

Training Division History

On September 14, 1931, the Missouri State Highway Patrol was created by law. The statute creating the organization provided for a superintendent who would be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the governor. Our country was in the midst of the Great Depression in 1931, and jobs were hard to find. Thus, approximately 5,000 applications were received for the initial appointments to the Patrol.

The original act creating the Patrol provided for a force of 115 patrolmen and 10 captains; however, because of a limited appropriation, the number of appointments was limited to six captains and 49 patrolmen (55 men). Half of the new appointees were registered as Republican; the other half registered as Democrat. Most of them were either ex-servicemen or had military training in the Missouri National Guard or U.S. Army. The selected appointees reported to the St. Louis Police Academy on October 5, 1931, for six weeks of intensive training.

Throughout their training the recruits were frequently reminded that they were to be "A group of gentlemen who would enforce the law". This has continued to be the basic philosophy of the organization. "Service and Protection" was adopted as the motto of the Patrol and enforcement of the laws has embraced the policy that it is best to "temper justice with common sense". The expression, "When in doubt, don't!" was used in training from the beginning of the organization and continues to this day. Upon completion of the training period, the initial members were assigned to one of six troops located in various parts of the state. They were given one week to prepare for their move to their assigned locations.

Two training classes were held in 1932 at General Headquarters. The addition of 19 troopers brought the force of the Patrol to 75 men. While the year 1933 was very eventful for the Patrol, these events negated the need for much in the way of training. Members of the department felt severe budget cuts in state appropriations. Salaries were dropped and 10 men were dismissed as a result of these cuts. It was not until 1935 that the next training class was held for 35 troopers at Camp Clark in Nevada, MO. While 1936 passed with limited formal training being provided, of significance was every man received first-aid training for the first time. The Red Cross emblem then became an official part of the uniform.

In 1937, 36 men were chosen from over 7,500 applicants to attend training. They were summoned to training at Camp Clark on July 1, 1937, where they embarked upon an intensive training period which lasted the entire month, consisting of both day and night classes. During the month they were required to complete a schedule including full courses in law, public speaking, marksmanship, identification, highway safety and accident prevention, records and reports, military drill and courtesy, first aid, and practical work in all these branches of activity. Members of the Patrol who had specialized in particular phases of patrol work and citizens, who were qualified (by experience or specialized training) to give the highest type of instruction in subjects requiring expert or professional knowledge, gave the instruction. The graduation of the new troopers brought the Patrol to its fully authorized complement of 125 men. They

began active duty on August 9, 1937, on a probationary status for the first six months of duty under the supervision of experienced troopers. The period of probation was then ended and they became regular members of the Patrol, subject to removal only for cause and after a hearing before the superintendent, who was vested with exclusive jurisdiction.

Then, as now, the Patrol was quite careful in the training of its personnel. Outside of the larger cities of the state, there was no police organization which had the advantage of such training as was given to the members of the Patrol. Through the late 1930s, in the case of accident investigation, the Patrol was the only agency among the rural police units to have given its personnel such training. It was felt that doing so was absolutely essential to fulfill the mission of the Patrol through good and efficient accident prevention work.

In 1939, the state legislature amended the law to provide for an increase of 50 members, increasing the authorized strength of the Patrol to 175. To secure the most acceptable men for these additional appointments, examinations were held in September 1939, for approximately 700 applicants selected from over 9,000 applications on file. This preliminary selection was based on qualifications stated on the application and preliminary checks by personal investigation and questionnaire concerning the applicant's reputation in his home community. The 700 applicants then came to Jefferson City to undergo various tests. The scores of each applicant were compiled and averaged, and selection of the 50 appointees was then made from the highest averages in the competitive examinations, considering the bi-partisan provisions required by law.

The successful applicants became members of the largest recruit class yet. They were trained for their duties at Camp Hawthorne near Kaiser, MO, during the period from October 1 to November 11, 1939. The intensive training schedule included courses in accident prevention and investigation, criminal law, motor vehicle law, first aid, identification, records and reports, jiu-jitsu, military drill, and marksmanship. Since traffic regulation was the primary function of the Patrol, approximately 70 percent of the time was spent on traffic subjects. Training in firearms was offered, not only from the standpoint of protection to the officer, but to the end that its necessary use may not at any time bring injury to an innocent bystander. The instruction in the school was again largely supplied by members of the Patrol who had specialized in particular phases of Patrol activity, and citizens who were qualified through specialized training to offer instruction in subjects requiring professional knowledge.

At the conclusion of this training program, the appointees were commissioned members of the Patrol and placed on duty with an experienced member during a six-month probationary period. Each of the probationers proved satisfactory and were subject to removal only for cause and after a hearing before the superintendent. The rather lengthy training program following an extremely careful selection of men was made imperative by the modern methods employed by the criminals of the time. Motor cars, better highways, and densely populated metropolitan areas created policing difficulties that demanded professional service. To cope with these conditions, the efficient law enforcement agency had to have trained, intelligent men who were physically fit and

morally sound. Excepting the police departments of the larger municipalities, the Patrol offered the only trained police personnel in Missouri, and the only such organization in operation on a statewide basis. The class of 1939 brought the Patrol to its fully authorized strength of 175, the largest since its inception.

1940-1949

Nineteen new members were added to the Patrol roster in January 1942, in accordance with the provisions of the amendment to the laws governing the Patrol passed by the 61st General Assembly. The amendment allowed temporary replacements for members who were called into military service. The training school of one month's duration was held in Jefferson City from December 22, 1941, to January 20, 1942, and dealt with the same subjects standardized by the past Patrol recruit training. These additions brought the Patrol membership back to normal with a few exceptions.

Eighteen members of the Patrol were called to military service in 1942. This left the department shorthanded. A great deal of the Patrol's time and energy was being spent making internal security investigations and escorting war and military production. In order to be prepared to handle some of the emergencies that might arise during the war, the department formed the Missouri State Highway Auxiliary Patrol. Members of this group were given 16 weeks of training and spent two nights each month riding with members of the Patrol.

Like criminals of today, those of the late 1930s and early 1940s adapted to law enforcement's efforts to curtail their activities. As a result, in April 1942, a retraining school lasting for one week was held for the troop commanders and troop sergeants to acquaint them with new ideas in police methods. The work consisted of a review of old and new methods of law enforcement and an exchange of ideas between members in order to establish uniform policy of operation throughout the state. In May, a series of three such schools were set up for the remainder of the personnel, with approximately one-third of them attending each week. The curriculum consisted of classes in motor vehicle law, criminal law, scientific crime detection, accident prevention, first aid, records and reports, the care and practical use of firearms, judo, physical exercise, and military drill. All of these schools were held on the state fairgrounds in Sedalia, MO, with the personnel under strict supervision from 6 a.m. until 10 p.m. This retraining was highly successful. It not only provided the troopers a much-needed review but also helped weld together all of the members into a single tight-fitting unit to combat the new threats to the security of the people.

On November 6, 1942, the second group of applicants were examined and 20 men were chosen to replace the members taken into the armed forces after January. The training school, held on the state fairgrounds, began December 14, and lasted for six weeks. Under the direction of the first Patrol's first training officer, Sergeant Kenneth K. Johnson, the curriculum had changed from the old order. While the basic subjects were not changed, they were taught in more minute detail. Whereas in the past, General Headquarters supplied the instructors for the school, under the new order many of the instructors were drawn from the field. The school, in general, followed the organizational plan of the National Police Academy.

World War II was raging in 1943, and the demands of the organization were increasing every day. By now, 44 members of the Patrol had been called to military service with several others in various types of defense work. Over the next two years, 12 members would be added to the organization while the type of service rendered by police organizations changed drastically. As a result, a 15-day school for Patrol officers was held on the fairgrounds in Sedalia for handling wartime traffic, military escorts and convoys, and sabotage.

The changes in services being provided made it necessary to change the way officers were being trained. Although experience was still found to be a good teacher, it was obvious that officers needed to be subjected to an intensive course of classroom instruction before they could be considered efficient and competent. Modern police methods of the time proved to involve the use of techniques in many instances that could not be learned completely through experience. The trend in the police field was to give the recruit a classroom version of the knowledge gained by experienced officers, together with some of the reasoning behind the methods used, before he went on the job.

