governmental: 144



Motor Carrier Operations continued to support the overall mission of the North Dakota Highway Patrol and the MCSAP Commercial Vehicle Safety Plan to reduce the injury and fatal crash rate with commercial motor vehicles in North Dakota. Motor Carrier Operations was busy with mobile enforcement of traffic laws, size and weight laws, education and outreach, roadside and fixed site inspections, new entrant audits, safety investigations and permitting needs of the commercial motor carrier industry in North Dakota. Each quarter an oil field blitz, a border enforcement day, seatbelt week, and mobile traffic enforcement details were scheduled. Troopers were directed to more mobile traffic enforcement (MTE) days to have them visible in random areas within their respective work areas.

REGIONAL REPORTS

Motor Carrier Operations

In January 2024 the use of the CMV inspection program ASPEN was discontinued and was replaced with SAFESPECT. SAFESPECT is a program that was developed by the FMCSA and is being utilized by all members of the NDHP to complete CMV inspections. In July 2024 the CVIEW (Commercial Vehicle Information Exchange Window) project was completed. In August the program went live and is accessible to all NDHP personnel who are certified to conduct a CMV inspection. The CVIEW vendor is Drivewyze.

In September 2024, Motor Carrier Operations purchased 3 Skydio X10 drones with funds from the 2022 bipartisan infrastructure bill. Trooper Brandon Wade, Trooper Joshua Rode and Trooper Jackson Loeffel were selected as the first MCO drone pilots. These drones will be used at inspection facilities and during CMV related traffic details to screen vehicles or drivers for violations and for enforcement of unsafe driving practices.

In December 2024 the NDHP was recognized by the FMCSA as being ITD and High Priority Core Compliant. This level of compliance was achieved through the successful implementation of the CVIEW program. Being a ITD and High Priority Core Compliant agency makes the NDHP eligible for additional funding through FMCSA ITD and High Priority grants.

Larger events that occurred in the region included: Touch a Truck, Mandan; Special Olympics Truck Convoy, Fargo; North Dakota Motor Carrier Association Conference, Grand Forks; North Dakota Motor Carrier Association Truck Driving Championship, Fargo; Driving Skills for Life, Bismarck; the annual Oil Field/Hazmat Blitz, Williston/NW Region and statewide events: Truck Driver Appreciation Week, CVSA International Road Check , CVSA Human Trafficking Prevention, Operation Airbrake and Operation Safe Driver.

Community outreach remains a high priority for Motor Carrier Operations; in 2024, MCO Troopers participated in include: No Shave November, Trunk or Treat, No Zone Presentations, multiple ND Motor Carrier Association events, the ND Highway Patrol Youth Academy, North Dakota Special Olympics, and the North Dakota State Fair. We completed 53 Safety Talks to various organizations, including the ND Association of Rural Electrical Cooperatives, NDDOT, Jones Contractors, Chandeska Cikana Community College, Border States Paving, United Quality Cooperative, Train ND, FM Home Builders Association, Kidder County Drivers Education, SW Area Career and

REGIONAL REPORTS

Motor Carrier Operations

Technical Education Academy, Sargent County Highway Department, United Tribes Technical College, The Associated General Contractors Association of ND, Gateway Building Systems and Dakota Supply Group.

Staffing Changes:

- Transfers into and out of region:
 - **Trooper Alyson Moses** transferred from Northwest Region
 - **Trooper Christa Kovarik** transferred from Northwest Region
 - **Trooper Paul Sova** transferred from Southeast Region
 - **Trooper Cody Harstad** transferred from Northeast Region
 - **Trooper Darby Kessner** transferred from Northwest Region

The New Entrant Program continued to experience a high volume of North Dakota-based companies requiring a safety audit within 12 months of interstate operation. In 2024, the NDHP New Entrant Program was tasked with including new Canadian carriers from Manitoba and Saskatchewan. The New Entrant carrier pool remained steady at approximately 474 carriers, averaging 39.5 new carriers per month. The program consists of a coordinator and two auditors working in cooperation with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, providing guidance to new carriers on proper operating procedures to comply with federal motor carrier and hazardous material regulations. The auditors conducted 281 safety audits on North Dakota based carriers with 17 (six percent) failing the audit. The New Entrant Auditors must complete 32 Level I truck inspections per auditor to retain their certification. A total of 202 CMV Inspections were completed by the three auditors.

In 2024, 179,416 permits were issued for vehicle and load movements traveling through and into North Dakota. Permits were issued through the permit system and by personnel at the permit office, regions, and in the field. Staff continues to offer guidance and training to the citizens and motor carrier industry on the automated system to support continued use as the method for obtaining oversize and overweight permits in the state.

In 2024, the NDHP issued 145,800 receipt-issued single-trip permits for oversize and overweight movements. This is a decrease of 1,476 receipt-issued single-trip permits from 2023. The difference is due to the full year for 30-day permits for the interstate, length and width.

REGIONAL REPORTS

Motor Carrier Operations

A total of 16,359 multiple-trip permits were issued in 2024 an increase from 16,287 in 2023 a difference of 72 permits. The 10% Durational, and the 30-day Over width, Over Length and Interstate permits all increased.

In 2024, 179,416 permits were issued by the NDHP, down from 181,019 in 2023. It is a decrease of 1,603 permits. However, there was an increase in the 30-day permits for interstate, over-width and over-length. This was the first full year these permits were available, single trip permits showed most of the decrease (1,476).

Total revenues collected for oversize/overweight permits in 2024 was \$22,525,314.08 and in 2023 was \$14,551,044.94, an increase of \$7,974,269.14. The increase in ton mile was an additional \$8,010,578.04 from 2023. This was due to heavier loads over 200,000 pounds and a longer spring weight restriction season. Extraordinary road use fee revenues for 2024 was \$1,148,735 and in 2023, it was \$874,455, an increase of \$274,280. The number of overloads in 2024 was 1,013 compared to 881 in 2023. A service fee was assessed only on routable single trip permits. The service fees for 2024 totaled \$1,163,800, down \$177,496 from 2023, partially due to the service fee price decreasing from \$10 to \$8.

PERMITS ISSUED

<u>Single Trip (receipt issued)</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Oversize and Overweight	90,279	91,899
Mobile Home	1,989	1,971
Over Dimensional Only	23,777	24,140
Interstate	618	659
129,000 Primary Network	369	162
Bridge Length Permit	3	1
Building/Trunnion	544	601
Special Mobile Equipment	18,626	17,841
Work Over Rig	9,595	9,988
Work Over Rig w/Weight Increase	0	0
LCV	0	18
Subtotal	145,800	147,280

REGIONAL REPORTS

Motor Carrier Operations

<u>Multiple Trip</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Ten Percent Harvest/Winter Permits:		
30-Day	3,225	3,303
7-Month (July 15- March 7)	1,565	1,442
Longer Combination Vehicle, 30-day	97	149
Annual Overwidth	3,083	3,205
Overwidth 30-day (began Aug. 1, 2023)	50	8
Annual Fish House	2	2
Annual Overlength	546	587
Overlength 30-day (began Aug. 1, 2023)	22	1
Annual Interstate	5,585	5,496
Interstate 30-day (began Aug. 1, 2023)	402	86
129,000 Primary Network 30-day	190	311
129,000 Primary Network Annual	321	310
Bridge Length	92	91
Custom Combine Permit	227	235
Seasonal Permit	632	715
Equipment Approval Certificate	320	346
Subtotal	16,359	16,287
Miscellaneous:		
Trip	11,608	11,849
Fuel	5,648	5,603
Temporary Registration	1	0
Subtotal	<u>17,257</u>	<u>17,452</u>
TOTAL	179,416	181,019

LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING ACADEMY

Training Director: **Lt. Adrian Martinez**

Training Sergeants: **Sgt. Ben Kennelly** and **Sgt. Wade Kadrmas**

Operations Coordinator: **Mark Oster**

Administrative Assistant: **Peggy Dietz**

Cook: **Lisa Seefeld**

The Law Enforcement Training Academy completed another year of successful and diverse training and activities. In 2024, the Academy held 53 sessions featuring law enforcement topics:

- Active Threat Response/Taser
- Below 100/Below 100 Instructor
- Gracie Instructor Course
- ND Parks & Recreation
- Critical Incident Stress
- Honor Guard
- NDHP In-Service
- NDHP Youth Academy
- NAS Part A (2)
- North Dakota Basic (3)
- SFST & ARIDE (2)
- Crash Investigation
- Criminal Investigation (2)
- Critical Incident Stress Management
- Cryptocurrency & The Dark Web
- Drive The Road Leadership (2)
- Emergency Medical Responder (2)
- Firearms Instructor (3)
- Emergency Response Team
- ND Game & Fish
- General Hazardous Materials
- Honor Guard
- Illicit Fentanyl & Drug Poisonings
- Leadership of Police Organizations
- Methods of Instruction (4)
- NDHP Academy (2)
- First Responder Trunk or Treat
- PIT Training
- NDHP Short Courses (2)
- Pistol Mounted Optic Instructor
- SFST Instructor Development
- Shotgun/Armorer
- Use of Force
- Shotgun/Rifle/Pistol/Handgun Qualifications
- Taser Instructor
- Situational Awareness
- Building a Training Program
- Report Writing
- De-Escalation

Various agencies attended training at the Law Enforcement Training Academy including the North Dakota Highway Patrol, 30 police departments, 34 sheriff offices, and 26 other agencies. These agencies are:

Sheriff Offices:

- Adams County
- Barnes County
- Benson County
- Bottineau County
- Bowman County
- Burleigh County
- Cass County
- Divide County
- Dunn County
- Eddy County
- Foster County
- Grand Forks County
- Grant County
- Griggs County
- Hettinger County
- Logan County
- McHenry County
- McIntosh County
- McKenzie County
- McLean County
- Morton County
- Mountrail County
- Oliver County
- Pembina County
- Ramsey County
- Ransom County
- Renville County
- Rolette County
- Sheridan County
- Stark County
- Traill County
- Walsh County
- Ward County
- Williams County

LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING ACADEMY

Police Agencies:

- Beulah PD
- Bismarck PD
- Bowman PD
- Burlington PD
- Carrington PD
- Cavalier PD
- Devils Lake PD
- Dickinson PD
- Dunseith PD
- Emerado PD
- Fargo PD
- Grand Forks PD
- Jamestown PD
- Killdeer PD
- Lincoln PD
- Mandan PD
- Minot PD
- New Town PD
- Oakes PD
- Powers Lake PD
- Rolla PD
- Rugby PD

- Stanley PD
- Steele PD
- Surrey PD
- Tioga PD
- Wahpeton PD
- Watford City PD
- West Fargo PD
- Williston PD

Other:

- ND Highway Patrol
- ND Bureau of Criminal Investigation
- Three Affiliated Tribes
- ND Parks & Recreation
- ND Game & Fish
- ND Department of Corrections
- Drug Court
- University of North Dakota Police
- North Dakota State University Police
- Youth in North Dakota

- Aberdeen Police Department
- ND State Radio
- MHA Nation
- Barnes County 911
- Fraine Barracks Security
- North Dakota State Penitentiary
- League of Cities
- Turtle Mountain Division of Drug Enforcement
- DOT Driver's License
- Montana Dakota Services
- Human Resources
- Lake Region State College
- Montana Department of Corrections
- Minot State University
- Bismarck State College Police
- Public Information Officer Group
- Department of Environmental Equality

The Law Enforcement Training Academy held various miscellaneous activities during 2024. These activities include but are not limited to meetings, testing, trainings, etc. The following list includes the activity or person in-charge of the miscellaneous activity that took place at the LETA:

- Commander & Sergeants Meetings
- NDHP Instructor Run-Throughs
- Supervisor Engagement Workgroup Committee
- Blackboard Implementation Meetings
- ARIDE Meetings
- POST Board Meetings
- NDHP Bismarck Regional Meetings
- NDHP Headquarter Meetings
- DRE Meetings
- JSS Meeting
- NDHP Sworn Engagement
- Taser Meeting
- MHA Meeting
- MOCIC Meeting
- Chaplains & Media Meeting
- Balco & Streichers
- NDHP Promotional Testing
- Emergency Response Testing
- Alerts Collaboration

LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING ACADEMY

The multi-purpose room at the LETA was utilized by many agencies for various activities including:

- ND Basic PT (5 weeks X 3 classes)
- ND Basic CTA Testing/DT/Traffic Stops/Practical's/OC/Taser/Ground Fight/SFST/Handcuffs, etc. (3 classes)
- ND Highway Patrol Academy PT/DT/Practical's/etc. (7 weeks X 2 classes)
- Leadership of Police Organizations class
- NDHP SW Region (2)
- NDHP New Recruit Testing CTA (9)
- Bismarck PD CTA/DT (8)
- Game & Fish CTA (2)
- Gracie Instructor (5 Days)
- Parole & Probation CTA (6)
- Taser class
- NDHP Honor Guard
- NDHP In-Service CTA/DT/Practicals (5 Weeks)
- NDHP Short Courses (2)
- BALCO
- LETA
- NDHP Youth Academy

Three North Dakota Basic Training classes graduated this past year in addition to two North Dakota Highway Patrol Recruit Class. 133 peace officers completed their North Dakota Peace Officer Standard and Training Board licensure certification through attendance at the Academy. A total of 1,393 law enforcement personnel received training in 2024.

The Training Academy implemented new records and learning management systems during 2024.

The Law Enforcement Training Academy continues to offer annual Methods of Instruction, Use of Force, and Emergency Driving training.

SUPPORT SERVICES

The Support Service Division, in addition to the division commander, is staffed by ten full-time employees and one part-time employee. Its core responsibilities include property and fleet management, procurement, planning, project management, research, grant coordination, records management, policy development, and accreditation. Additionally, two full-time employees from NDITD are assigned to the division to support information technology needs. Support Services personnel operate under a mix of in-person, hybrid, and telework schedules. We currently have one administrative assistant stationed in Grand Forks and one in Devils Lake. All remaining staff are located either at NDHP Headquarters or the Lee Avenue Warehouse.

Support Services Division Staff

- Captain Adam Dvorak – Division Commander
- Sergeant Evan Savageau – Planning Officer
- Jamie Bostyan – Procurement Officer
- Rachel Bitz – Planning Analyst & Accreditation Manager
- Debbie Opp – Records Specialist / Support Team Manager
- Jennifer Dahl – Grants Specialist
- Donna Fuchs – Support Team, Devils Lake
- Sandy Moen – Support Team, Grand Forks
- Pam Mattern – Support Team
- Doug Hoopman – Property & Warehouse Manager
- Johnny Pabon – Fleet Manager
- Brad Smith – Property Specialist

Procurement Officer Jamie Bostyan has overseen procurement and property activities since his appointment in December 2023.

Key accomplishments in 2024 include:

- Teardown, replacement, and upfitting of 22 Chevy Tahoes and 13 Ford Explorers
- Transition from outdated CANTROL to CORE lighting systems on all new patrol vehicles
- Completion of SIRN-capable mobile radio installation in all patrol units
- New HARDWIRE Safariland body armor panels issued to sworn personnel
- Lee Avenue Warehouse east fenced area designated for Southwest region impound
- SIRN-capable radio installed in NDHP aircraft
- Capitol Security upgraded to SIRN portables and transitioned to SIRN operations
- Statewide upgrade of postage meters
- Acquisition of less lethal and chemical munitions for Emergency Response Team

SUPPORT SERVICES

- Finalized major LETA facility remodel
- 80 body armor replacements
- 12 SIRT-capable portable radios acquired for additional sworn positions
- Road flares and hydraulic jacks issued to sworn officers, with corresponding Blackboard LMS training

Significant 2024 IT milestones include:

- Testing of 3 new in-car routers (Bismarck, Bowman, Williston)
- Temporary repairs to aging Capitol Security systems
- Migration of IT support requests from NDHP intranet to NDIT portal
- NDHP telephone system transition to CCaaS
- Completion of large-scale CVIEW project (July 2024)
- Completion of LETA LMS and RMS Blackboard/Genius integration (August 2024)
- Release of RFP for new ePermit system (December 2024)

Policy Development and Accreditation highlights include:

- Successful completion of remote CALEA Assessment (Year 2) – June 2024
- Attendance by Division Commander, Planning Officer, and Accreditation Manager at CALEA Conference, November 13–16, Jacksonville, Florida
- 30 policy and procedural updates completed
- Sgt. Evan Savageau transitioned from SE Field Sergeant to Planning Officer (February 2024)

The following grant awards were secured in 2024:

- Funding for 40 radar units (NDDOT)
- \$206,000 – Seatbelt enforcement overtime (NDDOT)
- New sobriety checkpoint signage for all regions (NDDOT)
- \$132,000 – Impaired driving overtime (NDDOT)
- \$60,000 – Speed enforcement overtime (NDDOT)
- \$34,000 – Distracted driving overtime (NDDOT)
- \$50,000 – Construction zone enforcement (NDDOT)
- \$3.75 million – MCSAP funding via FMCSA eCVSP
- \$100,000 – VOCA funding (NDDOCR) for Crash Assistance Program

Additionally, access to the federal eShare asset system was granted in January 2024.