Much like troopers of today, members of the Patrol often found themselves many miles from assistance. This required them to be trained to handle all types of cases. Regardless of the amount of training these officers received, they frequently encountered cases that taxed their initiative and resourcefulness to the limit. Special emphasis was placed on physical training in addition to the numerous subjects covering general police knowledge. This included such activities as boxing, rope climbing, volleyball, punching bag, military drill, and motorcycle riding.

Although all new members were in school for six weeks before going on active duty, their training did not stop there. With the implementation of annual retraining schools, every effort was made to bring the latest information available to officers during the training period. The members themselves were called upon to contribute constructive ideas gained through their experience in the field. During the annual school held in 1944, each member of the Patrol gave a 10-minute talk on a case that he had handled where he emphasized points of educational value to other members. Another outstanding feature of this school was the introduction of lifesaving and water safety into the training program. Although all members did not become experts at this particular activity, those who already knew how to swim did gain considerable knowledge and ability. In addition, a beginner's course was offered for those who were unable to swim.

The use of firearms was considered an integral part of the Patrol officer's training. During the annual school each member shot his official marksmanship qualification score for the year. The objective of this training was for the officers to know how to shoot, but also to know when to shoot. To further perpetuate good shooting, a competitive match was held at Jefferson City in October 1944, in which a five-man team from each troop participated. The winning team was awarded an engraved trophy.

Other notable training events of 1943 and 1944 were the schools provided for other peace officers. During October 1943, the Patrol held a 15-day school at the University of Missouri-Columbia through the cooperation and assistance of that institution. This was

the first time such a school was conducted in the state of Missouri and was made available to any police department or sheriff who desired to send a representative. The response to the school was gratifying and numerous requests were made for the training to continue.

By virtue of the fact that a majority of newly elected sheriffs had no previous experience, a special school was planned for the benefit of those who were elected in the general election of November 1944. It was a 15-day course covering all phases of the sheriff's work and was held at the University of Missouri-Columbia during the first part of December. Professors from the Missouri School of Law prepared special courses on laws and sheriff's fees. Thirty-seven of the newly elected sheriffs reported for training and all were of the opinion they were much better prepared to take over their new duties as a result. These two schools marked the beginning of a new era in law enforcement training in Missouri.

By 1946, World War II was over. Many of the 75 members of the Patrol who had been in military service began returning to duty. To help replenish the work force, 62 men were appointed to the department in August, returning the Patrol to its authorized strength of 228 men. They received training at the Cuivre River Recreational Area located near Troy, MO. Effective September 1, 1946, the Personnel and Training Division was created. The personnel and training officer had charge of all personnel records and performed the functions in connection with selection, training, and classification of all personnel as the superintendent directed. It was not until June 1948, however, that 15 new recruits were hired and trained, receiving their training at Fort Leonard Wood. Five additional men were appointed in October.

In 1949, the 65th Missouri General Assembly authorized an increase in the strength of the Patrol from 228 to 260 uniformed members. This authorized strength was reached by the end of 1949, when the age requirement for appointment to the Missouri State Highway Patrol was lowered from 24 to 21.

1950-1959

The year 1951 marked 20 years of service and protection to the citizens of this state by the Patrol. While many changes had taken place within the department during that time, the basic purpose of the organization was still intact — to enforce the traffic laws of Missouri. To help continue this cause, 15 men completed training at Troop F in 1951. The next training class was held in Sedalia in 1952 for 40 men. The total strength of the organization had reached 295 men.

Thirty men completed eight weeks of recruit training on November 25, 1953, at the Missouri State Fairgrounds in Sedalia. This was the first time the department had given eight weeks of training. The Patrol now had 320 uniformed members. There was limited training in 1954, consisting primarily of a retraining school for current members, also held at the fairgrounds in Sedalia. In 1955, however, training of new recruits returned to the forefront. Forty men completed training on November 12, 1955, at the Missouri State Fairgrounds. This brought the strength of the Patrol to 355 members.

Eight recruits completed their training at Troop F on October 21, 1956. The Patrol was 25 years old and had grown from 55 officers to 355 officers and 233 other employees. Appropriations for one year had increased from \$355,000 to \$4,035,000.

In 1957, the legislature enacted two bills having a direct effect upon the administration and operation of the Patrol. One bill created a new rank of lieutenant colonel and provided for two majors and an increase of 100 men in the total personnel of the department. The new authorized strength of the Patrol was now 455 men. The legislature, however, failed to provide funds for the additional troops authorized by the bill, thus, any expansion in the total personnel strength of the Patrol was not possible at this time.

On July 1, 1957, the Trachoma Hospital in Rolla was turned over to the Patrol by the State Health Department. Governor James T. Blair directed that this facility be used as a training school for the state law enforcement agency. For approximately the next year and a half, the Division of Health continued to use a small section of the building as an outpatient clinic for the few remaining trachoma patients and some children who suffered from cerebral palsy. The Academy was first used for in-service training in the fall 1957. The primary topic of retraining at that time was the new speed limit law just passed by the Missouri State Legislature. The newly acquired Academy was put to full use in 1958, when the 100 additional men formerly authorized by the legislature, plus 24 replacements were trained during this year.

In 1959, there was another first for Patrol training, which was related directly to the establishment of the new Academy. The Missouri General Assembly allocated funds to the Patrol to establish a Peace Officers' School and make police training available to the peace officers of the state. This training was conducted at the Patrol Academy when Patrol classes were not scheduled. At this time there were no fees charged to the contributing agencies. Five schools were held during this year for sheriffs and city policemen. Additionally, a recruit training class was held at Rolla for 11 men and nine patrolmen were trained as evidence technicians, one for each troop.

1960-1969

In 1960, the Patrol was almost 30 years old. From a small force of 55 men on November 24, 1931, the organization had grown to a strength of 455 men. Throughout this year, 17 men attended training for the Patrol at Rolla. A water rescue recovery unit was activated by the Patrol. Four men were selected for this unit and given special training in the use of emergency equipment.

The year 1961 saw two recruit classes trained at the Academy. Examinations were given to 100 applicants in May for the purpose of selecting 15 recruits to fill existing vacancies. These 15 recruits entered training on July 4, 1961, and graduated on August 25. They had approximately 466 hours of both classroom and outdoor instruction in a multitude of subjects pertaining to law enforcement. Members of the organization conducted the courses with the assistance of other state agencies, colleges, and persons who specialized in technical fields of law enforcement.

In addition to these 15 new members, more were on the way. The 71st General Assembly of the Missouri Legislature authorized an increase in uniform strength of the Patrol from 455 to 505 men. For various reasons, five vacancies existed in the Patrol, thereby creating openings for some 55 new Patrolmen. The selection of 30 of these 55 men was made from 250 applicants examined on August 30 and 31, 1961. These applicants were subjected to various mental examinations, namely English, spelling, and I.Q. tests. In addition, they were given physical examinations based on standards established to maintain the efficiency of the Patrol's operation. The successful applicants of these tests then appeared before an oral board consisting of top ranking officers of the Patrol. An eligibility list was established from final tabulations of examination scores and character investigations of these top-ranking candidates were conducted. This formed the basis for selection of the first of two classes. The first class of 30 men started on October 15 and graduated on December 23, 1961. Twenty-nine of these 30 men completed training. The remaining 25 men were selected in February and began training on April 1, 1962, bringing the Patrol to its authorized strength.

The 71st General Assembly allocated \$77,000 for the continuation of the Peace Officers' School at Rolla. The Peace Officers' School remained available to all full-time peace officers in Missouri. At that time, 806 peace officers had taken advantage of this training. Seven Peace Officers' Schools were held in 1961. Eleven supervisory officers of the Patrol attended law enforcement schools relating to laboratory, police administration, traffic, and other various topics, which were held around the United States. Departmental heads of various sections in the Patrol held retraining schools for their respective groups, such as commercial vehicle inspectors, laboratory technicians, and safety officers.

The remaining 25 men to be hired from the process begun in late 1961 were selected in February 1962. They began training on April 1, again bringing the Patrol to its authorized full strength. Training was held for an additional 16 recruits later in the year. Also of significance during 1962, was the inauguration of a physical fitness program for Patrol members. This program consisted of push-ups, pull-ups, and squat thrusts, but no running. This program was mandatory for all members, however there were no rewards or punitive actions based on performance. It is worth noting that this program was discontinued in 1964, due to injuries sustained by members while they were performing the tests.

In 1963, the Patrol Academy in Rolla again experienced a busy year in training Patrol recruits, city police, and sheriffs' officers. This was the fifth year of operation for the Police Officers' School, made possible with funds appropriated by the General Assembly. The school trained a total of 517 municipal police and sheriffs' officers in basic and advanced police fundamentals throughout the year. Since the legislature first authorized the operation of this school in 1959, 1,627 law enforcement officers from agencies other than the Patrol had received the benefit of training offered at the Academy. In keeping with requests from chiefs and sheriffs throughout the state, several advanced schools were offered for the first time in 1963. These new classes included photography, communications, and traffic records.

Examinations for prospective troopers were given during the year to 58 applicants. These applicants were vying to fill 16 vacancies in the uniformed ranks. The recruit school was held from January 13 to March 23, with a total of 466 hours of classroom and outdoor instruction. This brought the Patrol to its total authorized strength of 505 men. Examinations were held in July to select nine weight inspectors. These nine employees filled the vacancies in the commercial vehicle inspectors ranks.

In-service training was held throughout the year for commercial vehicle inspectors and supervisors, evidence technicians, polygraph operators, and communication officers. Additionally, 34 supervisory officers of the Patrol attended the advanced schools (supervision and traffic and accident investigation) held at the Academy. Northwestern University and the International Association of Chiefs of Police conducted these two schools.

The year 1964 began with retraining periods of one week for each member of the Patrol from January 6 to March 26. The officers received training in crowd control, new laws, auto theft, and motor vehicle law. In-service training was held also for commercial motor vehicle inspectors and supervisors, safety officers, and evidence technicians. Members of the training staff conducted courses for Missouri peace officers through seven out of 12 months. By the end of the year, a total of 2,008 peace officers in Missouri, not including Patrol members, had received training at the Academy.

On March 25 and 26, 1964, 128 prospective troopers were tested for the purpose of filling 15 vacancies in the uniformed ranks. The recruit school was held at the Academy in Rolla from June 1 to August 8 with a total of 494 hours of classroom and outdoor instruction pertaining to law enforcement. This was the first class to receive college credits for their training. Under an agreement with Central Missouri State College in Warrensburg, the recruits received 22 hours of college credit for their training as troopers, including special English and law enforcement courses given by instructors from the college. Examinations were given to 26 applicants on May 28 to fill vacancies in the Commercial Motor Vehicle Inspectors' ranks. The 14 successful applicants completed their training between June 16 and July 2.

In 1965, the Patrol Academy spent equal time training Missouri police and sheriffs' officers and Patrol recruits. In the first six months, 241 police and sheriffs' officers received training in the following courses: five basic police schools of two weeks each; police supervision school and accident investigation school (conducted by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute); photography school; and narcotic and potent drug school. Upon completion of these classes the total number of non-Patrol law enforcement officers to have received training at the Academy rose to 2,275.

A class of 19 Patrol recruits was placed in training at the Academy on August 1, 1965, graduating on October 8. In addition, the 73rd General Assembly increased the authorized strength of the Patrol by 145 to 650 officers. The first class of 40 recruits hired to fill these new positions was placed in training on October 15 and graduated December 23. Five commercial motor vehicle inspectors' schools were conducted throughout the year, producing 61 new inspectors for the division.

Members of the Patrol were introduced to an exciting new piece of equipment in 1965. The Breathalyzer was used for the first time to give chemical breath tests to suspected drunk drivers. Thirteen supervisory officers attended a two-week instructors' course on the Breathalyzer to comply with the chemical test legislation.

The radically changing world of the mid-1960s drove changes in police training as well. In his November 1966 superintendent's message in the *Patrol News*, Colonel E.I. Hockaday shared his insight on training when he wrote, "The need for training in the field of law enforcement is evident. No longer can a man be hired one day and start enforcing the law the next. If he is to be a successful officer, he must study many hours, learning the fundamentals of the law, both in the traffic and criminal field". Colonel Hockaday went on to say, "The decisions of the United States Supreme Court and the civil rights movement have changed the methods and techniques of law enforcement. Greater changes will develop continually for many years from these movements. In order to meet these challenges and maintain the level of efficiency, police must be better trained and constantly search for better ways to perform their duties". He added, "Only through knowledge and training can he efficiently and effectively perform his duty as a policeman". A look back 40 years later reveals not only how true those words were then, but how true they are today.

Schools were held every month at the Patrol Academy throughout the year in 1966. Two hundred and thirty-three police and sheriff's officers of Missouri received training in four Basic Police Schools, Police Supervision Schools and Accident Investigation Schools, a Communication School, as well as Criminal Investigation and Type II Breathalyzer Schools. This brought the total number of police and sheriff's officers receiving training at the Academy to 2,508.

Three basic courses for Patrol recruits were held at the Academy in 1966. A total of 107 Patrol recruits were trained and graduated from the Academy after having successfully completed 12 weeks of basic training. The recruit class that began on October 15, 1965, included David E. McPherson, the first African-American trooper in Patrol history. Each recruit received over 750 hours of instruction and 22 hours of college credit upon completing the training. The addition of these 107 troopers brought the Patrol to a force of 613 men, 37 short of the authorized strength of 650.

One Commercial Motor Vehicle Inspector School was conducted in 1966, adding 15 new inspectors to the division. Two Type II Breathalyzer Schools were held during the year, taught by an instructor from North Carolina. Twenty-seven officers of the Patrol and 10 other peace officers from the state attended this two-week course.

The year 1967 proved to be a very busy and eventful year for the Patrol. Particular to the Training Division (TND) were the introduction and issuance of chemical mace and riot helmets to Patrol members. Fifty-five members of the Patrol took part in a three-day training exercise on the .243-caliber rifle at Fort Leonard Wood. Members of the 208th Military Police Company at Fort Wood gave instruction on the weapon to seven Patrol sergeants and 48 troopers. Each troop was issued the new rifle, which was equipped with powerful telescopic sights.

In addition, the legislature authorized 100 additional uniformed officers, bringing the new authorized strength of the department to 750. Two Patrol recruit classes consisting of 79 men graduated from the Academy in 1967, again receiving 22 hours of college credit from Central Missouri State College. The addition of these 79 troopers brought the official strength of the Patrol to 657 uniformed officers. It was planned at that time to reach the authorized strength of 750 men by January 1, 1969.

Throughout the year, the Academy provided in-service training in Supervision of Police Personnel, which was taught by the staff of Northwestern University Traffic Institute. One hundred thirty-nine officers holding the rank of sergeant and above attended this two-week course. A one-week command course, also conducted by Northwestern University, was attended by 50 commissioned officers. Other yearly training consisted of five Patrol and 14 other peace officers attending a two-week Type II Breathalyzer course, again taught by an instructor from North Carolina, and 19 new weight inspectors completing the latest Commercial Motor Vehicle Inspector School.

During 1967, a total of 334 police and sheriffs' officers received training at the Academy, bringing the new total of non-Patrol officers receiving training to 2,842. This was an increase of over 100 from the previous year. These officers received training in nine two-week Basic Police Schools, two Police Supervision Schools, and one Type II Breathalyzer School. Each of these was a two-week course.

Training schools were held every month of 1968 for recruits and peace officers at the Academy in Rolla. Three Patrol classes graduated from the Academy in 1968. A total of 99 recruits attended 14 weeks of basic training and earned 22 college credit hours. With the addition of the 99 troopers, the official strength of the Patrol reached 715 uniformed officers, 35 short of its authorized strength of 750 men. Another significant change for members in 1968 was the proposed rules and regulations for Missouri's motor vehicle inspection program being drafted and implemented. Thirty-one uniformed officers were selected to help supervise the inspection program throughout the state. They were given two weeks of special training in vehicle inspection at the Academy.