The CLO position was under Support Services until October 9, 2023, when it was restructured into a combined CLO/Recruiter role and reassigned to the Administrative Services Division.

SAFETY & EDUCATION

The North Dakota Highway Patrol educates the public about law enforcement and the work of the NDHP through events and activities such as:

- North Dakota State Fair
- National Night Out events
- Public and private school events
- Career Fair events
- North Dakota Boys State
- Job shadowing (Ride Along Program)
- First Responder Trunk or Treat First Responder Toy Drive

Safety and Education coordinates the agency's school bus inspection program. The program is a service provided to schools, upon request, if they are unable to have their buses inspected annually by a qualified individual. During the 2023-2024 school year, the patrol received over 60 requests for school bus inspections and inspected over 400 buses.

The Safety and Education Officer serves as North Dakota's AMBER alert coordinator and oversees the AMBER alert request process in the state. These duties include working with North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation (NDBCI) and Department of Emergency Services (NDDDES) to approve alert requests and push them out to the public. During 2024, there was one AMBER alert request and fifteen Silver Alert requests.

The Loss Control Committee is chaired by the Safety and Education Officer. This committee reviews department crashes and incidents and looks for ways the agency can reduce liability. If a crash is determined to be preventable, the involved trooper's safe driving record resets to zero. The Safe Driving Award is given to troopers who have 5, 10, 15, 20, and 25 years of consecutive safe driving (see listing in Award section).

Safety and Education continues to be active on social media to expand the agencies reach and educate the public about the agency and traffic safety related topics. The increase in social media presence has increased followership by 30,000+ and increased engagement by 250%.

Safety and Education also organizes an annual youth academy. It was hosted in July for three days with 20+ youth ages 16-19. The youth academy gives teenagers the opportunity to go to a shortened law enforcement academy to expose them to the duties of a state trooper.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Emergency Response Team (ERT)

The Emergency Response Team (ERT) is a specially trained team of officers utilized in select emergency situations. The team's two areas of specialization include crowd and riot control and tactical tracking and search. The team also assists with dignitary protection, search and rescue, and other assignments as needed. On November 1, 2023, Lt. Ryan Duletski was assigned command of the North Dakota Highway Patrol's ERT.

2024 Trainings and Actions:

- ERT members were given access to alert system "Everbridge" through NDDES.
- The Can-Am UTV was equipped with a drawer storage system.
- The Northeast Squad responded to assist in locating a homicide suspect in Fort Totten.
- The ERT Officer Equipment Inventory form (SFN 54053) was updated.
- The team conducted spring training to include mobile field force training and tracking scenarios at Ft. Abraham Lincoln State Park.
- Trooper Nevon Heisler and K9 Judge responded to a mutual aid request from Watertown, SD to assist in locating a suspect in a stabbing incident.
- The Southwest Squad responded to a missing person search near Huff.
- Eight ERT members deployed to Milwaukee, Wisconsin July 13-19 following an EMAC request for additional security at the Republican National Convention. ERT Troopers combined with officers from ND Parole and Probation to form a Civil Disturbance Response Unit.
- Several ERT members attended BIA Pathfinders training at Camp Grafton.
- The team was given access to the "CalTopo" mobile app.
- The Southwest Squad responded to assist Emmons County with a fleeing suspect near Linton.
- The team conducted fall training which included firearms training and scenarios at Cross Ranch State Park. During this training, the team responded to assist Emmons and Burleigh Counties with a suicidal subject search.
- Trooper Nevon Heisler and Trooper Casey Fetch were selected as primary grenadiers to take over for Trooper Josh Page and Trooper Anthony Hoaby
- Trooper Steve Mayer, Trooper Steve Clark and Lieutenant Ryan Duletski presented at the North Dakota Sheriff's and Deputies Association Conference in Bismarck
- New munitions replaced expired/expiring inventory. Expired munitions will be disposed of or utilized for training.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Emergency Response Team (ERT)

Personnel Changes:

Resignations: Trooper Michael Wald, Trooper Jackson Loeffel, Trooper Dan Hanson, Trooper Josh Page, Trooper Paul Bakke, Trooper Jed Reile, and Trooper Shawn Fulwider

Additions: Trooper Ryan Mugan, Trooper Steve Clark, Trooper AJ Potter, Trooper Christopher Olson, Trooper Tim Frank, Trooper Casey Fetch, Trooper Frank Holdburg, Trooper Kolton Krance, Trooper Austin Erickson, and Trooper Evan Johnson

- Trooper Hoaby stepped down as Northwest Squad Leader, Sgt. Gudvangen was assigned Squad Leader
- Following Trooper Paul Bakke's resignation from the team, Trooper Grant Wosick was assigned the Northeast Squad Leader
- Trooper Troy Roth stepped down as Southwest Squad Leader, Trooper Steve Clark was assigned Squad Leader

The Emergency Response Team is comprised of 25 total members:

ERT Commander: Lt. Ryan Duletski

Southeast Squad:

- Sgt. Andrew Cashin (squad leader)
- Sgt. Adam Malafa
- Trooper Darin Malafa
- Trooper Alex Breitbach
- Trooper Abe Johannes
- Trooper Casey Fetch
- Trooper Frank Holdburg

Northwest Squad:

- Sgt. Joshua Gudvangen (squad leader)
- Trooper Anthony Hoaby
- Trooper Ethan Rostvedt
- Trooper Darby Kessner
- Trooper Anthony Potter
- Trooper Christopher Olson

Northeast Squad:

- Trooper Grant Wosick (squad leader)
- Trooper Ryan Mugan
- Trooper Tanner Smith
- Trooper Nevon Heisler
- Trooper Austin Erickson

Southwest Squad:

- Trooper Steve Clark (squad leader)
- Trooper Troy Roth
- Trooper Steven Mayer
- Trooper Timothy Frank
- Trooper Evan Johnson
- Trooper Kolton Krance

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

K9 Program

North Dakota Highway Patrol K9 teams enhance or assist criminal interdiction efforts and track missing or wanted subjects. NDHP canine teams are either narcotic detector teams or man-trailing (bloodhound) teams. Canine teams train throughout the year and complete yearly certification in their respective disciplines. Coordinator Kyle Stern retired in the fall of 2024 and Trooper Nathan Boll was selected to replace him as Coordinator effective November 1, 2024.

NDHP K9 Team Changes 2024

- Trooper Tucker McDonald resigned from the NDHP in early 2024; K9 bloodhound Lorace was reassigned to Trooper Steve Clark.
- Trooper Josh Page resigned as a handler. K9 Rico was subsequently retired from service and rehomed with Trooper Kyle Stern.
- Trooper Cody Harstad and K-9 Tank both retired from the program in the spring of 2024. K9 Tank was approximately 10 years old and homed with Trooper Harstad upon retirement.
- Trooper Kyle Stern and K9 Draco retired in October 2024. Trooper Stern had 23 years of service with the NDHP and approximately 18 years with the canine program. K9 Draco was approximately 10 and a half years old upon retirement and was homed with Trooper Stern.
- K9 Casey retired from service in May 2024. She was approximately nine years old and had several medical issues. Casey was homed with Trooper Boll upon retirement.
- Trooper Steve Clark was reassigned as a bloodhound handler with K9 Lorace.
- Trooper Jed Reile was selected as a new handler and was assigned to K9 Kota.
- K9 Dome was selected as the newest addition to the program and assigned to Trooper Nate Boll.

NDHP K-9 Teams

- Trooper Steven Clark/Bloodhound K9 Lorace (approximately 2 years old)-New Salem
- Trooper Nevon Heisler/Bloodhound K9 Judge (approximately 2.5 years old)-Thompson
- Trooper Steven Mayer/Bloodhound K9 Bleu (approximately 6 years old)-Bismarck
- Trooper Nathan Boll/Narcotic-Detecting K9 Dome (approximately 2 years old)-Fargo
- Trooper Brett Mlynar/Narcotic-Detecting K9 Huck (approximately 4 years old)-Devils Lake
- Trooper Gabriel Irvis/Narcotic-Detecting K9 Lasta (approximately 4.5 years old)-Fargo
- Trooper Jed Reile/Narcotic-Detecting K9 Kota (approximately 6.5 years old)-Dickinson
- Trooper Chelsey Schatz/Narcotic-Detecting K9 Tara (approximately 7.5 years old)-Watford City

Maintenance Training and Certification

Industry standard for canine maintenance training is 16 hours per month. As a collective, the NDHP canine teams were able to maintain 16+ hours per month of training per team. Each month the teams on the west side, east side, and bloodhound teams respectively get together for a day of eight hours of training. The remaining 8 hours of training need to be completed by handlers when time permits.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

K9 Program

Multiple outside agencies trained with NDHP canine teams during the maintenance training sessions, including Watford City PD, Adams County SO, Mercer County SO, West Fargo PD, Fargo PD, Cass County, Red Lake (MN) PD, Wahpeton PD, Logan County SO, and Richland County SO. These other teams train with our agency reflecting the positive reputation of our canine program.

Annually, all teams are scheduled to train together in May for the annual in-service and in August for a “mini” in-service. This training allows the teams to gain extra training hours to fine tune their skills and allow for any concerns, questions, or improvements to the program to be discussed.

The man-trailing teams of Trooper Mayer/Bleu; Trooper Heisler/Judge and Trooper Clark/Lorace completed their annual certification in June in Sioux Falls. The certifying official for the certification was retired SD DCI Agent and INBTI Instructor, Chad Carpenter. All teams were successfully able to certify.

The six narcotic teams traveled to Gillette in September to complete annual certification. The certifying official for the certification was Greg Brothers, Retired Sgt, Gillette PD. All teams successfully completed certification. Narcotic team Trooper Irvis/Lasta were again certified in December as Lasta was imprinted on marijuana. Trooper Brett Mlynar was the certifying official.

Currently, the NDHP canine program has five narcotic detector canines, which is short by two canines, due to K9 Rico and K9 Draco’s retirements.

Canine Equipment

Window tint on all Ford Interceptor K9 units and new Chevy Tahoe K9 units have been equipped with ceramic tint. The tint has shown to be beneficial to the temperature within the K9 units; units also had the new heat alarms installed.

Canine Team Statistics:

Bloodhound/Man-Trailing Teams

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
CFS	66	56	49	27	48
Deployments	26	9	44	23	20
Located Persons	5	6	7	7	2

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

K9 Program

Narcotic Detecting Teams

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Deployments	122	178	152	213	249
Cash Seized	\$31,473	\$103,442	\$74,111	\$6,415	\$6,785
Marijuana (grams)	347,943	58,844.62	310,549.51	2,088.45	2,095.74
Meth (grams)	872	755.31	6080.4	2,120.42	124.04
Heroin (grams)	1	2	3.46	31.93	62.37
Cocaine (grams)	5,195	783.56	3	82.5	1.69
THC/Oil/Wax etc. (grams)	12,095	898.93	4,694.43	78.1	5,096.70
Fentanyl	21,008 pills	94.83 gr.	10.1 gr.	282.25 gr.	0
Mushrooms (grams)	6,707	0	0	0	0
Firearms	1	0	0	0	0

Other 2024 Canine Team highlights:

February:

- Trooper Boll selected as the assistant canine trainer

March:

- Trooper Clark selected as the new handler for bloodhound Lorace.
- Trooper Jed Reile selected as Kota's new handler
- Trooper Stern and Trooper Boll traveled to New Market, Alabama, to test and select a new canine: K9 Dome was selected from Kasseburg Canine Training.

May:

- All handlers successfully completed the handler course
- Trooper Boll completed the NDHP Canine Trainer Course

June:

- The three man-trailing teams completed annual certification in in Sioux Falls

August:

- Trooper Reile and Trooper Heisler attended the canine HITS conference in New Orleans

September:

- The six narcotic teams completed annual certification in Gillette

October:

- Trooper Boll was selected as Canine Coordinator upon Trooper Stern's retirement

December:

- Trooper Irvis and K9 Lasta certified as Lasta was imprinted on marijuana.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

CRASH RECONSTRUCTION TEAM (CRT)

Every year multiple lives are lost in fatal traffic crashes across the state of North Dakota. Each of these cases must initially be treated as a homicide investigation. The North Dakota Highway Patrol Crash Reconstruction Team is made up of officers specifically trained and certified to gather and analyze critical evidence at a crash scene. The services of this team include crash scene response, the recognition and gathering of critical evidence, scientific analysis, professional report writing, and expert court testimony. These services are necessary to secure criminal conviction in cases where such charges are appropriate. The statistical information included in this report support the need for, and effective activities of, this team.

2024 Statistics

Below is a summary of the crash reconstruction activities conducted by the NDHP Crash Reconstruction Team for the year 2024 with a comparison to the CRT stats from 2023.

CRT Statistic Summary	NW	NE	SW	SE	2024 TOTAL	2023 TOTAL
Mapping Only	32	15	21	17	85	68
Analysis Required	10	12	13	17	52	45
Total CRT Cases	42	27	34	34	137	113
Passenger Vehicle Downloads	13	20	28	27	88	76
Heavy Vehicle Downloads	1	0	0	0	1	5
Assisting Other Government	10	10	11	9	40	27
Misdemeanor Charges	18	8	18	15	59	33
Felony Charges	15	11	8	17	51	47
Total Criminal Charges	33	19	26	32	110	80

Personnel Changes

- March: Trooper Andrew Skogen resigned from the CRT
- March: Coby Hubble was promoted to Sergeant and removed as a member of the CRT
- April/May: Trooper Reece Burckhard, Trooper Brady Aberle, Trooper Miles Rhonemus, and Trooper Shea Pulley attended CRT Tech Training and added in the following regions:
 - Burckhard/Aberle – SW Region
 - Rhonemus – SE Region
 - Pulley – NW Region
- September: Trooper Christa Kovarik accepted a position within MCSAP; NW CRT Tech Trooper Pulley replaces her position
- December: Trooper Darby Kessner accepted a position within MCSAP, but due to a shortage of Troopers in the western side, he remains on the team as a Crash Tech until staffing allows replacement of his position

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

CRASH RECONSTRUCTION TEAM (CRT)

CRT Roster

- Trooper Darby Kessner, NW, Technician
- Trooper Austin Hilzendeger, NW, Technician
- Trooper Shea Pulley, NW, Technician
- Trooper Christa Kovarik, NW, Technician; Part-Time Analyst
- Trooper Eric Rumble, NE, Technician; Part-Time Analyst
- Trooper Jeremy Buehre, NE, Technician
- Trooper Travis Nelson, NE, Coordinator, Primary Analyst
- Trooper Andrew Birkholz, NE, Technician; Part-Time Analyst
- Trooper Jacob Jones, SW, Primary Analyst
- Trooper Brady Aberle, SW, Technician
- Trooper Bennett Bitz, SW, Technician
- Trooper Reece Burckhard, SW, Technician
- Trooper Adam Gebhardt, SW, Technician
- Trooper Chris Allen, SE, Technician
- Trooper Dan Andersen, SE, Technician
- Trooper Thomas Steenstrup, SE, Technician
- Trooper Miles Rhonemus, SE, Technician

In 2024, three CRT members resigned through promotion or moving to other programs. Operating with four techs in each region is ideal with the current caseload.