Patrol personnel provided instruction for 14 peace officers' schools in 1968. Three hundred fifty-eight police and sheriff's officers attended 12 two-week Basic Police Schools with one two-week Police Supervision School, both were again taught by Northwestern University. In addition, two two-week Type II Breathalyzer Schools were taught, this time by a Patrol chemist. Central Missouri State College conducted a one-week Sheriff's School for newly elected sheriffs. By the end of 1968, the total number of police and sheriffs' officers trained at the Academy to 3,200.

There was again constant activity at the Academy in 1969. Four hundred and twenty-two police and sheriffs' officers received training in 12 Basic Police Schools, one Police Supervision School, and two Type II Breathalyzer Schools. This brought the 10-year total of non-Patrol members receiving training at the Patrol Academy to 3,646. One Commercial Vehicle Inspector School was conducted, adding 30 new inspectors to the division.

Two basic courses for Patrol recruits were held at the Academy during the year. A total of 60 Patrol recruits were trained and graduated after having successfully completed 14 weeks of basic training. During this training period, recruits were exposed to subject matter ranging from first aid to criminal law and traffic supervision. The classroom and practical training resulted in each recruit receiving approximately 850 hours of instruction. The agreement between the Patrol and Central Missouri State College continued to allow recruits to receive 22 college credit hours. The addition of the 60 new troopers brought the Patrol to a force of 745 men, five short of the authorized strength.

Another exciting first occurred for the Training Division in 1969, when construction began on the new Law Enforcement Academy in Jefferson City. The three-building complex would contain an administrative building, dormitory, and physical training building with an indoor swimming pool.

1970-1979

In 1970, one Patrol recruit class containing 17 recruits graduated from the Academy with 22 hours of college credit. The addition of these new troopers brought the Patrol to its authorized strength of 750 men. Academy personnel provided a two-week course of in-service training on supervision of police personnel to 46 Patrol officers holding the rank of sergeant and below. One Commercial Motor Vehicle Inspector School was conducted, and a total of 19 new inspectors were added.

Five hundred and twenty-three police and sheriff's officers of Missouri received training in 12 two-week Basic Police Schools and 10 two-week Police Supervision Schools, both of which were taught by Academy personnel. The Patrol chemist and Academy personnel administered one two-week Type II Breathalyzer School.

The department purchased several video tape recording systems to enhance the training process in 1970. The systems were to be used principally to allow each troop to play-back video tapes made at the Academy or by some other police agency in order to enhance the in-service training program. By the end of the year, the Administration Building of the new Patrol Academy was completed, with work still continuing on the dormitory and physical training building.

A milestone was reached in TND when the new Missouri State Highway Patrol Law Enforcement Academy was officially opened on May 1, 1971, to accept 40 Patrol recruits for 24, five-day weeks of training. Previous classes held at Rolla had only returned home twice a month. The lengthened course of instruction and expanded curriculum resulted in these recruits earning 33 hours of college credit for the 1,072 hours of training they received as a trooper. This was the first recruit class to be given an identifying number, i.e. 40th Recruit Class. One Commercial Motor Vehicle Inspector School was conducted, adding a total of 24 new inspectors to the division. In addition, retraining schools of one week for each member of the Patrol started on September 21, 1971, and were to continue through March 1972. Officers received training in riot control, criminal law, narcotics, race relations, and motor vehicle law at this training.

With the new facilities now available to train 120 police officers, as compared to 60 at the old Academy in Rolla, Patrol training classes were able to run simultaneously with those of outside agencies. As a result, 389 police and sheriffs' officers received training in eight Basic Police Schools, along with one each in Advanced Police School, Breathalyzer School, Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, Videotape Production, and Bombs and Related Investigation.

The first American Legion Cadet program was held at the Academy in June 1971. Forty 16- to 18-year-old youths attended the six-day session that consisted of classroom instruction, touring places of interest, and familiarization with police equipment and procedure.

Training continued to escalate at the Patrol Academy in 1972. The 41st Recruit Class contained 39 recruits that graduated December 15, after 24 weeks of training. Nine one-week retraining schools were conducted at the Academy for members of the Patrol from January through March. This completed the training begun in late 1971 where officers received training in riot control, criminal law, narcotics, race relations, and motor vehicle law.

Six hundred and ninety-four police and sheriffs' officers also received training throughout the year. By year's end, a total of 5,251 non-Patrol members had received training at the academy since the state legislature first authorized operation of this school in 1959. In addition to the regularly scheduled police schools, 2,027 civilian and police officers attended seminars on safety, radar, probation and parole, defensive driving, accident classification, conservation, traffic service, and forensic science. While the opening of the new facility was a blessing for Academy personnel, with that came one other time-consuming assignment: tour guide. Besides handling their regular teaching assignments, members of the Academy staff conducted scheduled tours of the Academy complex for several thousand people in 1972. Unscheduled tours were provided to an additional 500 people.

Training was again on the increase at the Academy in 1973 as 702 police and sheriffs' officers received training in various courses. An eight-week campus police school was conducted also. This was a pilot program held in conjunction with the University of Missouri Law Enforcement Extension Service. The major benefit was that colleges and universities within Missouri now had trained security and police personnel.

The 42nd Recruit Class started training at the Academy on November 1, 1973. A total of 42 recruits began the 22 weeks of basic training. The 1,000 hours of instruction provided the recruits with 32 hours of college credit upon graduation. In-service training was conducted in the following: executive security, commercial vehicle enforcement, motor vehicle inspection, first aid, and emergency care.

In addition to the regularly scheduled police schools, 2,767 civilian and police officers attended seminars and workshops on probation and parole, fee agents, jail management, juvenile training, polygraph, auditing, public service commission, and data processing. Seven thousand five hundred people took scheduled tours of the Academy

complex along with many unscheduled as well. During 1973, 3,469 persons received training of one type or another at the Law Enforcement Academy.

The 42nd Recruit Class was in its ninth week of training on January 1, 1974, graduating 38 members on April 3, 1974. Two recruits went into post-recruit training and graduated on May 10. Each graduating recruit received 32 hours of college credit for the 1,005 hours of instruction received. After this graduation, several changes were made in applicant entrance requirements: minimum height was reduced from 5'9" to 5'8"; the maximum height of 6'4" was removed; certain tattoos were permitted; 20/40 vision was allowed, if vision was 20/20 with glasses; and false teeth were now permitted.

Two hundred and thirty-three Patrol employees attended in-service training in courses varying from first aid and emergency care to firearms instructor. In addition, police agencies from throughout Missouri sent 753 officers to training in basic police, communication and computers, supervision, and photography. Additionally, other state agencies used the training facilities for 21 schools during the year. In many cases, the monetary saving to these agencies meant the difference between having and not having the training. Ninety-four workshops and seminars were held at the Academy during the year and were attended by 2,330 persons. On 15 different occasions, the facilities were used by the Patrol and other state agencies to test 698 people for various reasons. The Academy staff conducted tours of the complex for over 5,000 people. All told, 4,633 persons, other than tours, attended a scheduled function at the Law Enforcement Academy in 1974.

Worth noting was a restructuring of the organization that took place during the year. The major change involved the splitting of the personnel and training functions, and the incorporation of planning and research as a section within the Personnel Division.

On January 1, 1975, the 43rd Recruit Class was in its 18th week of training. Among the members of this class were the first two female troopers in the history of the Patrol. Bridget Ann Cronin and Patricia Wright were the first women to be commissioned as officers of the Patrol. With the 43rd Recruit Class going strong, the beginning of a new year saw the 36 members of the 44th Recruit Class begin training. This was followed by the 45th Recruit Class, whose 15 members began training on November 1. In-service training was conducted in 11 different areas and attended by 568 employees. Additionally, other state agencies used the training facility for 19 schools with 447 people attending. The Law Enforcement Academy was open for 243 days during the year with an average daily attendance of 81.95 people.