Equipment

- Alienware computer tower with Pix 4D
- DJI Mavic 3 Enterprise drone
- DJI Mavic 2 Pro drone
- Leica TS02 Total Station
- Trimble Nomad data collector with EVR 11 software
- Leica TS12/TS13 Robotics Total Station
- Leica CS15/CS20 data collector with EVR 11 software
- Canon Rebel T5i SLR digital camera
- Vericom 3000 accelerometer
- Vericom 4000 accelerometer
- Map360 4.1 mapping software
- ARPro 12 Recon calculation software
- Auto Stats Vehicle Information software
- Bosch CDR + 900 upgrade vehicle equipment and software
- Bosch Cable Kit
- Hyundai/KIA vehicle imaging kit
- Synercon Heavy Vehicle EDR equipment and software

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

CRASH RECONSTRUCTION TEAM (CRT)

The following CRT related equipment purchases/upgrades were made in 2024:

- A stand-alone computer for EDR images in the Bismarck Office was put into place to test out the functionality using Bosch with multiple users in the same office location.
- Heavy Vehicle download equipment was purchased with MCSAP Funds allowing for downloads on both sides of the state. A robust cable selection is available for different engines.
- Multiple cables for CDR imaging

Training

The field of crash reconstruction is constantly changing with new equipment/software becoming available to measure and analyze crash scenes. It is important that all members of the CRT utilize the training they have received and work with the equipment they are issued to keep their skills/knowledge sharp. I will continue to look for and ask for training based on the needs of the team. Training opportunities take place all over the country and are good opportunities for members who attend to network and get to know others in the field and different methods of completing reconstructions. The following training courses were attended by members of the CRT:

- Advanced Crash Training in Grand Forks. The Grand Forks PD hosted the class that was instructed by Collision and Crime Forensic Solutions out of Omaha, NE.
- CRT Tech training in Bismarck
- Occupant Kinematics training in Mesa, AZ put on by IPTM.
- September – Trooper Shea Pulley completed online
- Pedestrian/Bicycle crash training in Great Falls, MT put on by IPTM.
- Motorcycle Reconstruction course through Lightpoint Data out of Thousand Oaks, CA.

The CRT program acquired additional equipment through MCSAP funds and now has available equipment on both sides of the state to download ECMs in heavy trucks. We assisted other state agencies in 40 cases in 2024.

	2024	2023
Case Involvement	137	113
Criminal Charges from Case involvement/Felony Charges	110/51	80/47
Event Data Recorder (EDR) Images	88	76
Heavy Vehicle Downloads	1	5

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Criminal Interdiction Team (CIT)

Targeting of drug trafficking, specifically criminal highway interdiction efforts, is critical to crime reduction. Mexican transnational criminal organizations and criminal street gangs are responsible for a vast majority of fentanyl, methamphetamine, cocaine, and heroin trafficked in the United States and into North Dakota.

From extended research and communication with surrounding state's highway patrols (Minnesota, South Dakota, Montana and Wyoming), the most effective method to interdict traffickers is with officers specifically dedicated and trained for this mission. In response, the North Dakota Highway Patrol formed a dedicated criminal interdiction team in August 2021. Initial successes of the team allowed for legislative approval to expand the team. The team is currently allocated eight Trooper positions and 1 Sergeant.

The Criminal Interdiction Team roster as of December 31, 2024:

- Sergeant Matt Denault, Fargo
- Trooper Gabriel Irvis, Fargo
- Trooper Nathan Boll, Fargo
- Trooper Joshua Page, Bismarck
- Trooper Damon Burkel, Bismarck
- Trooper Daniel Hanson, Williston
- Trooper Casey Visocky, Minot
- Trooper Brett Mlynar, Devils Lake
- Trooper James Myers III, Grand Forks

The following Troopers were added to the team in 2024:

- Trooper James Myers III, March
- Trooper Brett Mlynar, March
- Trooper Daniel Hanson, April
- Trooper Damon Burkel, April
- Trooper Casey Visocky, August

Along with working their assigned areas, the team participates in criminal interdiction details statewide. The team attends various trainings and conferences to enhance their knowledge and skills in criminal interdiction. Trooper Irvis, Trooper Boll and Trooper Mlynar are also NDHP Canine Handlers and attend canine specific training throughout the year. Trooper Page was a narcotic detecting K9 handler until K9 Rico retired in March 2024.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Criminal Interdiction Team (CIT)

Events, trainings, and items of note:

- CVSA Human Trafficking week detail with MCSAP
- DHE Conference, St. Louis, MO
- K9 Rico retired
- Trooper Mlynar and Trooper Myers transfer to CIT
- Grand Forks SO interdiction blitz
- NDPOA committee on drugs and gangs conference, Fargo
- Troopers Hanson and Burkel transfer to CIT
- Desert Snow training
- Devils Lake interdiction detail
- K9 in-service
- Bakken Human Trafficking summit, Minot
- McLean County interdiction detail
- Trooper Visocky completes FTO and transfers to CIT
- NIC conference, Anaheim, CA
- K9 certification, Gillette, WY
- HIDTA saturation, Fargo
- Desert Snow-Apex Concealment class, Lincoln, NE
- HIDTA saturation, Bismarck
- Trooper Irvis' patrol vehicle was outfitted with a front-seat rear-facing camera
- Blue to Gold Search and Seizure class, Glendive, MT
- TruNarc training, Fargo
- TruNarc field deployment, Fargo and Bismarck

The Criminal Interdiction Team focuses efforts on criminal interdiction on our state's highways. The team works independently conducting "cold stops" and in conjunction with other law enforcement (i.e. local task forces, DEA, etc.) by conducting "precision stops". In partnering with other agencies, some of the team's stops/seizures were transferred to other law enforcement agencies. The team's seizure amounts include both "cold" and "precision" stops and those processed internally or in partnership with other law enforcement.

2024 summary of seizures and arrests:

- 15.4 lbs. Fentanyl
- 1,199.4 lbs. Marijuana
- 86.3 lbs. THC
- 30.5 lbs. Methamphetamine
- 17.9 lbs. Cocaine
- 14 lbs. Psilocybin
- 4 firearms seized
- 1 stolen vehicle recovered
- \$104,518 currency seized

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT)

The reformulation of the team in 2023 significantly enhanced the professionalism and effectiveness of the Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT). The implementation of clear policies, procedures, and experience gained through CISD participation has strengthened the team's impact. As part of this restructuring, ten members were added and one member voluntarily resigned to pursue another opportunity.

As of 2024, the CIRT consists of 23 members:

- 2 Crash Assistance Program professionals
- 2 civilian headquarters staff members
- 7 NDHP sergeants
- 8 NDHP troopers
- 4 NDHP command-level or higher personnel

Each region of the NDHP is now represented within the CIRT. However, continued recruitment, particularly at the trooper level remains a priority to ensure accessibility and peer support across all regions. Troopers often feel more comfortable reaching out to peers of the same rank, making trooper-level representation crucial for the program's success.

TRAINING & RESPONSE CAPABILITIES

All CIRT members are trained in peer-to-peer support, defusals, and debriefings, as outlined in NDHP Policy 6-19. The team responds to internal NDHP incidents as well as requests from external law enforcement agencies. Additionally, the NDHP CIRT may supplement the North Dakota State Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Team, though any such deployment must be approved by the CIRT Coordinator or Assistant Coordinator. On occasion, non-law enforcement agencies have requested CISD assistance from CIRT members, and the team has accommodated these requests when appropriate.

The following data is based on activity reported by 11 team members, representing approximately 47% of the CIRT. Some members did not submit activity trackers, primarily due to a lack of utilization in their respective areas. This variance is expected, as critical incidents occur more frequently in some regions than others.

Summary of Reported Activity:

- General discussions with Troopers: 36 interactions, totaling 25.25 hours (primarily via phone).
- Debriefs: 12 debriefings, totaling 75.75 hours (including travel time).
- Defusals: Data was not separately reported for defusals.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT)

Notable debriefing locations included:

- Dickinson
- Williston
- Fairfield
- Mohall
- Buxton
- Lisbon
- NDHP officer-involved shooting (OIS) in Bismarck

The team's growing reputation for professionalism and expertise has led to an increase in requests from external agencies.

2024 TRAINING & TEAM DEVELOPMENT

This past year, the CIRT held its first annual in-service training, which coincided with Advanced CISM training. This training included:

- NDHP-specific policy discussions, including contributions to an officer-down manual.
- Mock scenarios to enhance proficiency in conducting CISDs.
- Administrative updates and team-building exercises.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Crash Assistance Program (CAP)

The NDHP Crash Assistance Program (CAP) was developed in 2021 and created to provide services after a traumatic event involving serious bodily injury or death, bridging the gap between the NDHP and crash/crime victims; a victim's family; and other agencies and court personnel. The program is partially funded through the Victims of Crimes Act (VOCA) grant.

Two specialists comprise the NDHP Crash Assistance Program:

- Robert Kennedy, Bismarck
- Brenda Olson-Wray, Fargo

The program is funded through the Victims of Crimes Act (VOCA) grant.

On November 1, 2023, the NDHP Crash Assistance Program was moved from NDHP Administrative Services to NDHP Field Operations. Major Hummel had been supervising the program since its development, but the decision was made to move the program into field operations.

Services offered by the team include information and referral; personal advocacy/accompaniment; emotional support or safety services; shelter/housing services; and criminal/civil justice system assistance.

These are the activities and trainings completed by the CAP in 2024:

- Total number of individuals who received services during 2024: 336
 - 124 were new individuals who received services from our agency for the first time
- Types of victimizations reported during 2024 in which individuals received services:
 - o DUI/DWI Incidents
 - o Other Vehicular Victimization
- Brenda Olson-Wray attended an IACP conference in March
- Brenda Olson-Wray and Robert Kennedy attended Advanced Group Critical Incident training in November
- Brenda Olson-Wray and Robert Kennedy are involved in a National Patrol victims service group represented by several State Patrol agencies around the country.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

DRE/SFST Program

Trooper Tarek Chase is the North Dakota Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) and Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) State Coordinator. As the DRE/SFST State Coordinator, Trooper Chase serves as a reference and guide for all DREs, DRE Instructors, and SFST Instructors from each agency in the state. He provides reference material, training, and overall guidance to the DRE and SFST Program and serves as a liaison between local law enforcement agencies and the North Dakota Department of Transportation as well as the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the International Association of Chief's of Police for funding and training materials.

The NDHP maintains DREs and SFST Instructors to enhance impaired driving enforcement efforts and keep North Dakota roadways safe.

2024 NDHP Drug Recognition Experts

- Trooper Tarek Chase (Instructor), Bismarck
- Trooper Timothy Frank, Underwood
- Trooper Brian Larson (Instructor), Fargo
- Trooper Johnathan Stanley, Dickinson
- Trooper Chelsey Schatz, Watford City
- Trooper Brandon Dalzell, Carrington
- Trooper Austin Yancy, Fargo
- Trooper Austin Hilzendeger, Minot
- Trooper Shane Rothenberger, Rugby
- Trooper Casey Visocky, Minot
- Trooper James Myers III, Grand Forks

2024 NDHP SFST Instructors

- Sgt. Jed Dahnke, Fargo
- Lt. Ryan Panasuk, Grand Forks
- Trooper Wes Maley, Oakes
- Trooper Tarek Chase, Bismarck
- Trooper Gabe Irvis, Fargo
- Trooper Brian Larson, Fargo
- Trooper Michael Wald, Bismarck
- Trooper Austin Hilzendeger, Minot
- Trooper Timothy Frank, Underwood
- Trooper Chelsey Schatz, Watford City
- Trooper James Myers, Grand Forks
- Trooper Shane Rothenberger, Rugby
- Trooper William Brown, Bismarck

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

DRE/SFST Program

Training

The DRE and SFST Instructors are provided at least three training opportunities at local conferences/summits:

- Vision Zero Safety Summit, hosted by NDDOT, Bismarck
- North Dakota Impaired Driving Conference (formally ND State's Attorneys Association/DRE Conference), Bismarck
- DRE/SFST Instructor In-service, Bismarck

NDDOT and NDHP hosted the 5th annual DRE/SFST Instructor Inservice which focused on SFST standards updates, case law updates, impaired driving statistics, adult learning concepts, DRE equipment updates, and drug trends.

DRE Equipment

The North Dakota Highway Patrol DREs are well equipped with quality items which aids the Trooper in identifying the drug category or categories.

2024 Statistics

- NDHP DREs conducted 99 full evaluations (43 enforcement and 56 training evaluations)
- There were eleven DUID arrests where the subject refused to submit to DRE evaluations
- The DREs received approximately 62 calls from NDHP Troopers regarding signs related to drug impairment
- DREs fielded approximately 94 calls from other law enforcement agencies
- Five NDHP DREs completed DRE recertification
- One NDHP Trooper completed DRE training
- DRE/SFST Instructors taught three SFST Basic Courses at the LETA
- Three SFST Refresher were conducted at the LETA
- Five SFST Refresher courses were conducted across the state
- Six ARIDE courses were taught in six different cities
- Two SFST/ARIDE Hybrid Refresher Courses were taught
- A field sobriety presentation was conducted for the NDHP Youth Academy

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Aircraft Operations

The flight section assists the department in providing emergency response and continuing to provide the North Dakota Highway Patrol Aircraft to support all North Dakota law enforcement agencies.

In 2024, almost every one of the emergency requests were to assist other agencies. Each flight was successful: whether providing aerial support to free up resources on the ground or providing information for officer and public safety. The aircraft also provides information on the larger picture, ruling out multiple and large areas to concentrate on more likely areas, finding targets, and/or giving families peace of mind knowing that law enforcement is exhausting all resources to find their loved ones in the case of missing persons.

2024 Activities:

- Search for subject fleeing on foot, Mandan
- Search for suicidal female, Mandan
- Responded to pursuit of stolen vehicle southbound on Highway 83 from Minot
- Responded to search for missing person, Harvey
- Assisted US Marshals with serving warrant for murder suspect
- Search for missing person, Williston
- Responded to assist US Marshalls federal prisoner escape, Ft. Yates
- Responded to vehicle pursuit, Burleigh County
- Search for subject of stolen vehicle, Morton County
- Responded to search for suspect that fled on foot from pursuit, Ward County
- Search for missing person on the Spirit Lake Reservation
- Search for missing child on the Ft Berthold Reservation
- Search for vehicle involved in assault, Dickinson
- Assisted search for a wanted person
- Responded to motorcycle pursuit, Highway 1806
- Responded to search for fleeing subject, Ft Berthold
- Responded to help locate suicidal female. Northeast Region
- Responded to Silver Alert, Morton County
- Search for missing aircraft, Morton County
- Motorcycle pursuit, Bismarck
- Overwatch, barricaded subject, Mercer County
- Vehicle pursuit, Nelson County
- Search for missing aircraft, Walsh County
- Search for missing kayakers, Fort Ransom
- Tracked drug dealer vehicle, Task Force
- Over watch of vehicle, occupants with felony warrants, Drug Task Force.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Aircraft Operations

2024 Activities (*cont.*)

- Search for suicidal youth w/firearm, Surrey
- Wildfire surveillance, DES, Fort Berthold, Williams County, McKenzie County
- Fleeing suspect-felony suspect in possession of firearms, Emmons County
- Search for burglary suspect, Burleigh County
- Search for missing suicidal male, Burleigh County
- Motorcycle pursuit, Fargo
- Vehicle pursuit. Fargo
- Vehicle pursuit, Morton County
- Overwatch of vehicle stop, drug interdiction, Burleigh County, Morton County

2024 Aviation Personnel

- Trooper Dennis Gallagher, Chief Pilot
- Trooper Steven Iden, Assistant Pilot
- Kai Engstroem, Part-Time Pilot
- Reece Kelly, Part-Time Pilot
- Shannon Henke, Part-Time Pilot
- Amy Winkelman, Part-Time Pilot
- Sgt. Jeremiah Bohn, FLIR Operator/Tactical Flight Officer
- Trooper William Brown, FLIR Operator/Tactical Flight Officer
- Trooper Bennett Bitz, FLIR Operator/Tactical Flight Officer
- Trooper Michael Hayen, FLIR Operator/Tactical Flight Officer
- Trooper Charles Kelly, FLIR Operator/Tactical Flight Officer
- Trooper Reece Burckhard, FLIR Operator/Tactical Flight Officer
- Trooper Mitchell Mehrer, FLIR Operator/Tactical Flight Officer

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

sUAS Program

The North Dakota Highway Patrol received funding to purchase and begin utilizing small Unmanned Aircraft System (sUAS), i.e. drones, for crash reconstruction, search and rescue, and civil unrest during the 66th North Dakota Legislative Assembly. Since that time, the North Dakota Highway Patrol has continued to develop and expand the program.

Current sUAS equipment

- One DJI Matrice 300 equipped with thermal/FLIR camera; a large 32" x 19 lb. quadcopter, predominantly used by the NDHP Emergency Response Team for searches.
- One DJI Mavic 2 Enterprise Zoom; a medium sized, 13" x 3 lb. quadcopter drone used primarily for searches.
- Five DJI Mavic 2 Pros; medium sized, 13" x 2 lb. quadcopter used by NDHP Crash Reconstruction Team to analyze crash scenes.
 - These drones were the primary CRT drones until they were replaced by the Mavic 3 drones. Once the Mavic 3 drones were implemented, the Mavic 2 Pros were maintained as backup drones.
- Eight DJI Mavic 3 Enterprise; medium sized, 13" x 2 lb. quadcopter used by NDHP Crash Reconstruction Team (CRT) to analyze crash scenes.
 - These drones also have zoom capable cameras and can be utilized for searching and other observation functions.
- One Honda generator used for charging sUAS batteries in the field.
- One "ParaZero" parachute system specifically for the DJI Mavic 2 Enterprise Zoom
- Three Skydio X10 for Motor Carrier Operations
- One Skydio X10 for Emergency Response Team Operations

sUAS capabilities

- "Airdata UAV" which allows for livestream video. Drone operators with a data connection can share a link to outside users who can then stream live video from the sUAS.
- Crash scenes can be completely photographed and documented with the DJI Mavic 2 Pros and DJI Mavic 3 Enterprises using a program called PIX4D.
- The Mavic 3 Enterprise drones are capable of autonomous flight when flying a crash scene which allows for faster and more efficient scene mapping.
- The large DJI Matrice 300 can be used for search and rescue operations as well as various other missions where longer duration flights are required. This sUAS is equipped with a thermal (FLIR) camera and is best flown with two operators.

NDHP sUAS flights are documented in a web-based sUAS flight log and fleet maintenance system called "DroneLogbook." 214 total flights were logged for 2024 (this includes any time the sUAS takes off and lands again and isn't exclusive to individual "missions").

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

sUAS Program

The 214 flights must be manually uploaded since DJI sync is no longer available, the number is likely higher since there have been instances in which flights were not uploaded.

2024 NDHP Part 107 sUAS operators:(*) denotes Troopers with access to DroneLogbook
Crash Reconstruction Team

- *Trooper Thomas Steenstrup, Fargo
- *Trooper Miles Rhonemus, Fargo
- *Trooper Dan Andersen, Valley City
- *Trooper Chris Allen, Jamestown
- *Trooper Jacob Jones, Bismarck
- *Trooper Bennett Bitz, Bismarck
- *Trooper Brady Aberle, Bismarck
- *Trooper Reece Burckhard, Bismarck
- *Trooper Adam Gebhardt, Dickinson
- *Trooper Darby Kessner, Williston
- *Sgt. Coby Hubble, Crosby
- *Trooper Austin Hilzendeger, Minot
- *Trooper Shea Pulley, Minot
- *Trooper Andrew Birkholz, Devils Lake
- *Trooper Jeremy Buehre, Grand Forks
- *Trooper Eric Rumble, Grand Forks
- *Trooper Travis Nelson, Grand Forks
- Trooper Troy Roth, Bismarck
- Trooper Eric Rumble, Grand Forks
- Trooper Tom Steenstrup, Fargo
- Trooper Michael Wald, Bismarck

FLIR/ERT

- Trooper William Brown, Bismarck
- Sgt. Jenna Clawson Huibregtse, HQ-Bismarck
- *Trooper Michael Hayen, Linton
- *Trooper Nevon Heisler, Grand Forks
- *Trooper Charles Kelly, Bismarck
- *Trooper Troy Roth, HQ-Bismarck
- *Trooper Michael Wald, HQ-Bismarck

Motor Carrier Operations

- *Trooper Christa Kovarik, Garrison
- Trooper Joshua Rode, Steele
- Trooper Brandon Wade, Jamestown
- Trooper Jackson Loeffel, Dickinson

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Capitol Security

Sergeant Darcy Aberle serves as the NDHP director of security and is responsible for security at the Capitol complex. NDHP Capitol Security is comprised of one sworn sergeant, one sworn trooper, and ten security officers. Security is also provided for the North Dakota Supreme Court and for members of the legislative assembly. Security training is held throughout the year for state employees who work at the State Capitol complex.

The annual review of Supreme Court security did not reflect any operational or equipment deficiencies. The review process included monthly testing of the duress alarm system; an audit and inventory of the security equipment in the court room and screening area; and a review with court staff.

Civilian security officers are trained in court security procedures as part of their FTO process. Officers are provided with and trained on the procedures outlined in Section 4 of the Capitol Grounds Emergency Response Plan.

There were no threats against the court that were made known to or investigated by the Highway Patrol during 2024.

During the annual review, ND Supreme Court Chief Clerk Petra Hulm reviewed current and future security needs and was confident the level of security provided by the NDHP was adequate both at the capitol as well as when the court held hearings around the state.

2024 Capitol Security Staff Changes

New Employees:

- Melanie Frieson
- Roger Krance
- Beth Boucher

Resignations:

- Preston Zander
- Joseph Weigum
- Aria Foster
- Dawsyn Rusch
- Beth Boucher

Dignitary Protection

Sergeant Ben Hixson served as the NDHP director of Dignitary Protection. Dignitary Protection is responsible for providing security and protection for the Governor, the Governor's immediate family, and other officers next in order of succession to the office of Governor. The Dignitary Protection Team is comprised of one sergeant and two troopers. There were no Dignitary Protection staff changes in 2024.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Homeland Security

Sergeant Timothy Coughlin serves as the NDHP's Homeland Security Coordinator. The homeland security coordinator's primary duty is the active participation in the North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center (NDSLIC). NDSLIC is a multidisciplinary, multiagency organization dedicated to gathering, processing, analyzing, and sharing critical information with federal, state, local, and private sector partners. The homeland security coordinator also serves as the Intelligence Liaison Officer.

The homeland security coordinator is tasked with tracking active NDHP asset forfeitures, at the end of 2024, there were 24 open asset forfeiture cases totaling \$149,834.74.

Clearinghouse: North Dakota database has been established and is being maintained through BCI.

E-Check/NICS: The E-Check/NICS database continues to be utilized on a regular basis. In 2024, nineteen NICS background checks and eleven eTrace checks for weapon returns from NDHP weapon violation cases were completed.

PIX- There were zero PIX entry requests in 2024.

2024 Public Alerts

- Blue Alert: None
- Amber Alert: Four Amber Alerts requested, one Amber Alert was issued with a successful recovery.
- Silver Alert: Fifteen Silver Alerts requested, three were activated with twelve successful recoveries. Three requests did not meet criteria and nine requests were not issued due to the subjects being located prior to the alert being activated.

Trainings Attended:

- K9 Advisory Group
- Canadian Drug & Gun Trafficking
- Amber Alert Symposium
- DHE Conference
- NCMEC Gang Affiliation Sex Trafficking
- Leadership Training LETA
- Bakken Human Trafficking Summit
- Fentanyl on Commercial Aircraft
- Drivewyze CVIEW Training
- "Interview Techniques" Peace Garden Association

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Homeland Security

Trainings Attended (*cont.*):

- 2 Secret Service Trainings Online
- Fentanyl On Aircraft
- Chemistry for Cops
- Site Protection Through Observational Techniques
- NDHP Inservice
- Airport Infectious Disease Tabletop
- Range Day
- Fargo Safe Schools Initiative
- Williston Airport Counter Drone
- Migration Cell Brief
- DHE National Corridor Call - FBI Highway Serial Killer Initiative

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Cultural Liaison Officer

The Cultural Liaison Officer program provides support to indigenous and ethnic groups in North Dakota; the NDHP as a department; individual law enforcement officers; and the governmental staff of North Dakota. Having an individual contact point within the agency has helped simplify, expand, and diversify relationships for all impacted parties. The CLO duties are also split with the recruiter duties. This role is filled by Trooper Michael Wald.

The CLO program provides a basis for the cultivation of relationships and dialogue between cultural groups and NDHP. This has created new working relationships between indigenous and ethnic groups and the NDHP and has strengthened existing relationships built by the CLO program. The feedback from minority groups has been tremendous and positive.

The CLO program continues to work with tribal nations on jurisdictional agreements that affect the daily duties of NDHP's sworn employees. Currently there are two active agreements with the Mandan-Hidatsa-Arikara (MHA) and Spirit Lake tribes.

Much of the CLO program's time is dedicated toward tribal partnerships due to the immediate need for jurisdictional agreements and partnerships. Designated personnel exponentially increases trust building and relationship development. The CLO also assists in supplementing relationships with New American and refugee populations.

2024 CLO program activities:

- Daily or weekly communication inter-agency, with tribal nations, and Indian Affairs Commission
- Provided multiple safety talks and attended wellness events for schools at tribal nations
- Coordinated meetings and provided multiple training sessions with Bismarck Global Neighbors
- Participated in a New American job fair to expand our diversity recruitment pool
- Participated in a Sioux County Commissioner's meeting to discuss an agreement on truck enforcement on the Standing Rock Sioux tribal lands and highways
- Attended powwows in four tribal nations and the United Tribes Technical College Powwow
- Attended multiple ND Indian Affairs Commission meetings
- Presented Cultural Awareness class at University of Mary's diversity class
- Participated in multiple Vision Zero events across the state
- Attended Cannonball Flag Day ceremony
- Instructed Cultural Awareness class at LETA
- Attended Cultural Competency course at BMDC

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Cultural Liaison Officer

2024 CLO program activities (*cont.*)

- Attended Bakken Human Trafficking Conference
- Participated in multiple *Coffee with a Cop* events
- Attended World Refugee Day event with Global Neighbors & community members
- Attended Government to Government conference and Tribal Leaders Summit
- Attended Savanna's Act Meetings in four tribal nations
- Planned and executed 2024 NDHP Youth Academy at LETA for 19 ND teens
- Attended annual MHA/NDHP agreement meeting
- Attended Tribal & State Relations Committee Meeting at Standing Rock
- Provided multiple community resource presentations at the Adult Learning Center in Fargo
- Assisted Bureau of Indian Affairs and tribes with multiple missing persons cases
- Attended multiple career fairs at various college and high school locations across the state.
- Coordinated with four tribal nations for toy/food delivery from December First Responder Drive events

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Honor Guard

The purpose of the NDHP Honor Guard is to provide a specially trained group of officers to represent the NDHP at events such as law enforcement funerals, memorial ceremonies and other authorized functions.

The NDHP Honor Guard participated in 16 details in 2024:

- Retired Trooper James Anderson Funeral, Mandan
- NDHP Graduation Ceremony (2), Bismarck
- ND Safety Council Conference, Bismarck
- Burnsville MN Officer Paul Elmstrand, Officer Matthew Ruge, and Firefighter Adam Finseth funeral, Eden Prairie, MN
- Mandan PD Detective Mary Ternes Funeral, Mandan
- ND FBLA State Leadership conference, Bismarck
- Vision Zero Conference, Bismarck
- National Police Week, Washington, DC
- Police Week, Grand Forks
- Impaired Driving Conference, Fargo
- Presentation of colors at the RedHawks game for the Association of Counties, Fargo
- Retired Sgt. Curt Ness funeral, Fargo
- State Student Congress, Bismarck
- Retired Bottineau County Sheriff Steve Watson funeral, Bottineau
- Dedication for Mercer County Deputy Paul Martin, Jamestown

Training:

Training was conducted at the LETA in August. Training included an equipment check for all members and a review of the policy manual.

Sgt. Adam Malafa and Sgt. Chris Messer attended the 2024 Police Week in Washington DC. The week included many different duties for Honor Guard teams. NDHP team members were able to assist with the wreath watch at the memorial and had the privilege of being on the red-carpet gauntlet for the President of the United States during the memorial service.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Honor Guard

2024 Team Members:

- Lt. Christopher Messer (Commander)
- Lt. Ryan Panasuk
- Sgt. Jeremiah Bohn
- Sgt. Timothy Coughlin
- Sgt. Josh Gudvangen
- Sgt. Benjamin Hixson
- Sgt. Wade Kadrmas
- Sgt. Adam Malafa
- Trooper William Brown
- Trooper Reece Burckhard
- Trooper Isaiah Jackson
- Trooper Tanner Lembke
- Trooper Grant Lonski
- Trooper Ryan Mugan
- Trooper Johnathan Stanley
- Trooper Thomas Steenstrup
- Capitol Security Officer Jodene Suko

CHAPLAIN PROGRAM

Current NDHP chaplains include Dennis Huenefeld, Lincoln; Jonathan Pust, Williston; Mike Temple, Grand Forks; Chris Waldvogel, Fargo; Father Chad Wilhelm, Jamestown; Michael Wolters, Dickinson; and Les Wolfgram, Bismarck.

Father Kenneth Phillips, Minot, resigned as chaplain in March 2024.

NDHP Chaplains participated in eight ride-a-longs with troopers in 2024.

NDHP Chaplains Huenefeld, Waldvogel, Wolters, and Wolfgram participated in a total of five death notifications with troopers in 2024.

NDHP Chaplains submitted articles for each of the monthly Bear Facts newsletters in 2024.

NDHP Chaplains led training at the Law Enforcement Training Academy dealing with “Stress in Law Enforcement” and “Marriage” with recruits and led prayer at Basic and NDHP graduation ceremonies.

NDHP Chaplains attended two NDHP personnel promotion ceremonies and one retirement ceremony in 2024.

Chaplains Pust and Wolfgram participated in one Critical Incident Stress Debriefing in 2024.

Chaplains Temple, Waldvogel, Wolfgram, and Waldvogel made nine station visits to the regional NDHP offices.

Chaplain Wolfgram attended the funeral of Officer Mary Ternes in Mandan in March; had three pre-marriage sessions and one marriage ceremony with NDHP personnel; participated in five office visits with NDHP personnel at the NDHP HQ office; had conversations over coffee or lunch with NDHP personnel on four occasions; distributed Peace Officer Bibles to NDHP personnel per request to regional offices; and offered a seasonal greeting at Christmas on behalf of the NDHP via the Department’s social media.

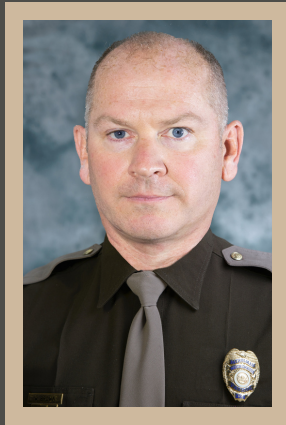
AWARDS

2023 Trooper of the Year

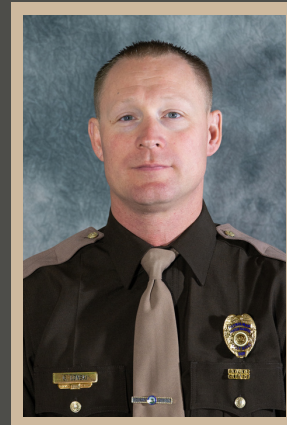
Trooper Myles Sundby, MCO



2023 Nominees



Trooper William Brown, SW



Trooper Grant Lonski, SW



Trooper Ryan Mugan, NE



Trooper Thomas Steenstrup, SE



Trooper Brandon Wade, MCO

AWARDS

Trooper of the Year Recipients

- 1989 – Trooper Wayne French, Grafton, Grand Forks District
- 1990 – Trooper Kyle Kirchmeier, Watford City, Williston District
- 1991 – Trooper Richard Geiss, Lisbon, Fargo District
- 1992 – Trooper Alan Billehus, Williston, Williston District
- 1993 – Trooper Joel Liebl, Fargo, Fargo District
- 1994 – Trooper Darryl Bulzomi, Carrington, Bismarck District
- 1995 – Trooper Norman Ruud, Watford City, Dickinson District
- 1996 – Trooper Richard Kuppich, Fargo, Fargo District
- 1997 – Trooper Robert Kennedy, Cando, Minot District
- 1998 – Trooper Keith Ogden, Cavalier, Grand Forks District
- 1999 – Trooper Richard Weigelt, Linton, Bismarck District
- 2000 – Trooper Wesley Meidinger, Wishek, Jamestown District
- 2001 – Trooper Rick Richard, Washburn, Bismarck District
- 2002 – Trooper Roger Clemens, Dickinson, Dickinson District
- 2003 – Trooper Joseph Bryan Knight, Minot, Minot District
- 2004 – Trooper Robert Arman, Bismarck, Bismarck District
- 2005 – Trooper William Vance, Dickinson, Dickinson District
- 2006 – Trooper Raynard Trochmann, Grand Forks, Grand Forks District
- 2007 – Trooper Rick Michels, Elgin, SW Region
- 2008 – Trooper Steven Fischer, Rolla, NE Region
- 2009 – Trooper John Sova, Jamestown, Motor Carrier Division
- 2010 – Trooper Kyle Stern, Hillsboro, SE Region
- 2011 – Trooper Ryan Panasuk, Grand Forks, NE Region
- 2012 – Trooper Shannon Henke, Bismarck, SW Region
- 2013 – Trooper Wesley Maley, Oakes, SE Region
- 2014 – Trooper Jamey Jahner, Fargo, SE Region
- 2015 – Trooper Rodney Torgeson, Minot, NW Region
- 2016 – Trooper Christopher Pulver, Stanley, NW Region
- 2017 – Trooper David Kamp, Garrison, NW Region
- 2018 – Trooper Brian Mehlhoff, Bismarck, SW Region
- 2019 – Trooper Brett Mlynar, Devils Lake, NE Region
- 2020 – Trooper Andrew Cashin, Grand Forks, NE Region
- 2021 – Trooper Kristjan Helgoe, Fargo, SE Region
- 2022 – Trooper Jonathan Skalicky, Jamestown, SE Region
- 2023 – Trooper Myles Sundby, Jamestown, Motor Carrier Division