Another issue of interest in 1975 involved the wearing of left-handed holsters. For many years all Patrol officers wore their holsters on the right-hand side, regardless of any natural proclivity toward left-handedness. This created a training nightmare. While requests from southpaw shooters for left-handed holsters filtered in from time to time over the years, they fell on deaf ears, because the organization felt the uniform appearance should be preserved. Circumstances involving two men influenced Superintendent Sam Smith to change the rule in February. Recruit R.L. Armstrong was experiencing great difficulty learning to shoot with his right hand due to a childhood illness, yet he could shoot well with his left. At about the same time, Trooper D.W. Boss

of Troop A purchased a left-handed holster and wore it to Troop A Headquarters, while off duty, but in full uniform, to demonstrate that the difference was inconspicuous. His experiment met with success, as no one commented that his holster was on the wrong side. Uniformity finally yielded to practicality. The superintendent decided that troopers who could fire a higher range score with their left hand than their right would be allowed to wear their holsters on the left side. About 25 officers began to do so.

In 1976, national law enforcement circle authorities were talking and writing about police stress, saying that police work was highly stressful, second only in degree to air traffic controller stress at large airports. Dr. Michael Roberts, a psychologist and recognized authority on the subject and consultant to three police departments in the state of California, came to Jefferson City by invitation in March to speak to troop commanders and the superintendent's staff. A four-hour block of instruction was devoted to stress and its effects during annual retraining.

The 45th Recruit Class received its final 14 weeks of training in 1976. Fourteen Patrol recruits were commissioned on April 9, during graduation ceremonies. Sixteen one-week, in-service training sessions were held for 668 uniformed members. Specialized in-service training was held for Patrol employees in 11 areas, including such topics as hostage negotiations, field training, mobile and tactical response, and executive development. These sessions were attended by 602 employees. The physical training facilities saw an increase in activity as 5,760 state employees used them throughout the year.

In December 1977, a Patrol applicant testing procedure was validated by a California consulting firm, replacing tests not conforming to Equal Employment Opportunity Commission guidelines. Physical performance tests would now be introduced as an element of this procedure when applicants appeared at General Headquarters in February 1978. The 46th Recruit Class was the last to be hired under the old selection process. They began training on March 1, and 39 new troopers graduated on July 29, 1977.

Academy personnel provided specialized in-service training for 863 Patrol employees during the year. Additionally, police agencies from all areas of Missouri sent 644 officers to attend training at the Academy. The training facilities were also used by other agencies to train 783 people in 26 schools. The Law Enforcement Academy was open for 260 days with an average daily attendance of 89 people.

The 47th Recruit Class began training on June 1, 1978, and 17 new troopers graduated on October 20. Training for the 48th Recruit Class overlapped the 47th Recruit Class, beginning in August. This class added 18 new troopers when they graduated on December 22. Members of the Academy staff conducted 16 in-service training sessions for 643 uniformed officers, and specialized in-service training for 506 other Patrol employees. Nine hundred and thirty-eight officers from other departments received Academy training throughout the year, while other agencies used the training facilities for eight schools to train an additional 225 persons.

Several laws having an impact on the Patrol were passed in 1979. One of the new laws authorized the officer manpower of the Patrol to be increased from 800 to 900. As a result, 1979 saw the graduation of two recruit classes. The 49th Recruit Class began training on January 15 and graduated on June 8. The 50th Recruit Class began training on July 8 with 38 troopers graduating on December 7. Specialized in-service training was also provided to 495 Patrol employees while other law enforcement agencies sent 371 officers attend Academy training. The Academy facilities were used by other agencies to conduct 25 additional schools, which were attended by 846 people.

For the first time in the Patrol's history, recruits from another agency, the Water Patrol, began training with Patrol recruits. The Water Patrol recruits attended the first 15 weeks of the regular 21-week schedule. In other training of a somewhat unusual nature, 14 intelligence and investigation officers received training in recognition and preservation of bite marks.

The Patrol experienced tremendous growth in manpower and scope of operation between November 24, 1931, and December 31, 1979.

1980-1989

The Patrol's tremendous growth continued in 1980 with the training and graduation of three recruit classes in one calendar year. The 51st Recruit Class began training on January 1 and graduated 17 new troopers on May 30. The 52nd Recruit Class entered training on April 1 with 18 new troopers graduating on August 29. The 53rd Recruit Class began training on July 1 and 11 new troopers graduated on November 21. To this point, 1,577 men and women had been or were employed as officers of the Patrol since its inception. Of these, there were more than 35 father and son combinations. One such father, Retired Sergeant P.H. Little, had three sons who were members.

Academy personnel provided 22 training courses for 592 officers from other law enforcement agencies. In the midst of conducting this training and running three recruit classes, the Academy staff also provided specialized in-service training for 1,429 Patrol employees in 16 different areas. The Patrol, local police, and other agencies participated in 81 schools, 59 workshops, and 61 meetings at the Academy in 1980.

The 54th Recruit Class began training on January 5, 1981. Thirty-four new troopers graduated on June 5. Academy personnel provided specialized in-service training for 497 Patrol employees during the year. In addition, 732 officers from other agencies received training, including newly elected sheriffs who attended a specially designed three-week course, which concluded on February 6.

In 1982, law enforcement agencies from all areas of Missouri sent 769 officers to 32 regularly scheduled schools. In addition, Academy staff members provided in-service training for 925 Patrol employees in 16 various areas.

On January 3, 1983, the 55th Recruit Class began training. On April 29, 33 new troopers were commissioned upon graduation. In addition to other in-service training provided, 25 one-week On-Scene Accident Investigation Schools were presented at the

Academy from May 1982 to August 1983. A total of 591 officers from the rank of trooper through lieutenant attended this course of instruction. Six hundred seventy-seven Patrol employees and 810 officers from other departments received Academy training throughout 1983. State agencies, including the Division of Probation and Parole, Department of Conservation, and the Department of Corrections contracted for use of the Academy facilities on numerous occasions. Their use of the training facility had a significant impact on the overall operation of the Academy complex.

In 1984, the pre-employment testing procedures for the position of trooper were updated to comply with the revised Federal Uniform Guidelines on Employee Selection Procedure. The 56th Recruit Class began training on January 2 and 21 new troopers graduated on May 11. Members of the Patrol and other agencies participated in 117 schools, which resulted in 845 Patrol employees and 867 members of other departments receiving training. To support these training efforts, the Food Service Section of the Academy served over 60,000 meals during the year.

There are countless "real life" scenarios that substantiate the worthiness and necessity of training. One such incident occurred on February 26, 1984, when Trooper Roger E. Geary (E) put his red handle revolver training to practical use. After responding to an armed robbery of a Safeway food store in southern Clay County, Tpr. Geary noticed a vehicle in the area and became suspicious if its lone occupant. As he began to follow the vehicle, it suddenly turned into a private drive. The driver of the vehicle immediately exited his vehicle and approached Tpr. Geary. After a brief encounter, Tpr. Geary requested the driver provide him with his driver's license. The driver stated he needed to go back to his vehicle to obtain the license.

Recalling this specific scenario from his red handle revolver training, Tpr. Geary ordered the suspect not to move and drew his service revolver. At that time, another man, who had been hiding in the vehicle, exited the passenger side and pointed a long barrel revolver at the trooper. Tpr. Geary fired one round, wounding the suspect who then fled on foot. After taking the driver into custody, a search of the vehicle was conducted which revealed a pistol wrapped in the driver's coat. It is a proven fact that when stress increases, you respond with what you have been taught and trained to do. Tpr. Roger Geary became a firm believer in the red handle revolver training program that night.

The new pre-employment testing procedure for prospective troopers was used for the first time in 1985. The procedures were part of a selection process validation project conducted in 1984, in which 100 troopers underwent various tests for obtaining normative data with respect to cutoff scores. The Patrol received 600 MPH S-80 MCX radar units to replace the Speedgun 6 and Speedgun 8 radar units. The new unit was multi-piece with a front and rear antenna capable of checking traffic in a moving mode in either direction. Training on the operation of the new radar and new breath testing equipment was given to each road officer by members of the Academy staff and troop personnel on a decentralized basis.

The 57th Recruit Class began training on September 1, 1985. In addition to training these new recruits, members of the Academy staff provided instruction in 159 schools for 1,903 members of the Patrol and other law enforcement agencies.