AWARDS

Critical Task Assessment Recognition

Regional Results (average time)

Southeast Region: 4:38

Headquarters: 4:56

Northwest Region: 4:50

Northeast Region: 4:59

Southwest Region: 4:55

Motor Carrier Operations: 5:36

NDHP Officers meeting the time limit within their age grouping and receiving the CTA individual award:

Trooper Brady Aberle

Capt. Derek Arndt

Trooper Paul Bakke

Trooper John Bartlette

Trooper Bennett Bitz

Trooper Nathan Boll

Trooper Alex Breitbach

Trooper William Brown

Trooper Jeremy Buehre

Trooper Steven Clark

Trooper Gregory Conlin

Sgt. Tim Coughlin

Sgt. Matt Denault

Sgt. Ryan Duletski

Capt. Adam Dvorak

Trooper Austin Erickson

Trooper Casey Fetch

Trooper Tim Frank

Trooper Shawn Fulwider

Trooper Dennis Gallagher

Trooper Nevon Heisler

Trooper Kristjan Helgoe

Lt. Luke Hendrickson

Trooper Mike Hinrichs

Trooper Anthony Hoaby

Trooper Frank Holdburg

Trooper Jacob Hudson

Trooper Steven Iden

Major Tom Iverson

Trooper Landon Jacobson

Trooper Jamey Jahner

Trooper Shane Johnson

Trooper Evan Johnson

Trooper Jacob Jones

Sgt. Wade Kadrmas

Trooper Charles Kelly

Trooper Zackary Kennedy

Sgt. Ben Kennelly

Trooper Nathaniel King

Sgt. Dave Kolness

Trooper Kolton Krance

Sgt. Preston Langer

Trooper Mathew Lee

Trooper Grant Lonski

Sgt. Adam Malafa

Trooper Darin Malafa

Trooper Ves Marinov

Trooper Steve Mayer

Trooper Cam McCann

Sgt. Brian Mehlhoff

Trooper Peter Miley

Trooper Brett Mlynar

Trooper Dan Moore

Trooper Ryan Mugan

Trooper Travis Nelson

Trooper Don Neumann

Capt. Bryan Niewind

Trooper Christopher Olson

Trooper Joshua Page

Lt. Ryan Panasuk

Trooper Matt Peschong

Trooper AJ Potter

Trooper Jed Reile

Trooper Miles Rhonemus

Trooper Josh Rode

Trooper Arlen Rohrich

Sgt. Jeremy Rost

Trooper Ethan Rostvedt

Trooper Troy Roth

Sgt. Evan Savageau

Trooper Christopher Schaefer

Sgt. Shawn Skogen

Trooper Thomas Steenstrup

Trooper Craig Tuhy

Trooper Chris Vigness

Trooper Casey Visocsky

Trooper Michael Wald

Trooper Grant Wosick

AWARDS

In-Service

Criminal Arrests

Trooper Austin Yancy
Trooper Josh Dura
Trooper James Myers III
Trooper Benjamin Wenger
Trooper Andrew Skogen

Trooper Damian Wright
Trooper Charles Kelly
Trooper Justin Cote-Kanning
Sgt. Coby Hubble
Trooper Miles Rhonemus

Driver/Vehicle Examinations

Inspector Trent Scott
Trooper Brandon Wade
Trooper Rodney Torgeson
Trooper Jackson Loeffel
Trooper Anthony Hoaby
Trooper Mike Hinrichs

Trooper Paul Bakke
Trooper Cam McCann
Trooper Ryan Hoffner
Trooper Donald Neumann
Sgt. Jed Dahnke

Drug Enforcement

Trooper Austin Yancy
Trooper Josh Dura
Trooper James Myers III
Sgt. Kristjan Helgoe
Sgt. Coby Hubble

Trooper Austin Erickson
Trooper Brett Mlynar
Trooper Tanner Lembke
Trooper Charles Kelly
Trooper Damon Burkel

DUI Enforcement

Trooper Austin Yancy
Trooper Benjamin Wenger
Trooper William Brown
Trooper Jed Reile
Trooper Josh Dura

Trooper Andrew Skogen
Trooper Justin Cote-Kanning
Sgt. Coby Hubble
Trooper Christopher Olson
Trooper Damian Wright

AWARDS

In-Service

Occupant Protection Enforcement

Trooper Jamey Jahner
Trooper Austin Yancy
Trooper Christopher Pulver
Trooper Grant Lonski
Trooper Justin Cote-Kanning

Trooper Denver Oase
Trooper Tanner Lembke
Trooper Ryan Mugan
Sgt. Kristjan Helgoe
Trooper Christopher Olson

Overload Enforcement

Trooper Myles Sundby
Trooper Rob Moyle
Trooper Dan Moore

Right of Way Enforcement

Trooper Austin Yancy
Trooper Andrew Skogen
Trooper Josh Dura
Trooper Benjamin Wenger
Trooper Justin Cote-Kanning

Trooper Sean Trentman
Trooper Bennett Strege
Trooper Christopher Pulver
Trooper Mitchell Mehrer
Trooper Damian Wright

Speed Enforcement

Trooper Tanner Lembke
Trooper Jamey Jahner
Trooper Benjamin Wenger
Trooper Justin Cote-Kanning
Trooper Damian Wright

Trooper Andrew Skogen
Trooper Camron McFarland
Trooper Josh Dura
Trooper Austin Yancy
Trooper Isaiah Jackson

Safety Talks/Presentations

Trooper Michael Wald
Trooper Michael Hayen
Trooper Ethan Rostvedt

Trooper Bennett Bitz
Trooper Wes Maley
Trooper Don Neumann

AWARDS

Years of Service

45 Years

Jill Ginder
Mark Learn

35 Years

Jerry Olson

20 Years

Trooper Josh Anderson
Trooper Jeremy Buehre
Trooper Ryan Hoffner
Major Tom Iverson
Sgt. Shawn Skogen
Trooper Rodney Torgeson

25 Years

Capt. Adam Dvorak
Major Aaron Hummel
Trooper Christopher Pulver
Colonel Brandon Solberg

15 Years

Trooper Bennett Bitz
Trooper Timothy Frank
Darcy Peterson

10 Years

Trooper Cory Formaneck	Sgt. Matthew Johnson	Trooper Cam McCann
Sgt. Josh Gudvangen	Sgt. Nate King	Trooper Denver Oase
Trooper Dan Hanson	Trooper Mark Kline	Trooper Josh Page
Trooper Nevon Heisler	Sgt. Preston Langer	Trooper Ethan Rostvedt
Trooper Austin Hilzendeger	Trooper Brian Larson	Trooper Eric Rumble
Sgt. Ben Hixson	Trooper Jackson Loeffel	Trooper Johnathan Stanley
Trooper Anthony Hoaby	Trooper Ves Marinov	Trooper Grant Wosick

5 Years

Trooper Casey Fetch	Kristin Krahler	Recruit Preston Zander
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3 Years

Trooper Josh Dura	Trooper Alyson Moses	Trooper Shea Pulley
Trooper Stephen Horn	Brenda Olson-Wray	Trooper Austin Yancy
Trooper Mathew Lee	Johnny Pabon	

AWARDS

Safe Driving

The Loss Control Committee meets quarterly to review crashes, incidents, and injuries. When Officers reach a 5-year increment in which they have not had a preventable crash, the officer is recognized with a Safe Driving Award.

20-Year Award Recognition

Trooper Josh Anderson (June)

15-Year Award Recognition

Trooper Mike Hinrichs (March)

Trooper Chris Pulver (June)

Sgt. Wade Kadrmas (September)

10-Year Award Recognition

Trooper Grant Lonski (March)

Trooper Cory Formanek (September)

Trooper Dan Hanson (September)

Trooper Anthony Hoaby (September)

Trooper Mark Kline (September)

Trooper Denver Oase (September)

Trooper Ethan Rostvedt (September)

Trooper Chelsey Schatz (September)

Trooper Grant Wosick (September)

Trooper Andrew Birkholz (December)

Sgt. Jenna Clawson Huibregtse (December)

Sgt. Adam Malafa (December)

Trooper Matt Peschong (December)

5-Year Award Recognition

Trooper Chris Laite (March)

Trooper Don Neumann (June)

Trooper Michael Arndt (September)

Trooper William Brown (December)

AWARDS

Distinguished Service

The NDHP Distinguished Service Medal is awarded to an NDHP Officer who, in the discharge of official duties, distinguishes themselves by extraordinary heroism or devotion to duty during a specific incident or event.

NDHP Distinguished Service Medal Awardees

- Trooper Megan Christopher, 2009
- Capt. Bryan Niewind, 2009
- Sgt. Benjamin Kennelly, 2009
- Sgt. Jed Dahnke, 2016
- Sgt. Adam Malafa, 2016
- Trooper Miles Rhonemus, 2022
- Trooper James Myers III, 2024
- Sgt. Coby Hubble, 2024

TROOPER JAMES MYERS III



Trooper James Myers III was awarded the NDHP Distinguished Service for his heroic actions during an incident that occurred March 23, 2024, in Grand Forks County. That day, law enforcement officers responded to a critical situation in Larimore, where a man had been shot, and the armed gunman remained inside the residence where the shooting had occurred. Grand Forks County deputies and NDHP Trooper James Myers secured the area. The victim's spouse wanted to get to her husband but due to safety concerns, she was told to stay out of the area as the gunman was still active. A short time later, she rammed her vehicle into the home. Trooper Myers and Grand Forks Deputy (and current NDHP Trooper) Alekzander Harvey, devised a tactical plan and drove a squad car up to the door, provided contact and cover, and removed the spouse from the area. Minutes after the woman was removed, the suspect began firing at law enforcement. Thanks to the courage and selfless service of Trooper Myers and Deputy Harvey, along with assistance from Grand Forks SWAT members and other Grand Forks County Deputies, the gunman was taken into custody without further injuries.

Nominated by: Sgt. Matthew Johnson

AWARDS

Distinguished Service

SERGEANT COBY HUBBLE



Sgt. Coby Hubble was awarded the NDHP Distinguished Service for his heroic actions during the catastrophic wildfires in Williams County on October 5, 2024. Sgt. Hubble drove toward the active fire to search for any possible fire victims and to help evacuate people. He located a stranded vehicle in the middle of a county road and upon approach, discovered an occupant who had sustained significant burns. Hubble recognized the severity of the injuries as the fire surrounded them. Sgt. Hubble loaded the victim into his patrol vehicle to transport him. While enroute to a health care facility, Hubble coordinated with State Radio to get an ambulance ready to take over the transport at a prearranged point. Hubble met the ambulance, and the paramedics soon recognized that the injuries were severe enough to need all of them to provide aid to the patient. Hubble then drove the ambulance to the hospital to allow the paramedics to treat the patient. While the man didn't survive his extensive injuries, Sgt. Hubble's selfless acts of heroism that day gave him a fighting chance.

Nominated by: Sgt. Preston Langer

AWARDS

Meritorious Service

The NDHP Meritorious Service Medal can be awarded to any sworn member who served with merit and distinction and voluntarily retired or involuntarily retired due to a line of duty injury or medical illness.

- Merit – having superior quality or worth; demonstrated ability or achievement; praiseworthy
- Distinction – accomplishments that set one apart; served with excellence; reputable
- Agency Mission and Values – strict adherence throughout career
- Community Involvement – strong community support
- Extra Duties – involvement in duties that are needed for the department to function

2024 Recipients:

- **Colonel Brandon Solberg**, retirement date: November 30, 2024
- **Trooper Kyle Stern**, retirement date: October 31, 2024

Vision Zero Awards

Beyond the Traffic Stop Award: honors officers who used outstanding investigative skills that led to multiple arrests for narcotics, stolen property and/or outstanding warrants from a single routine traffic stop.

- Trooper Joshua Fastnacht was recognized for his composure, strategic decision-making and persistence during a high-risk pursuit in Jamestown on July 23, 2024. By employing tactical patience, Trooper Fastnacht safely apprehended a fleeing suspect involved in a serious drug-related offense.

Vision Zero Appreciation Award which recognizes individuals who play an active role in decreasing fatalities and serious injuries on North Dakota roadways.

- Retired Colonel Brandon Solberg

Child Passenger Safety Award recognizes Child Passenger Safety Technicians and/or instructors for their commitment to child passenger safety.

- Trooper Nevon Heisler

SE Region Leader Award: Speeding Slows You Down Campaign

- Sgt. Adam Malafa

SE Region Leader Award: Click It or Ticket Seatbelt campaign

- Sgt. Kristjan Helgoe

AWARDS

Vision Zero Awards

Hat Trick Award given to an officer who successfully removes three impaired drivers from the roadways during a single high visibility enforcement overtime shift

- Trooper Austin Yancy, October 28 shift,
- Trooper Damian Wright October 28, 2023 shift and March 16, 2024

Commemorative Coin recipients: recognized for their commitment to enforcing traffic safety laws and promoting traffic safety:

- Sgt. Andrew Cashin
- Trooper Greg Conlin
- Trooper Justin Cote-Kanning
- Trooper Josh Dura
- Trooper Trevor Elfman
- Sgt Kristjan Helgoe
- Trooper Jamey Jahner
- Trooper Tanner Lembke
- Trooper Camron McFarland
- Trooper Chris Olson
- Trooper Dustin Pattengale
- Trooper Chris Pulver
- Trooper Miles Rhonemus
- Sgt. Jonathan Skalicky
- Trooper Andrew Skogen
- Trooper Thomas Steenstrup
- Trooper Bennett Strege
- Trooper Ben Wenger
- Trooper Austin Yancy

Saved by the Belt

Bitzan family: Donald, Tanya, Adonya, Zephyra, Amadeus, Talitha and Theophilus

In December 2023, Donald and Tanya Bitzan and their five children were traveling near Tappen, when they hit an icy patch on the road, causing their van to roll over and land upside down. Because the family took the time to buckle everyone in the vehicle correctly, the children and Tanya, who was pregnant at the time, were unharmed. Donald received only minor injuries. During National Child Passenger Safety Week, the North Dakota Health and Human Services, Vision Zero and the NDHP recognized the Bitzan family for their decision to wear their seat belts.

Nominated by Sgt. Jeremy Rost

AWARDS

Colonel's Award for Excellence

The Colonel's Award for Excellence is awarded to NDHP personnel and citizens who are deserving of special recognition.

Recipients: Trooper Charles Kelly and Trooper Grant Lonski
Nominated by: Sgt. Brian Mehlhoff

Trooper Kelly and Trooper Lonski were nominated for their response and leadership to the December 6, 2023, events in Mercer County that resulted in the death of Deputy Paul Martin who was killed by a fleeing motorist that struck his vehicle. Trooper Kelly was first on scene and played a pivotal role in life-saving attempts on Deputy Martin. Trooper Lonski was the lead investigator who remained committed to the case, working with other agencies to bring resolution to the incident.

Recipients: Trooper Andrew Skogen, William BJ Quinn, Michelle Erickson, Jessica Mortenson, and Elliot Steinbrink
Nominated by Captain Bryan Niewind

The award was given as a result from a crash that occurred in Fargo on May 8 on I-94/I-29 overpass. Justin Sagsveen went into cardiac arrest and crashed his vehicle westbound on I-94. Trooper Andrew Skogen and the civilians provided three rounds of CPR and medical assistance until EMS arrived. Between rounds of CPR, Sagsveen regained a pulse and began breathing on his own, to only code again each time.

Recipient: Chaplain Les Wolfgram
Nominated by Sgt. Jenna Clawson Huibregtse

Chaplain Les Wolfgram received the award for his 17 years of service to the North Dakota Highway Patrol.

Recipient: Mark Learn
Nominated by Major Aaron Hummel

Upon his retirement, Mark received the Colonel's Award for Excellence for dedicating 37 years of service to the agency.

Recipient: Chaplain Reverend Kenneth Phillips
Nominated by Sgt. Jenna Clawson Huibregtse

Upon resignation from the agency, Father Phillips was recognized for 30 years of service as a chaplain with the Highway Patrol, beginning with the program's inception in 1994.

AWARDS

Colonel's Award for Excellence

Recipients: Sgt. Preston Langer, Trooper Mathew Lee, Trooper Alyson Moses, and Trooper Landon Jacobson

Nominated by Lt. Chris Messer nominated Sgt Langer

Sgt. Preston Langer nominated Trooper Lee, Trooper Moses and Trooper Jacobson

Sgt. Preston Langer, Trooper Mathew Lee, Trooper Alyson Moses, and Trooper Landon Jacobson were presented with the Colonel's Award for Excellence for their valuable work during the October fires in the Northwest region: Trooper Lee in the Arnegard, Watford City, Charlson and Mandaree fires; Trooper Moses in the Ray fire; and Trooper Jacobson in the Charlson fire. Sgt. Langer was nominated for his leadership and teamwork abilities, specifically coordinating trooper movements; blocking roadways; and coordinating and participating in search and rescue efforts.

Recipients: Trooper Justin Cote-Kanning

Nominated by Sgt. Josh Gudvangen

Trooper Justin Cote-Kanning was nominated for heroic actions shown in response to a house fire in Balfour, ND on May 29, 2024. Dispatch was on the phone with a woman who was trapped inside the house, Trooper Cote-Kanning was about four miles away and responded. Upon arrival, he kicked the door in allowing the occupant to escape the fire.

Recipients: Trooper Frank Holdburg, Carolyn Lawson, Richard Lawson, Orrin Kluting, Brooklyn Kuzel, Tygh Tarskis, and the Stutsman County Sheriff's Office

Nominated by Sgt. Jon Skalicky

The recipients were recognized for their actions following a crash on July 15, 2024, on I-94 west of Jamestown. Following the crash, the vehicle rolled and came to rest in a body of water with the occupants trapped inside. Carolyn Lawson, 9, and Richard Lawson, 11, were passengers in the vehicle but they worked together to get another passenger to safety. Orrin Kluting and Brooklyn Kuzel entered the water and were able to get several occupants to safety. Trooper Frank Holdburg was one of the first law enforcement officers on scene; he and several Stutsman County Deputies immediately entered the water and searched until all passengers were accounted for. Tygh Tarskis, a reserve deputy with the Stutsman County Sheriff's Department, provided invaluable support to the families involved.

Recipients: Trooper Mike Hayen

Nominated by Sgt. Brian Mehlhoff

Trooper Michael Hayen was nominated for ongoing efforts in traffic safety education and community outreach providing "Under the Trooper's Hat" articles for local newspapers and the NDHP's social media since 2017.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Promotions

February 1, 2024	Trooper Jon Skalicky , Southeast Region-Valley City Promoted to Sergeant, Southeast Region-Valley City
March 1, 2024	Trooper Coby Hubble , Northwest Region-Crosby Promoted to Sergeant, Northwest Region-Williston
October 1, 2024	Amanda Roehrich , HQ, Accounting Budget Specialist, HQ-Bismarck Promoted to Accounting Manager, HQ-Bismarck
December 1, 2024	Lt. Daniel Haugen , Southwest Region-Bismarck Promoted to Superintendent, HQ-Bismarck

New Hires

February 1, 2024	Anthony Potter , Trooper, NW-Watford City
May 22, 2024	Warden Dahlgren , LETA, recruit
May 22, 2024	Nathan Demme , LETA, recruit
May 22, 2024	Tucker Williams , LETA, recruit
May 22, 2024	Preston Zander , LETA, recruit
May 27, 2024	Joshua Fastnacht , LETA, recruit
May 27, 2024	Jorge Elizondo , LETA, recruit
May 27, 2024	Alekzander Harvey , LETA, recruit
May 27, 2024	Shane Rothenberger , LETA, recruit
May 27, 2024	Casey Visocsky , LETA, recruit
July 1, 2024	Melanie Frieson , Capitol Security Officer, HQ
July 15, 2024	Dawson Brost , LETA, recruit
July 15, 2024	Jordan Noyes , LETA, recruit
July 15, 2024	Jacob Walker , LETA, recruit
August 9, 2024	Beth Boucher , Capitol Security Officer, HQ
December 1, 2024	Amanda Miller , account budget specialist, HQ
December 23, 2024	Todd Bailey , Capitol Security Officer, HQ

HUMAN RESOURCES

Transfers

January 27, 2024	Recruit Zackary Kennedy , LETA-Bismarck Transferred to Traffic Enforcement Trooper, NE-Cando
February 1, 2024	Sgt. Jenna Clawson Huibregtse , Planning Officer, HQ-Bismarck Transferred to Safety and Education Officer, HQ-Bismarck
February 1, 2024	Sgt. Evan Savageau , Regional Sergeant, SE-Jamestown Transferred to Planning Officer, HQ-Bismarck
March 1, 2024	Trooper Reece Burckhard , Traffic Enforcement Trooper, NE-Rugby Transferred to SW Region, Bismarck
March 1, 2024	Trooper Josh Rode , Traffic Enforcement Trooper, SW-Steele Transferred to MCO-Steele
March 1, 2024	Trooper Cody Harstad , Traffic Enforcement Trooper, NE-Hillsboro Transferred to MCO-Hillsboro
March 1, 2024	Trooper Paul Sova , Traffic Enforcement Trooper, SE-Jamestown Transferred to MCO-Jamestown
March 1, 2024	Trooper Austin Erickson , Traffic Enforcement Trooper, NE-Grafton Transferred to Traffic Enforcement Trooper, NE-Grand Forks
April 1, 2024	Trooper Alyson Moses , Traffic Enforcement Trooper, NW-Williston Transferred to MCO-Williston
April 1, 2024	Trooper Christa Kovarik , Traffic Enforcement Trooper, NW-Garrison Transferred to MCO-Garrison
April 1, 2024	Trooper Camron McFarland , Traffic Enforcement Trooper, NE-Rolla Transferred to Traffic Enforcement Trooper, NW-Minot
April 1, 2024	Trooper Brady Aberle , Traffic Enforcement Trooper, NW-Williston Transferred to Traffic Enforcement Trooper, SW-Bismarck
April 1, 2024	Trooper Coby Hubble , Traffic Enforcement Trooper, NW-Crosby Transferred to MCO-Crosby
April 1, 2024	Trooper Evan Johnson , Traffic Enforcement Trooper, SE-Jamestown Transferred to SW-Bismarck
May 27, 2024	Recruit Shane Rothenberger , LETA-Bismarck Transferred to Traffic Enforcement Trooper, NE-Rugby
May 27, 2024	Recruit Alekzander Harvey , LETA-Bismarck Transferred to Traffic Enforcement Trooper, NE-Grafton
May 27, 2024	Recruit Jorge Elizondo , LETA-Bismarck Transferred to Traffic Enforcement Trooper, NE-Hillsboro
May 27, 2024	Recruit Casey Visocsky , LETA-Bismarck Transferred to Criminal Interdiction Trooper, HQ-Minot

HUMAN RESOURCES

Transfers

May 27, 2024	Recruit Joshua Fastnacht , LETA-Bismarck Transferred to Traffic Enforcement Trooper, SE-Jamestown
July 15, 2024	Trooper Kolton Krance , Traffic Enforcement Trooper, NE-Grafton Transferred to Traffic Enforcement Trooper, SW-Steele
August 12, 2024	Trooper Damian Wright , Traffic Enforcement Trooper, SE-Wahpeton Transferred to Traffic Enforcement Trooper, SW-Bismarck
August 12, 2024	Trooper Shane Johnson , Traffic Enforcement Trooper, SE-Jamestown Transferred to Traffic Enforcement Trooper, SE-Valley City
August 16, 2024	Recruit Jacob Walker , LETA-Bismarck Transferred to Traffic Enforcement Trooper, SE-Wahpeton
August 16, 2024	Recruit Jordan Noyes , LETA-Bismarck Transferred to Traffic Enforcement Trooper, SE-Jamestown
August 16, 2024	Recruit Dawson Brost , LETA-Bismarck Transferred to Traffic Enforcement Trooper, NW-Williston
October 5, 2024	Recruit Warden Dahlgren , LETA-Bismarck Transferred to Traffic Enforcement Trooper, NW-Williston
October 5, 2024	Recruit Tucker Williams , LETA-Bismarck Transferred to Traffic Enforcement Trooper, NW-Watford City
December 2, 2024	Trooper Darby Kessner , Traffic Enforcement Trooper, NW-Williston Transferred to MCO-Williston
December 2, 2024	Trooper Landon Jacobson , Traffic Enforcement Trooper, NW-Williston Transferred to Traffic Enforcement Trooper SW-Beulah

HUMAN RESOURCES

LETA Graduating Class



NDHP 2024 Troopers (left-right) Casey Visocky, Jorge Elizondo, Jacob Walker, Preston Zander, Tucker Williams, Nathan Demme, Joshua Fastnacht, Dawson Brost, Shane Rothenberger, Jordan Noyes, Alekzander Harvey, and Warden Dahlgren.

Ten troopers celebrated their graduation from the North Dakota Law Enforcement Training Academy on Friday, October 4, 2024. Eight of the officers, who were currently licensed peace officers prior to joining the NDHP, completed a three-week highway patrol specific training program and were sworn in at various times in 2024. The remaining troopers successfully completed a 19-week, comprehensive law enforcement training program that began in May 2024.

- **Trooper Dawson Brost** is originally from Wolf Point, MT and moved to Dickinson as a child. Prior to joining the NDHP, he served in the US Marine Corps as a Motor Transport Mechanic, Burleigh County Sheriff's Office; and ND Livestock Association as an investigator. Brost is serving in Williston.
- **Trooper Warden Dahlgren** grew up in Edgeley, he graduated from the University of Minnesota-Crookston where he studied Criminal Justice and Communications. Prior to joining the NDHP, he worked in the retail section. Dahlgren serves the Northwest region and is stationed in Williston.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- **Trooper Jorge Elizondo** is from Laredo Texas; he graduated from the American Military University and studied public health. Prior to joining the NDHP, he served as a police officer. Elizondo serves the Northeast region and is stationed in Hillsboro.
- **Trooper Joshua Fastnacht** grew up in Ellendale and graduated from Lake Region State College with a degree in law enforcement. Prior to joining the NDHP, he worked at the LaMoure County Sheriff's Office. Trooper Fastnacht is stationed in Jamestown, serving the Southeast region.
- **Trooper Alekzander Harvey** is from Muscatine, Iowa. He graduated from Western Illinois University with a degree in Law Enforcement and Justice Administration. Prior to joining the NDHP, Harvey was a Deputy with Grand Forks County Sheriff's Office. Trooper Harvey serves the Northeast region and is stationed in Grafton.
- **Trooper Jordan Noyes** is from Lynchburg, Virginia. He has an associate's degree in administration of justice. Prior to joining the NDHP, Noyes worked with the Virginia State Police. Trooper Noyes serves the Southeast region and is stationed in Jamestown.
- **Trooper Shane Rothenberger** is from Grand Forks. He graduated from Lake Region State College where I studied Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice. Rothenberger was a Deputy Sheriff prior to joining the NDHP. He serves the Northeast region and is stationed in Rugby.
- **Trooper Casey Visocsy** grew up in Minot, he studied Criminal Justice at Lake Region State College and University of Wisconsin, Superior. He previously worked in law enforcement with the city of Surrey and Ward County Sheriff's Office. He is a Criminal Interdiction Trooper, stationed in Minot.
- **Trooper Jacob Walker** is from Fosston, Minnesota and worked with the Polk County Sheriff's Office prior to joining the NDHP. Walker serves the Southeast region and is stationed in Wahpeton.
- **Trooper Tucker Williams** grew up in Grand Forks. He graduated from the University of North Dakota with a degree in Public Affairs and worked at the North Dakota Tax Department in Motor Fuels prior to joining the NDHP. Williams serves the Northwest region and is stationed in Watford City.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Retirements/Separations

Trooper Cody Nuenthel, NE-Grand Forks
January 6, 2014 – January 1, 2024

Sgt. Michelle Romans, Northwest Regional Sergeant-Williston
January 6, 2014 – March 15, 2024

Trooper Tucker McDonald, NW-Watford City
January 8, 2018 – April 1, 2024

Trooper Mykal Porter, NW-Williston
September 20, 2023 – May 1, 2024

Trooper Remington Timothy, NE-Rugby
November 27, 2023 – May 30, 2024

Aria Forster, Capitol Security Officer, HQ
September 5, 2023 – June 10, 2024

Joseph Weigum, Capitol Security Officer, HQ
October 22, 2018 – June 27, 2024

Beth Boucher, Capitol Security Officer, HQ
Aug. 9, 2024 – September 27, 2024

Mark Learn, HQ-Account Manager
April 20, 1987 – September 30, 2024

Recruit Nathan Demme, LETA
May 22, 2024 – October 4, 2024

Recruit Preston Zander, LETA (previous Capitol Security Officer)
October 14, 2019 – October 4, 2024

Trooper Trenton Stewart, SE-Fargo
November 27, 2023 – October 21, 2024

Trooper Kyle Stern, NE-Hillsboro
January 1, 2002 – October 31, 2024

Trooper Peter Miley, NW-Williston
November 27, 2023 – November 26, 2024

Colonel Brandon Solberg, HQ-Superintendent
January 1, 1999 – November 30, 2024

INTERNAL OPERATIONS

Internal Grievances: There were no internal grievances filed in 2024.

Equal Employment Opportunity Complaints Filed: There were no equal employment opportunity complaints filed in 2024.

Internal Investigations: There were five internal investigations conducted in 2024.

Citizen Complaints: There were 28 documented complaints in 2024 (*multiple complaint types may occur in a single complaint*).

- Enforcement Arrest & Rude Unprofessional Conduct: 2
- Enforcement Arrest Only: 11
- Rude Unprofessional Conduct Only: 8
- Abusive Behavior: 1
- Harassment: 1
- Other – Honesty/Integrity of Employee: 2
- Patrol Vehicle Operations: 3

Results of the investigations:

- 46.4% (13 complaints) were unfounded.
- 14.3% (4 complaints) were improper conduct.
 - One officer was verbally counseled; one was suspended, and one received performance notes.
- 35.7% (10 complaints) were proper conduct.
- 3.6% (1 complaint) had insufficient evidence.

The complaints were reviewed for bias-based profiling. No corrective measures, such as counseling, training, or other corrective measures related to bias-based profiling occurred during 2024.