Members of the 57th Recruit Class graduated on February 7, 1986, producing 42 new troopers. A new field training officer program began in February. The program allowed for a day-by-day evaluation on standardized guidelines established for the probationary trooper. Veteran officers chosen by the troop commanders served as field training officers. The 58th Recruit Class began training on August 1. In addition to these recruits, 660 Patrol employees and 1,023 members of other law enforcement agencies received Academy instruction in 115 schools throughout the year. The 58th Recruit Class began training on August 1, and the Food Service Section prepared and served nearly 69,000 meals during the year.

Training was conducted in all troops on standardized field sobriety testing. The main thrust of the training was to provide new techniques for developing probable cause for arrest of the drunk driver. There were three tests in the program, namely, the Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus, a walk and turn test, and the one leg stand test. Drug interdiction training was provided to all officers dealing with the proper procedures to use in looking for drugs and contraband in vehicles stopped on the highway. Troop A, C, and F Special Emergency Response Teams participated in a five-day training exercise in Jefferson City, which came to serve as annual combined training for the teams.

The 58th and 59th recruit classes graduated on January 23 and December 18, 1987, respectively, in ceremonies held at the Academy. The two classes produced a total of 75 new troopers for the state. When testing began in late January for the 59th Recruit Class, 425 applicants for the Patrol were given the physical skills test as part of the uniformed selection process. Of that number, 306 appeared before oral interview boards. Background investigations were conducted on those applicants with the overall top scores.

The Patrol, local police, and other agencies participated in 130 schools during 1987. Of the 2,569 students who received training at the Academy, 715 were from agencies other than the Patrol. Among TND activities for 1987 were coordination of the field officer training program, annual combined training for the three Patrol Special Emergency Response Teams, the annual Cadet Patrol Academy in cooperation with the American Legion of Missouri, and satellite teleconference law enforcement training for mid-Missouri.

The Academy's Audio-Visual Unit included two full-time civilian employees who, with the aid of federal funding from the Missouri Division of Highway Safety, produced quality roll-call training tapes for the use of police and sheriff's departments throughout the state. Academy instructors served as adjunct instructors with Northwestern University Traffic Institute and the Institute of Police Technology and Management to teach courses in Florida and New Mexico in the area of police science and management.

In April 1987, three months after graduation, the members of the 58th Recruit Class returned to the Academy. The officers were tested in firearms, physical training, and academics, and were asked to fill out a training needs questionnaire. The purpose was to gather data on retention of skills and information and physical fitness habits. The results of the testing revealed only a 2 percent drop in firearms qualification scores and a 4.43 percent drop in their final trimester comprehensive test score. For the physical

fitness comparisons, the officers were given the test consisting of the run, sit-ups, and push-ups. These tests showed more drastic reductions than the other two areas. The class photograph was retaken while the new troopers were at the Academy. This explains why the 58th Recruit Class photograph is the only one showing male members with moustaches and others wearing rings and watches.

A statistical analysis was completed in 1987, by then-Sergeant T.W. Moore (Q/TND), concerning recruits in training. Sgt. Moore compared the information of all recruit classes that had been taught at the Academy since its doors opened in 1971. A few of the interesting facts included were the average age of recruits was 25.04 years, with 73 percent of them being born in Missouri. On the average 32.89 percent of all recruits were policemen prior to recruit training with 23.66 percent being minorities or protected class applicants. Traditionally 25.33 percent of the classes had military experience with the average class size being 33.20 students. Finally, the cost to the Patrol (per recruit) before the new officer went on the road with a field training officer was \$25,180.49.

The 60th Recruit Class began training July 3, 1988. The 16-member class graduated December 9. General in-service training was not conducted in 1988; however, specific Patrol employees received specialized training in 33 different areas. The Patrol, along with members of other police agencies, participated in 122 schools throughout the year. Of the 2,995 students who received training at the Academy, 2,024 were from other agencies.

TND's new Audio-Visual Unit continued to develop in 1988. This was made possible through a Federal Highway Safety grant. Considerable time was spent establishing this new program. Work to bring the land up to grade where the Patrol's 1.3-mile defensive driving track was to be located, east of Troop F Headquarters, was completed by the Missouri National Guard in September. The Patrol's first K-9 Unit completed training in early November. The newly formed unit, made up of four troopers and their German shepherd partners, had been in training for six weeks under the direction of Mr. Georg Mueller, of Kassel, West Germany.

In August 1989, the Patrol became involved in the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program. Seven members of the Patrol graduated from the D.A.R.E. Officers Training School in Springfield, IL, and began teaching fifth and sixth grade students around the state. The Patrol became the coordinating agency in Missouri for this drug prevention program. The agency also transitioned from the American Red Cross first aid training to the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) EMS first responder training. The DOT course was specifically designed for traffic law enforcement officers responding to an emergency scene. Members of the Patrol had been taking Red Cross training since the 1930s.

The 61st Recruit class reported for duty on July 2, graduating 35 new troopers on December 8. All uniformed members attended mandatory in-service training at the Academy throughout the year with specific Patrol employees received specialized in-service training in 32 various areas. The Patrol and other agencies participated in 126 schools, with 3,392 students receiving training, 1,637 of which were from other agencies. In a new cooperative effort with Mineral Area Community College of Flat

River, MO, 69 students applied for and received 264 college credit hours for their studies at the Patrol Academy during the year.

1990-1999

The Patrol's 62nd Recruit Class began training on January 1, 1990. The 46-member class graduated June 8 and reported for duty on June 25. The 63rd Recruit Class reported for training on July 1. This 38-member class graduated on December 7, reporting for duty on December 26. There were 92 schools taught throughout the year, training 1,398 Patrol members and 1,067 officers from other agencies. The cooperative effort with Mineral Area Community College continued. Fourteen of the new troopers graduating this year received associate's of science degrees upon completing their recruit training, with 39 additional students receiving 124 college credit hours for their studies at the Academy.

Six members attended a Mentor Officer Training School from July 25-29 at the Illinois State Police Academy. The school was taught by Los Angeles Police Department D.A.R.E. Unit members. Completion of this school qualified our officers to teach D.A.R.E. to other law enforcement officers. As a result, 28 police officers graduated September 7, from the first D.A.R.E. training program taught by members of this agency.

Members of the Patrol began Glock pistol transition training in January 1991. The officers were required to successfully complete this training before being issued the new Glock Model 22 .40-caliber S & W pistol. Due to a sharp drop in state revenues, there was a significant cutback on Patrol funding. As a result, certain steps were taken to ensure the Patrol had sufficient funds to operate. The steps included a hiring freeze, and the cancellation of a recruit class that had been scheduled for that year. While no recruit class walked the halls of the Academy in 1991, over 2,000 Patrol members and 1,000 members of other agencies participated in 135 schools.

One such training program for Patrol members was in the use of pepper mace. This product was designed to incapacitate a person through pain, disorientation, and irritation to the eyes, nose, and mouth when applied directly to the subject's face. Pepper mace was to be used in situations where less than strong physical or deadly force was appropriate. After completing the necessary training program, each member was equipped with the product. The Patrol's defensive driving track in Jefferson City was completed in 1991. The asphalt track was specially designed to train Patrol members, recruits, and officers from other departments in pursuit and defensive driving techniques.

A nearly 20-year constant in TND came to an end this year. Trooper Gale P. Corbin arrived at the Academy as an instructor in 1971, leaving as a captain and director of TND in 1991. Capt. Corbin has many fond memories of TND, not entirely inclusive of the time he spent as the director. In speaking of his time there he stated, "My fondest memories are of my fellow instructors, Academy staff, and of course the Patrol recruits that moved through the Academy during my tenure". He added, "I have specific memories of the present [2006] superintendent and each of his command staff as they

entered the Academy and progressed through the training, and undoubtedly they have some memories of me, too".

Capt. Corbin saw many changes during his tenure. Some of these included a complete reorganization of staff, developing mission and vision statements, and instituting a "management by objectives" form of management within TND. Additionally, the Video Production Unit, Middle Management and Executive Management schools were developed, and the Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC) Complex was constructed. When asked about the effect he feels TND has on the overall mission of the Patrol, Capt. Corbin responded, "I have long said that any organization is only as good as the people it hires, trains, and retains".