FISCAL REPORT

JANUARY 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2024

Receipts

Transfers from Hwy Tax Distribution Fund	\$8,442,286
Transfers from General Fund	\$22,158,602
Direct Federal Reimbursements	\$2,609,013
ND Pass-thru Federal Reimbursements	\$5,440,044
Special Fuel Tax Revenue	\$82,740
Transfers from Asset Forfeiture Fund	0
Transfers from Emergency Management Fund	\$49,709
Insurance Recoveries	\$574
Miscellaneous Receipts	<u>\$19,877</u>
Total Receipts	\$38,802,845

Disbursements

Salaries and Wages	(\$28,767,491)
Operating Expenses	(\$8,285,272)
Equipment \$5,000 & Over	(\$389,030)
Capital Improvements	(\$1,281,831)
Grants to Non-Public Entities	(\$58,770)
Transfers to General Fund	0
Transfers to Federal Fund	<u>0</u>
Total Disbursements	<u>(\$38,782,394)</u>

Revenue

Revenue over expenditures/transfers	\$20,451
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NDHP CURRENT STAFF

Trooper Brady Aberle, Bismarck, 9/21/2022
Sgt. Darcy Aberle, Capitol Security, 10/1/2000
Trooper Christopher Allen, Jamestown, 1/7/2013
Trooper Dan Andersen, Valley City, 9/23/2020
Trooper Joshua Anderson, Minot, 6/1/2004
Capt. Derek Arndt, Headquarters, 1/1/2007
Trooper Michael Arndt, LaMoure, 12/1/2014
Todd Bailey, Capitol Security Officer, 12/23/2024
Trooper Paul Bakke, Grand Forks, 9/1/2015
Trooper John Bartlette, Dignitary Protection, Bismarck, 11/28/2022
Sgt. Jeffrey Bauske, Devils Lake, 8/1/2005
Jarod Biberdorf, Capitol Security Officer, 10/19/2022
Trooper Andrew Birkholz, Devils Lake, 5/18/2015
Trooper Bennett Bitz, Bismarck, 9/1/2014
Rachel Bitz, HQ-Planning Analyst, 12/17/2019
Sgt. Jeremiah Bohn, Bismarck, 1/1/2007
Trooper Nathan Boll, Fargo, 1/8/2018
Jamie Bostyan, HQ-Purchasing Coordinator, 12/1/2023
Beth Boucher, Capitol Security Officer, 8/9/2024-9/27/2024
Trooper Alex Breitbach, Jamestown, 1/20/2020
Trooper Dawson Brost, Williston, 7/15/2024
Sgt. Michael Brown, Minot, 1/8/2018
Trooper William Brown, Bismarck, 12/1/2007
Trooper Jeremy Buehre, Northwood, 6/1/2004
Trooper Reece Burckhard, Rolla, 1/6/2020
Damon Burkel, Bismarck, 8/9/2023
Sgt. Andrew Cashin, Fargo, 1/1/2010
Trooper Tarek Chase, Headquarters, 8/1/2008
Trooper Steven Clark, New Salem, 7/5/2011
Sgt. Jenna Clawson Huibregtse, Headquarters, 5/18/2015
Trooper Gregory Conlin, Fargo, 9/20/2023
Trooper Justin Cote-Kanning, Stanley, 11/28/2022
Sgt. Timothy Coughlin, Headquarters, 1/1/2007
Jennifer Dahl, HQ-Grants/Project Specialist, 12/12/2022
Thomas Dahl, Capitol Security Officer, 2/13/2023

NDHP CURRENT STAFF

Trooper Warden Dahlgren, Williston, 5/22/2024
Sgt. Jed Dahnke, Fargo, 8/1/2008
Trooper Brandon Dalzell, Devils Lake, 1/8/2019
Jackie Darr, HQ-Permits Supervisor, 5/1/2001
Recruit Nathan Demme, LETA, 5/22/2024-10/04/2024
Sgt. Matthew Denault, Fargo, 5/1/2003
Peggy Dietz, LETA-Admin. Assistant, 7/1/1983
Lt. Ryan Duletski, Headquarters, 8/1/2007
Trooper Joshua Dura, Fargo, 9/22/2021
Capt. Adam Dvorak, Headquarters, 1/1/2002
Trooper Jorge Elizondo, Grand Forks, 5/27/2024
Trooper Trevor Elfman, Devils Lake, 11/27/2023
Kai Rune Engstroem, HQ-Pilot, 6/16/2023
Trooper Austin Erickson, Grafton, 9/21/2022
Trooper Joshua Fastnacht, Jamestown, 5/27/2024
Trooper Casey Fetch, Jamestown, 9/20/2023
Trooper Cory Formanek, Wahpeton, 9/2/2014
Aria Forster, Capitol Security Officer, 9/5/2023-6/10/2024
Trooper Timothy Frank, Washburn, 1/1/2010
Melanie Frieson, Capitol Security Officer, 7/1/2024
Donna Fuchs, HQ-Admin. Assistant, 5/1/1975
Trooper Shawn Fulwider, Bismarck, 1/8/2018
Trooper Dennis Gallagher, HQ-Pilot, 5/1/2008
Trooper Adam Gebhardt, Dickinson, 8/1/2008
Jill Ginder, Safety Auditor, Grand Forks, 7/1/1983
Deb Grasl, Safety Auditor, Dickinson, 9/1/2000
Sgt. Joshua Gudvangen, Minot, 5/18/2015
Trooper Daniel Hanson, Williston, 9/2/2014
Trooper Cody Harstad, Hillsboro, 8/1/2008
Trooper Alekzander Harvey, Grafton, 5/27/2024
Colonel Daniel Haugen, Headquarters, 9/1/2000
Trooper Michael Hayen, Linton, 3/12/2012
Trooper Nevon Heisler, Grand Forks, 1/6/2014
Sgt. Kristjan Helgoe, Fargo, 8/1/2005

NDHP CURRENT STAFF

Lt. Luke Hendrickson, Fargo, 5/1/2003
Shannon Henke, HQ-Pilot, 9/1/2020
Chad Hermanson, Capitol Security Officer, 12/4/2023
Trooper Austin Hilzendeger, Minot, 9/2/2014
Trooper Michael Hinrichs, Bismarck, 1/1/2007
Sgt. Benjamin Hixson, Dignitary Protection, 1/6/2014
Trooper Anthony Hoaby, Stanley, 1/6/2014
Trooper Ryan Hoffner, Fargo, 6/1/2004
Trooper Frank Holdburg, Jamestown, 9/20/2023
Doug Hoopman, HQ-Warehouse Manager, 4/1/2012
Trooper Major Hopp, Bottineau, 1/8/2018
Trooper Stephen Horn, Williston, 12/18/2023
Trooper Coby Hubble, Crosby, 4/20/2020
Trooper Jacob Hudson, Williston, 9/20/2023
Major Aaron Hummel, Headquarters, 1/1/1999
Trooper Steven Iden, Dignitary Protection, 5/18/2015
Trooper Gabriel Irvis, Fargo, 3/12/2012
Major Thomas Iverson, Headquarters, 6/1/2004
Trooper Isaiah Jackson, Dickinson, 1/20/2020
Trooper Landon Jacobson, Beulah, 9/20/2023
Trooper Jamey Jahner, Fargo, 5/1/2003
Trooper Abe Johannes, Fargo, 9/21/2022
Trooper Dan Johnson, Minot, 1/20/2020
Trooper Evan Johnson, Jamestown, 7/5/2023
Sgt. Matthew Johnson, Grand Forks, 1/6/2014
Trooper Shane Johnson, Valley City, 11/27/2023
Trooper Jacob Jones, Bismarck, 7/5/2011
Sgt. Wade Kadrmas, LETA, 8/1/2005
Trooper Charles Kelly, Bismarck, 5/18/2015
Bruce Kemmett, Capitol Security Officer, 2/13/2023
Robert Kennedy, HQ-Crash Assistance Specialist, 10/11/2021
Trooper Zach Kennedy, Cando, 12/18/2023
Sgt. Benjamin Kennelly, LETA, 1/1/2007
Trooper Darby Kessner, Williston, 1/8/2018
Sgt. Nathaniel King, Jamestown, 9/2/2014

NDHP CURRENT STAFF

Trooper Andrew Klegstad, Hillsboro, 7/5/2023
Trooper Mark Kline, Minot, 9/2/2014
Sgt. Dave Kolness, Williston, 3/12/2012
Trooper Christa Kovarik, Garrison, 5/1/2003
Kristin Krahler, HQ-Human Resource Officer, 9/23/2019
Trooper Kolton Krance, Steele, 9/20/2023
Trooper Christopher Laite, Devils Lake, 5/1/2003
Sgt. Preston Langer, Watford City, 9/2/2014
Trooper Brian Larson, Fargo, 1/6/2014
Mark Learn, HQ-Account Manager, 4/20/1987-9/30/2024
Trooper Mathew Lee, Watford City, 9/22/2021
Trooper Tanner Lembke, Fargo, 9/21/2022
Trooper Jackson Loeffel, Dickinson, 9/2/2014
Trooper Grant Lonski, Bismarck, 9/1/2008
Trooper Tyler Loven, Dickinson, 1/20/2020
Trooper Kristina Luhman, Fargo, 9/23/2020
Sgt. Adam Malafa, Fargo, 7/5/2011
Trooper Darin Malafa, Fargo, 5/18/2015
Trooper Wesley Maley, Oakes, 9/1/2005
Trooper Ves Marinov, Fargo, 1/6/2014
Lt. Adrian Martinez, LETA, 11/27/2017
Jorge Martinez, Capitol Security Officer, 3/7/2023
Pam Mattern, HQ-Admin. Assistant, 3/1/2008
Trooper Steven Mayer, Bismarck, 9/1/2005
Trooper Cameron McCann, Fargo, 1/6/2014
Trooper Tucker McDonald, Watford City, 1/8/2018-4/1/2024
Trooper Camron McFarland, Rolla, 9/21/2022
Sgt. Brian Mehlhoff, Bismarck, 1/1/2007
Trooper Mitchell Mehrer, Williston, 9/23/2020
Lt. Christopher Messer, Williston, 9/1/2000
Trooper Peter Miley, Williston, 11/27/2023 -11/26/2024
Amanda Miller, HQ-Account Specialist, 12/2/2024
Michael Miller, Capitol Security Officer, 6/2/2021-2/29/2024
Trooper Brett Mlynar, Devils Lake, 1/1/2010
Sandy Moen, HQ-Admin. Assistant, 11/1/2001

NDHP CURRENT STAFF

Trooper Amanda Mohs, Fargo, 11/27/2023
Trooper Daniel Moore, Glen Ullin, 10/1/2015
Trooper Alyson Moses, Williston, 12/6/2021
Trooper Robert Moyle, Bismarck, 1/1/2010
Trooper Ryan Muga, Grand Forks, 8/1/2007
Trooper James Myers, Grand Forks, 9/23/2020
Kathy Nelson, HQ-Office Assistant, 7/19/2022-2/29/2024
Trooper Travis Nelson, Grand Forks, 8/1/2007
Trooper Donald Neumann, Minot, 1/1/2002
Maria Nieves, Capitol Security Officer, 10/31/2023
Captain Bryan Niewind, Fargo, 9/1/2000
Blaine Northrup, Capitol Security Officer, 3/7/2023
Trooper Jordan Noyes, Jamestown, 7/15/2024
Trooper Cody Nuenthel, Grand Forks, 1/6/2014-1/1/2024
Trooper Denver Oase, Bowman, 9/2/2014
Trooper Christopher Olson, Minot, 4/20/2020
Jerry Olson, Safety Auditor Supervisor, Fargo, 2/2/2015
Brenda Olson-Wray, HQ-Crash Assistance Specialist, 10/11/2021
Wayne Onger, Capitol Security Officer, 8/7/2017
Debbie Opp, HQ-Records Specialist, 7/28/2021
Mark Oster, LETA-Operations Coordinator, 1/3/2012
Johnny Pabon, Jr., HQ-Property Specialist, 9/7/2021
Trooper Joshua Page, Bismarck, 9/2/2014
Lt. Ryan Panasuk, Grand Forks, 8/1/2007
Trooper Dustin Pattengale, Valley City, 4/1/2020
Trooper Matthew Peschong, Grafton, 1/1/2010
Darcy Peterson, HQ-Permits Technician, 11/13/2023
Trooper Timothy Peterson, Lisbon, 1/1/2010
Recruit Mykal Porter, LETA, 9/20/2023 - 5/1/2024
Trooper Anthony Potter, Williston, 2/1/2024
Trooper Shea Pulley, Minot, 12/6/2021
Trooper Christopher Pulver, Stanley, 1/1/1999
Sgt. Erin Quinn, Dickinson, 1/7/2013
Trooper Jed Reile, Dickinson, 4/1/2020

NDHP CURRENT STAFF

Trooper Miles Rhonemus, Fargo, 1/20/2020
Trooper Joshua Rode, Steele, 1/1/2007
Amanda Roehrich, HQ-Account Specialist, 2/22/2021
Trooper Arlen Rohrich, Williston, 9/20/2023
Sgt. Michelle Romans, Williston, 1/6/2014-3/15/2024
Judy Rosendahl, HQ-Admin. Assistant, 6/1/1993
Sgt. Jeremy Rost, Bismarck, 1/1/2002
Trooper Ethan Rostvedt, Minot, 9/2/2014
Trooper Troy Roth, Capitol Security, 8/1/2007
Trooper Shane Rothenberger, Rugby, 5/27/2024
Trooper Eric Rumble, Grand Forks, 1/6/2014
Dawsyn Rusch, Capitol Security Officer, 4/11/2022-5/23/2024
Sgt. Evan Savageau, Headquarters, 7/5/2011
Mark Sayler, Capitol Security Officer, 2/9/2023
Sgt. Christopher Schaefer, Grand Forks, 7/5/2011
Trooper Chelsey Schatz, Watford City, 1/7/2013
Dana Schweitzer, MCO-Admin. Assistant, 8/1/2012
Trenton Scott, MCSAP-Bowman, 10/1/1995
Lisa Seefeld, LETA-Cook, 2/11/2013
Trooper Jonathan Skalicky, Valley City, 4/1/2010
Trooper Andrew Skogen, Fargo, 9/23/2020
Sgt. Shawn Skogen, Dickinson, 6/1/2004
Brad Smith, HQ-Property Assistant, 12/1/2015
Trooper Tanner Smith, Grand Forks, 1/20/2020
Colonel Brandon Solberg, Headquarters, 1/1/1999-11/30/2024
Cindy Solberg, HQ-Public Info Specialist, 11/1/2017
Trooper Paul Sova, Jamestown, 1/1/2007
Trooper Johnathan Stanley, Dickinson, 9/2/2014
Trooper Thomas Steenstrup, Fargo, 1/1/2018
Trooper Tyler Steffen, Dickinson, 6/11/2018
Trooper Kyle Stern, Hillsboro, 1/1/2002-10/31/2024
Trooper Bennett Strege, Fargo, 11/30/2020
Trooper Trenton Stewart, Fargo, 11/27/2023-10/21/2024
Jodene Suko, Capitol Security Officer, 5/1/2015

NDHP CURRENT STAFF

Trooper Myles Sundby, Grand Forks, 8/1/2005
Lori Tietz, HQ-Human Resource Tech, 12/14/2009
Trooper Remington Timothy, Rugby, 11/27/2023-5/30/2024
Trooper Rodney Torgeson, Minot, 6/1/2004
Trooper Sean Trentman, Grand Forks, 5/18/2015
Trooper Craig Tuhy, Hettinger, 1/1/2002
Trooper Christopher Vigness, Minot, 1/1/2007
Trooper Casey Visocsky, Minot, 5/27/2024
Trooper Brandon Wade, Jamestown, 8/1/2008
Trooper Michael Wald, Headquarters, 3/12/2012
Recruit Jacob Walker, LETA, 7/15/2024
Joe Weigum, Capitol Security Officer, 10/22/2018-6/27/2024
Trooper Benjamin Wenger, Fargo, 11/28/2022
Trooper Tucker Williams, Watford City, 5/22/2024
Amy Jo Winkelman, HQ-Pilot, 9/29/2023-6/14/2024
Trooper Grant Wosick, Grand Forks, 9/2/2014
Trooper Damien Wright, Bismarck, 7/5/2023
Trooper Austin Yancy, Fargo, 9/22/2021
Recruit Preston Zander, LETA, 10/14/2019 - 10/4/2024
Michele Zeller, Permits Technician, 5/1/2006

2024 NDHP K-9s *(listed with handler and service start date)*

Bleu, Trooper Steve Mayer, July 2019
Casey, Trooper Nathan Boll, September 2016, retired May 2024
Dome, Trooper Nate Boll, March 2024
Draco, Trooper Kyle Stern, September 2016, retired October 2024
Huck, Trooper Brett Mlynar, May 2022
Judge, Trooper Nevon Heisler, December 2023
Kota, Trooper Jed Reile, March 2020
Lasta, Trooper Gabe Irvis, May 2022
Lorace, Trooper Steve Clark, June 2023
Rico, Trooper Josh Page, May 2023, retired May 2024
Tank, Trooper Cody Harstad, May 2017, retired July 2024
Tara, Trooper Chelsey Schatz, May 2019

HISTORICAL TIMELINE

- 1935: The North Dakota Highway Patrol was created when the 1935 Legislative Assembly gave the state highway commissioner, with the consent of the governor, authority to appoint a state highway patrol superintendent and assistant superintendent.
- 1936: The state highway patrol superintendent was authorized and empowered to appoint not more than 10 persons to constitute such state highway patrol to be known as "Highway Police." Five men were appointed with a duty to enforce North Dakota laws relating to the protection and use of public highways in the state and the operation of motor and other vehicles upon said highways. These highway patrol officers were vested with all the powers and performance of duties held and performed by peace officers in North Dakota. The jurisdiction of the officers extended throughout the state.
- 1936: In 1936, three additional men were added to the regular staff, bringing the staff total to eight.
- 1937: In 1937 the staff was increased to 12 patrolmen, including the superintendent, which filled the quota allowed by the 1935 Legislative Assembly.
- 1941: The 1941 Legislative Assembly authorized the Patrol to be increased to 20 men, including the superintendent and assistant superintendent.
- 1947: The authorized strength of the Patrol was increased to 42 uniformed officers.
- 1947: A law was passed making it necessary for all new drivers to take a driver's examination and the responsibility to conduct these examinations fell on the shoulders of the Highway Patrol. Examinations were scheduled and were given throughout the state at strategic places once or twice a month. These examinations included a test of the applicant's eyesight; the ability to read and understand highway signs regulating, warning, and directing traffic; knowledge of the traffic laws of this state; and an actual demonstration of the ability to exercise ordinary and reasonable control in the operation of a motor vehicle.
- 1951: The 1951 Legislature gave the power of appointment of the superintendent and assistant superintendent directly to the governor. It was also mandated each patrolman be bonded by the state and each carry a badge of authority "with the seal of the state in the center thereof;" the words "North Dakota Highway Patrol" emblazoned around the border.
- 1955: The 1955 Legislature authorized an additional increase in staff, and after comprehensive written and oral examinations were given to approximately 150 applicants, nine men were selected as patrolmen and reported for duty July 1, 1955.
- 1955: The 1955 Legislative Assembly gave the superintendent of the Highway Patrol power to set up districts as deemed necessary and to designate ranks lower than assistant superintendent. Subsequently, the state was divided into eight districts and a sergeant appointed to supervise the work of the men in each district. This has proved invaluable in coordinating work in the field and the state officers.
- 1957: The 1957 Legislature granted an increase to 17 men to the Patrol, thereby making the total strength 68. Five of these officers were provided when the department was given the additional responsibility of enforcing Public Service Commission regulations.
- 1959: The 1959 Legislature authorized an additional 10 patrol officers resulting in a departmental total of 78 sworn uniformed officers.
- 1961: In addition to the superintendent and assistant superintendent, the position of property officer was added to the department staff.