With budget issues easing, the 64th Recruit Class reported for training on January 1, 1992. The class graduated 35 new members June 12, and they reported for duty July 1. TND continued to administer and coordinate the D.A.R.E. program for the state of Missouri. In 1992, there 391 police officers from state, county, and municipal departments were trained and certified to teach D.A.R.E. in the grade schools of Missouri. The Academy was open 304 days in 1992, and trained 2,336 students, 40 percent of which were from agencies other than the Patrol.

The Patrol implemented a Physical Standards Program requiring its officers to meet minimum fitness standards annually beginning in 1993. The program consisted of push-ups, sit-ups, flexibility, and a one- and one-half mile run. A milestone was reached when 38 new troopers graduated in the 65th Recruit Class on June 18. The graduation of newly appointed Trooper Brian T. James marked the first time in the Patrol's 62-year history that a grandfather, father, and son had graduated from the Patrol Academy.

Acting Governor Roger Wilson signed House Bill 220 into law on July 8, authorizing the Patrol to expand its forces from 900 to 940. Due to funding, the Patrol had 889 troopers at that time. In order to return the Patrol to its authorized strength, the 66th Recruit Class began training on August 1, with 63 students. Two TND staff members continued to coordinate the statewide D.A.R.E. program with five uniformed officers serving as D.A.R.E. mentors/evaluators responsible for evaluating all Missouri D.A.R.E. officers teaching in elementary schools. During 1993, the Patrol, police, and other agencies participated in 115 schools at the Academy. Fifty-two percent of the 2,557 students receiving training were from organizations other than the Patrol. The cooperative effort with Mineral Area Community College continued with 90 students receiving college credit for their studies at the Patrol Academy.

The Patrol gained 59 additional troopers upon graduation of the 66th Recruit Class on February 4, 1994. The class was the second largest to graduate in Patrol history and included the largest group of females—eight—to graduate from the Academy. This brought the total number of female troopers in the Patrol to 28. The 67th Recruit Class began training July 1, with the 68th Recruit Class starting on November 1. The Patrol celebrated the holidays by graduating another 59 recruits from the 67th Recruit Class on December 16, 1994.

The Academy achieved national accreditation as a D.A.R.E. State Training Center during the year. This accreditation process was designed to ensure state training centers maintained the high standards of the national D.A.R.E. program and took more than one year to complete. The Academy provided 129 training courses to 2,741 students, 40 percent (1,109) of which were from other agencies. The D.A.R.E. program, still under the coordination of TND, also expanded to include 449 officers from state, county, and municipal departments that were trained and certified to teach D.A.R.E. in the grade schools of Missouri.

The Academy graduated 116 new troopers in 1995. The 68th Recruit Class graduated 20 new troopers on May 5. Forty-one new troopers were added from the 69th Recruit Class, which graduated June 22. Finally, the 70th Recruit Class completed its training December 15, with 55 new officers. Senate Bill 475 created the commercial vehicle officer (CVO) program. As a result, 19 commercial vehicle inspectors became the first class of CVOs to graduate from the Patrol's Academy. The CVOs were required to complete a minimum of 240 hours of training under the new program. They were armed and had limited arrest powers involving commercial motor vehicle violations but were not certified peace officers.

During 1995, the D.A.R.E. program grew to 482 officers trained and certified to teach in Missouri's schools. The D.A.R.E. program touched more than 100,000 grade school children in 1995 alone. Two thousand one hundred forty-five members of the Patrol and other law enforcement organizations participated in 121 schools and 222 meetings at the Missouri Law Enforcement Academy. The Academy was open 305 days resulting in the Food Service Section preparing and serving approximately 80,000 meals.

In 1995, the Patrol also celebrated the 25th anniversary of its affiliation with the Missouri American Legion in the American Legion Cadet Patrol Academy. The Cadet Patrol Academy began in 1971, starting a project that has since spread across the country teaching youth leadership skills, discipline, and civic responsibilities.

The Patrol graduated 102 new troopers in 1996. The 71st Recruit Class began training on January 1 and graduated with 54 members on June 14. The 72nd Recruit Class graduated on December 14 with 48 new troopers. A new element was added to recruit training requiring all recruits to be sprayed with pepper mace. The recruits then had to gain control of a confrontational situation and call for assistance. After completing this successfully, the recruits were allowed and encouraged to clear their eyes with hoses and buckets of water. They were all very willing to do so.

In October 1996, D.A.R.E. America Worldwide chose TND as the new Midwest D.A.R.E. Regional Training Center (RTC). As an RTC, the Patrol not only provided training services, but also oversaw curriculum issues, evaluated the accreditation of each State Training Center, and developed the policies and procedures of the D.A.R.E. program, in addition to serving on the advisory board to D.A.R.E. America. Between recruit, in-service, D.A.R.E., and other training programs provided by the Patrol, over 2,000 students from various departments around the state received training at the Academy in 1996.

Through the two-year period of 1995-1996, the Academy trained 218 new troopers. This was the largest number ever trained in such a short period of time, and nearly doubled the number that had been trained in the previous five years. Captain Burl C. Baker was the director of training at the time. He saw these years as a turning point in the Patrol's training history, stating, "We experienced a change in Highway Patrol recruit classes from an average of one every 13 months to two, and even three, classes in the same year. This changed the complexion of courses offered from meeting the needs of other agencies to meeting the needs of the Patrol".

With the arrival of 1997, clandestine methamphetamine laboratories continued to be a cause for the citizens of Missouri. As a result, Patrol officers received six hours of POST-certified training on clandestine laboratory recognition and safety. Instruction was provided by officers from the Narcotics Section of the Division of Drug and Crime Control and personnel from the Criminal Laboratory Division. The 73rd Recruit Class began its studies at the Patrol's Law Enforcement Academy on January 1, 1997. At their graduation ceremony on June 14, 50 new troopers were appointed. The 74th Recruit Class then began training on July 1.

Throughout the year, 1,928 students participated in 106 schools at the Academy. TND continued to operate as the Regional Training Center for D.A.R.E. Ten states and the Virgin Islands worked directly with the division for their D.A.R.E. needs. The division now had three staff members assigned to coordinate the Missouri D.A.R.E. funds and programs with two positions for the regional programs. Violence Education and Gang Awareness (V.E.G.A.) training was provided to D.A.R.E. officers that year with the junior high and parenting components being taught in the schools.

November 9, 1997, marked the 10th anniversary of the Academy AV Section. The AV Section's two civilians produced videos for divisions of the Patrol, the Academy recruits in training, Special Olympics, "Real Stories of the Highway Patrol", as well as the Governor's Office, National Guard, Division of Highway Safety and U.S. Department of Transportation's joint "No Zone" video. They were also awarded the bronze shield award in the music category for "To Serve and Protect".

During 1998, almost 3,100 students received training at the Academy. One hundred eighty-nine of these students received college credit for their studies through Mineral Area Community College. The Law Enforcement Academy graduated 85 new troopers throughout the year. The 74th Recruit Class, which began training in 1997, graduated on January 16, 1998. The 75th Recruit Class began training February 1, graduating August 1. The ninth CVO class completed their six weeks of training and graduated at the end of March. The D.A.R.E. program also continued to grow, gaining one state in the Regional Training Center and certifying 274 officers in V.E.G.A.

When Capt. Baker (retired) spoke of the changes implemented during his tenure as director of TND, he noted, "The majority of the changes in training were the direct result of lessons learned from actual field experience. The need for more focus on individual officer safety and survival of physical force encounters played a major role in the updating of tactical training".

Enter the expandable baton. The Patrol replaced the PR-24 baton with the Armament Systems Procedures (ASP) baton in 1999. Training for this new equipment was completed by March. The new style baton was chosen primarily because of its compact size and design, making it something troopers can carry with them more comfortably.