HISTORICAL TIMELINE

- 1963: Two men were added to the department with the creation of the Public Safety Division. The staff position of safety director was created, and this brought the number of sworn personnel in the department to 80. District commanders were elevated to the rank of captain, and sergeants were created to serve as their assistants.
- 1964: The positions of driver license examiner and training officer were created and added to the department staff. The superintendent and assistant superintendent were given the rank of colonel and major, respectively.
- 1965: The authority of the Highway Patrol was expanded to include the enforcement of criminal laws at all state institutions. Employees were authorized to serve in each of the eight district offices as clerks. The position of operations officer was added to the department staff, and the positions of driver licensing examiner and property officer were abolished.
- 1966: The position of operations and training officer was added to the department staff, and the existing operations officer and training officers were made his assistants.
- 1967: Department authority was expanded to include the enforcement of all criminal laws on highway rights-of-way.
- 1969: The Patrol was given the responsibility of regulating all commercial driver training schools in the state.
- 1970: The department reorganized district boundaries to conform with the governor's regionalization requirements. The assistant superintendent and the operations and training officers were elevated to the ranks of lieutenant colonel and major, respectively.
- 1971: Responsibilities were expanded to include the operation of the Law Enforcement Training Center. Seventeen training programs were offered at the new facility during the first year of operation.
- 1973: The Legislature authorized a total of 82 Highway Patrol officers. The hiring of the additional officers was predicated on enforcement of Public Service Commission rules and regulations.
- 1975: After completing a special selective traffic enforcement program which consisted of 13 patrol officers funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the Legislature authorized the Patrol to increase its strength.
- 1978: The Patrol was authorized to hire an additional seven officers to enforce the 55 miles-per-hour speed limit. National Traffic Highway Safety Administration funded the additional staff for three years.
- 1979: Trooper Heidi Sand was hired in 1979. She served North Dakota citizens with the NDHP for five years.
- 1982: Effective May 1, 1982, the North Dakota Highway Patrol relinquished primary responsibility for the administration of driver license examining. Renewal, written, and road test was changed to an instant issue under the supervision of the Highway Patrol.
- 1983: Effective July 1, 1983, truck regulatory employees were reclassified as Highway Patrol personnel. Uniformed officers would have the powers of a peace officer after mandated training and being sworn. This brought the Highway Patrol's total authorized strength to 125 sworn officers. The Patrol adopted the Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (MCSAP). The safety regulations relate to commercial motor carriers.

HISTORICAL TIMELINE

- 1985: Several functions were conducted in 1985 in celebration of the department's golden anniversary. Patrol cars were equipped with distinctive license plates; billboards were posted around the state with a safety message in conjunction with identifying the fiftieth year; an open house was held at the district offices; and a departmental banquet was held in Bismarck on September 14, with current members and many former members of the Patrol in attendance
- 1985: A tactical team was created and implemented eventually becoming the emergency response team which primarily focuses on crowd control, search and rescue operations, and dignitary protection
- 1986: Reports are generated annually to record the department's activities.
- 1987: Although the Patrol hadn't formally offered driver's license written or road tests since 1982, legislation was enacted removing this responsibility from the Patrol and placing it under the power and jurisdiction of the highway commissioner.
- 1989: The North Dakota Highway Patrol was successful in attaining national accreditation status from the Commission of Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies on July 29, 1989. The North Dakota Highway Patrol became the first law enforcement agency in the state of North Dakota to become accredited, and also the eighth state agency and the 109th national agency to receive this status.
- 1991: The position of planning and research officer was added to the department staff.
- 1992: The Highway Patrol added its first K9 unit to the force. The 1 ½-year-old German shepherd, Shadow, and his handler work out of Linton, ND. Shadow was trained to protect his handler, apprehend people, search buildings and areas, look for evidence, and track. Shadow's assistance was made available to other law enforcement agencies and the public.
- 1992: The Highway Patrol added two Capitol security officers to assist with enforcement on the capitol grounds and to provide security for the Supreme Court and during the legislative session.
- 1994: Effective January 1, 1994, the North Dakota Highway Patrol reorganized, moving from eight districts to five districts. Each district is overseen by a district commander.
- 1995: With the North Dakota Highway Patrol participating in the federal COPS Ahead Program, the agency was authorized to increase sworn officer strength by three, bringing the authorization to 127 sworn officers.
- 1995: The North Dakota Highway Patrol initiated a special project, "North Dakota 88 Shutdown," in an attempt to keep traffic fatalities below the 88 recorded in 1994. This project involved all law enforcement agencies in the state. Success was met with North Dakota recording 74 traffic fatalities, the fourth-lowest death toll in the state's history.
- 1996: Two K9 units, both German Shepherds, were added to the force. Thor and his handler work out of Minot. Chase and his handler work out of Hillsboro. The Patrol's three K9 units play an important role in the Highway Criminal Interdiction Program.
- 1997: The Patrol was authorized to increase the sworn officer strength by five. This brought the total authorization of sworn officers to 132.

HISTORICAL TIMELINE

- 1999: A detailed, four-year planning process involving leadership from the governor's office, approval of the legislative assembly, and citizen support became a reality with the addition of a mobile data communications system. Sixty-five patrol vehicles were equipped with a high-tech mobile data communications system. The system utilizes a laptop in a wireless environment with the aid of ten tower sites located statewide. The efficiency of this system is recognized through enhanced officer safety, improved communications, reduced data entry/improved data handling efficiency, and reduced dispatcher workload.
- 2000: Effective March 1, 2000, the North Dakota Highway Patrol returned to the organizational structure consisting of eight districts with each headed by a district commander.
- 2000: In May, the agency held its first sobriety checkpoint. The checkpoints were initiated in an effort to reduce impaired driving and make highways safer.
- 2001: The Patrol moved into Phase II of the mobile data computer project. This phase included the installation of an additional 20 systems, bringing the total to 95 vehicles equipped with this technology. Five additional tower sites were also included in this phase of the project.
- 2002: The Patrol continued to increase its use of electronic technology with the implementation of the E-Permits Application Phase I project. Several types of commercial vehicle permits for the motor carrier industry (fuel, trip, longer vehicle combination, 10% weight exemption for harvest and wintertime, resident custom combiner) went online.
- 2003: The Patrol was authorized to increase the sworn officer strength by three. This brought the total authorization of sworn officers to 135.
- 2003: The NDHP added four K9s to the department in May of this year: two male black labs, Tyson (Devils Lake), and Smoke (Bismarck), one male chocolate lab named JJ (Fargo), and one female yellow lab named Bailey (Williston). All K9s are dual-purpose; and are trained for narcotics detection, article searching, and tracking. The status of three of the department's K9s changed: Shadow was retired for medical reasons and was replaced with Ricco (Linton), a male Belgium Malinois. Ricco was also certified for aggression and is the only aggression K9 in the department. Thor was also retired this year due to medical reasons and was replaced by a female yellow lab named Sierra (Minot). Chase and his handler are no longer with the department.
- 2003: Weigh-in-motion technology is a process of screening out legal weight trucks subjecting only potentially overweight trucks to further weighing on portable or fixed scales. Data on vehicle weights is instantaneously made available to troopers through mobile data computers located in their patrol vehicles. This technology was used at four sites on North Dakota's highways. The use of WIM is a joint venture between the NDHP and the NDDOT.
- 2003: On August 30, 2002, Governor John Hoeven issued Executive Order 2002-06 directing the superintendent of the NDHP, in cooperation with the Division of Emergency Management and other state agencies, local law enforcement, and broadcasters, to develop policies and procedures for child abduction incidents. The plan was fully implemented in February 2003.
- 2004: The North Dakota Highway Patrol promoted Lori Malafa to the rank of captain on April 8, 2004. With the promotion, Malafa was assigned as the training director at the Law Enforcement Training Academy in Bismarck. Captain Malafa was also the first female to be promoted to sergeant.
- 2004: A drug recognition expert program was created and implemented to help identify impaired drivers and remove them from our roadways.

HISTORICAL TIMELINE

- 2004: In April, the NDHP K9 program was expanded to include three additional K9s and handlers, bringing the total to nine teams.
- 2005: Operation Border Shield was developed to assist the US Customs Border Protection and US Border Patrol in the security of the northern border. The program targeted the ports of entry to detect and apprehend criminals and contraband using NDHP K9 teams. K9 teams assisted the immigrations and customs enforcement personnel in searching vehicles and persons during peak travel times identified by Custom Border Protection officials.
- 2005: All security duties for the capitol were placed under the direction of the Highway Patrol. A director of security was appointed with four full-time and four part-time employees assigned to the capitol security function. A new duress alarm system was installed in the Capitol and surrounding state office buildings as well as additional video cameras. In July, capitol security equipped a Smith and Wesson tactical mountain bike with lights and a siren for special events and security patrolling during the summer months.
- 2007: The Patrol was authorized to increase the sworn officer strength by two. This brought the total authorization of sworn officers to 140. (In 2004 and 2006, three authorized non-sworn positions were transferred to sworn positions.)
- 2007: The North Dakota Highway Patrol made an organizational structure change going from eight districts to four regions with all eight of the former district offices remaining in place. Each region is headed by an administrative commander and includes an operations commander. The reorganization also created a new Motor Carrier Operations component which includes personnel involved with commercial motor vehicles.
- 2008: The Highway Patrol purchased a 2007 Cessna T 206 airplane equipped with G1000 Garmin avionics and forward-looking infrared technology (FLIR). The airplane will be used to assist with search and rescue operations; conduct aerial searches after natural and man-made disasters; assist ground officers during pursuit operations; assist various state, local, and federal agencies; transport department personnel; and other law enforcement functions.
- 2010: The ND Highway Patrol celebrated 75 years of service since the agency was created by the 1935 Legislative Assembly.
- 2010: A crash reconstruction team was created and implemented consisting of crash reconstructionists and technicians to more efficiently process serious crashes. Crash reconstructions assist in both criminal and civil proceedings and help bolster personal responsibility while operating a vehicle.
- 2012: The NDHP received its eighth accreditation award.
- 2013: An automated routing permitting system was implemented to process routes for oversize and overweight vehicles online.
- 2013: The ND Highway Patrol honor guard team was created and implemented to assist with special ceremonies and funerals.
- 2013: A bloodhound team was added to the K9 program to assist with human tracking.
- 2014: The agency was reorganized into five divisions with three in field operations (west, east, and motor carrier) and two in administration (support services and administrative services).

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- 2015: The construction of a new emergency vehicle operations driving pad and indoor firing range was completed on land donated by the City of Bismarck. The city also transferred an existing outdoor firing range to the NDHP.
- 2015: The NDHP received its ninth accreditation award.
- 2017: The NDHP purchased a skid car system for improved emergency vehicle operations training. All sworn officers were certified in the use of less lethal munitions, and emergency response team members were certified as grenadiers.
- 2017: The NDHP supported Morton County with public safety efforts during the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline. An emergency declaration was signed by Governor Jack Dalrymple on August 19, 2016, and a mandatory evacuation was signed by Governor Doug Burgum on February 15, 2017.
- 2017: A cultural liaison officer position was added to the NDHP to assist with strengthening relationships with tribal nations and new Americans.
- 2017: The department of transportation, department of health, and highway patrol were selected as lead agencies for a new Vision Zero initiative in North Dakota. The goal of Vision Zero is zero fatalities and serious injuries on North Dakota roads. To reach that goal, every driver and vehicle occupant must take personal responsibility for their safety.
- 2018: The NDHP received its tenth accreditation award with excellence, successfully obtaining its first "Gold Standard" assessment.
- 2018: The NDHP began a transition to black patrol vehicles with a logo on each door.
- 2018: The NDHP youth academy was re-instated to help spark interest in the highway patrol and a career in law enforcement for ages 16-19.
- 2019: The NDHP worked with multiple agencies to enhance the NDHP's jurisdiction. For example, troopers now have jurisdiction on private property for any crime that occurs in their presence and when responding to a call for emergency assistance.
- 2019: The NDHP developed an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) program to assist with crash investigations and search and rescue operations. The NDHP was the first state highway patrol agency in the nation to receive a waiver to operate UAVs over people.
- 2019: An NDHP trooper was selected to serve as the statewide drug recognition expert and standardized field sobriety testing coordinator for peace officers in North Dakota.
- 2019: The NDHP hosted the Eight States Conference in Grand Forks. This conference is comprised of state or highway patrol leaders from Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.
- 2020: The NDHP created a wellness committee focused on physical, social, mental, emotional, and financial health of employees and their family members.
- 2020: The NDHP assisted in the development of the Project Find Safe program in collaboration with Minot State University. The program equips public safety agencies with training and technology to assist in locating at-risk individuals prone to the life-threatening behavior of wandering.

HISTORICAL TIMELINE

- 2021: The first tribal agreement for mutual law enforcement services was signed with MHA Nation.
- 2021: A five-member criminal interdiction team was created comprised of four troopers and one sergeant.
- 2021: The NDHP started a two-member crash assistance program focused on victim services and employee wellness.
- 2022: The NDHP signed the 30x30 pledge, a nationwide initiative whose goal is to increase the representation of women in law enforcement recruit classes to 30% by the year 2030 and to ensure agency policies and culture intentionally support the success of qualified women officers throughout their careers.
- 2022: The NDHP partnered with police chiefs in Bismarck, Minot, Grand Forks, and Fargo to host roundtables bringing together local leaders, legislators, and public safety and public health partners to discuss strategies to address opioids and overdoses.
- 2022: North Dakota joined 25 other states to form the American Governors' Border Strike Force and conducted a first-of-its-kind multi-state law enforcement operation focused on combating human and drug smuggling, disrupting transnational criminal organizations, and protecting our communities.
- 2022: A tribal agreement for mutual law enforcement services was signed with Spirit Lake Tribe.
- 2022: The NDHP deployed a less conspicuous patrol vehicle in the Fargo area to make it easier for troopers to detect aggressive drivers and crash-causing violations such as excessive speed and distracted driving.
- 2022: The NDHP was awarded advanced accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. The NDHP received meritorious recognition for being accredited for more than 15 continuous years.
- 2023: The NDHP worked with the department of health and human services to formalize a clinical mental health network comprised of 12 clinicians to provide all state law enforcement officers access to counselors statewide.
- 2023: Twelve new trooper positions were authorized including four additional criminal interdiction members to expand the team into all four regions of the state.
- 2023: An accelerated training program was created to recruit licensed peace officers, and 19 new troopers graduated on January 26, 2024 which equated to 20% of the NDHP's total traffic enforcement troopers.
- 2024: The Law Enforcement Training Academy received a \$3,000,000 remodel that modernized the living quarters, bathrooms, and classrooms.