On January 1, 1999, the 76th Recruit Class reported to the Academy. Six months later, on July 3, 33 new troopers were commissioned. The D.A.R.E. Regional Training Center Advisory Board approved the re-accreditation of the Missouri State Training Center for four additional years. The assessment took place during the September 1999 D.A.R.E. officer training at the Academy. In addition to providing recruit and in-service training, the Academy staff also provided instruction to 12 students that comprised the first 600-Hour Basic Law Course to be offered at the Law Enforcement Academy. In 1999, 3,293 students received training in 189 schools at the Academy, 103 of which applied for college credit for their studies.

2000-2009

Thirty-five full-time eradicators and flight officers attended special training in April 2000. Exercises were conducted at Camp Red Bud in the Lake of the Ozarks State Park. Classes included night vision training, helicopter safety, surveillance equipment deployment/recovery, and CPS systems with related software. The conference concluded with two teams conducting a mission to locate cultivated marijuana plants with coordinates given to them by members of the Aircraft Division. Their goal was to successfully deploy sensors and surveillance equipment without activating any booby traps. The teams then traded coordinates and tried to locate the field and equipment that had been deployed, again without activating any booby traps. Members from all nine troops took part in this exercise.

The 77th Recruit Class entered training on March 15, 2000, graduating from the Law Enforcement Academy on September 9, after 26 weeks of intense training. Forty-one new troopers were commissioned that day, reporting for duty on September 25. Thirteen CVOs also completed 12 weeks of training and were commissioned on November 22. Nearly 3,700 students received Academy training in 181 classes during the year. The D.A.R.E. programs continued to grow as well. At that time there were 585 officers teaching D.A.R.E. throughout the state of Missouri with 274 trained in V.E.G.A. These programs had been presented to more than 100,000 grade school students, 19,335 middle school students, and 3,341 high school students throughout the year.

In October 2000, Capt. Baker turned the reins over upon his retirement. In reflecting on his time as the training director, Capt. Baker recalls many pleasant memories. He stated, "Watching these young men and women come into the Academy and gradually change into troopers on graduation day will always hold a special place in my memories". He also noted the marked change in technology employed in training and everyday life of troopers. In that regard, Capt. Baker stated, "The entire Highway Patrol changed from a stubby pencil and paper organization to a computer program driven organization. As a result of this new demand, we changed our training lab (Classroom B) to a state-of-the-art computerized training center. From the day it was finished the computer classroom was very busy every day". It still is today.

Capt. Baker saw his role as the director of training, and that of his staff, from a "military posture of being responsible for the training of the force. The division has the role of being the second step in the selection process. Human Resources selects applicants with the potential for success by sending them to the Academy for recruit training. TND has the responsibility of molding individuals from all walks of life into troopers trained to a standard that prepares them for the field training officer phase". Capt. Baker closed these comments by saying, "There is an old adage that says, under highly stressful events we react to the event in the way we train. This is vital to the success of the Patrol".

The Academy graduated 53 new troopers in 2001. The 78th recruit class began training on January 15 and graduated on July 21. The D.A.R.E. program was at an all-time high, with five staff members assigned to coordinate the Missouri D.A.R.E. funds and programs. Through the end of 2001, the Academy had taught 1,052 officers in D.A.R.E. officer training, 332 officers in additional components, and 274 officers in V.E.G.A. One hundred four of the 114 counties in the state of Missouri had active D.A.R.E. programs.

The Academy graduated 20 new troopers in 2002. The 79th Recruit Class began training on October 16, 2001, and graduated on April 20, 2002. All Patrol managers and supervisors were required to attend specialized training dealing with personnel and media relation issues in order to comply with the state's revised management training rule.

TND also coordinated the Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) program statewide. In 2002, there were 49 DREs in the Patrol that were trained and supervised by six DRE instructors, four of which were DRE course manager qualified. In 2002, the DRE instructors provided six hours of in-service training on drug impaired driving to each Patrol enforcement officer. The Patrol's DRE evaluations were entered into the Texas A&M University national database of DRE evaluations.

At this time, TND had the statewide responsibility for coordinating, training, and administering the Chaplaincy Program for Patrol employees. By the end of 2002, the Patrol had 46 chaplains serving in all nine troops. Patrol chaplains provided a variety of services to Patrol employees during the year, volunteering their time on 1,099 days for a total of 3,188 hours.

The Academy commissioned 54 new troopers in 2003. The 80th Recruit Class began training on October 20, 2002, and graduated on May 2, 2003. The 81st Recruit Class began training on June 29, 2003, and graduated January 10, 2004. In 2003, 14,446 seats were occupied in the 916 Patrol recertification sessions. Also in 2003, 14,253 seats were occupied in 613 continuing education classroom sessions, totaling 94,155 sessions hours of continuing education training.

There was one very notable change made to the Academy facilities in 2003. After 28 years in use, the training tank was no longer available. The swimming pool was drained, 2" x 10" beams were placed across the pool every 12 inches, and 4' by 8' sheeting laid down. The result was a weight and mat room. The training tank's pumping system was failing and the pipes inside the walls had deteriorated. The cost of correcting the

problems was prohibitive. Therefore, the training tank was changed into a space for working out and a place for recruit classes to hold mat exercises.

Forty-nine new troopers graduated from the Academy in 2004. The 81st Recruit Class reported for training on June 29, 2003, and graduated on January 10, 2004. The 82nd Recruit Class began training on January 18, 2004, and graduated July 23, 2004. The 83rd Recruit Class began their training on October 18, 2004. In addition to this recruit training, 15,076 officers attended 986 Patrol recertification sessions.

The 83rd and 84th recruit classes graduated from the Academy in 2005. The two classes provided 57 troopers to help make Missouri's roads safer. Training personnel also provided instructions in 171 additional schools, including basic training for the Communication and Driver Examination divisions. 2005 also saw the responsibility for administration of the D.A.R.E. program transferred from the Patrol to the Missouri Police Chiefs' Association.

With 2005 in the past, and the 75th anniversary date fast approaching, Capt. J. D. Biram, director of TND, reflected on his 16 years spent in the division. Like other past directors, Capt. Biram did not point to one specific incident or memory of his time spent in training. What he did recall are the 24 recruit classes he has had the privilege of training and the fine people he has worked with. Capt. Biram stated, "Recruit class banquets and graduation ceremonies are special occasions, which generate many fond memories. It is especially rewarding to keep in touch with our former recruits as they progress in their careers. I also have many fond memories of the fine people I have worked with at the Academy. I truly believe they have impacted the future of the organization in a positive way".

2006 was the first year the Academy offered web-based training via the Internet. A contract with the Missouri Police Chiefs' Association allowed members to take bias-based profiling, new laws, first responder/CPR, terrorist bombing awareness, and hazardous materials training online, saving the state a considerable sum on travel time and gas. Also in 2006, all members of the rank of sergeant and below who had not previously attended EVOC training at the Academy attended the full one-week EVOC School. In-service and/or basic training for driver examiners, communications personnel, chaplains, and CVOs were conducted at the Academy. The 85th Recruit Class began on January 9, 2006, and graduated on July 14 with a total of 33 new troopers.

Capt. J.D. Biram retired in 2007, and was replaced by another long-time Academy instructor, Lieutenant M.B. (Barry) Lindsey. When discussing dramatic changes during his tenure, Capt. Biram pointed to increased state-mandated training requirements that have taxed the training delivery system. He stated, "Training became more decentralized in order to meet these increased demands, and unfortunately, consistency has diminished". Capt. Biram added, "Personnel concerns about the lack of consistency in decentralized training programs and the availability of new delivery options are providing the impetus for change".

To address the problems of decentralized training mentioned by Capt. Biram, Colonel James F. Keathley tasked Capt. Lindsey with conducting the first Academy-based, in-service training for all members since the 1990s. A three-track curriculum was developed. It included active shooter and domestic disturbance training for all members. Other highlights of 2007 include in-service and/or basic training for driver examiners, communications personnel, chaplains, and commercial vehicle inspectors.

The 86th Recruit Class began training on January 8, 2007, and graduated on July 13 with 36 new troopers. This class was the first ever to graduate on the steps of the Missouri State Capitol.

2008 was another busy year at the Academy. The 87th Recruit Class began on January 7, and graduated 42 new troopers on July 11. In-service for all members and commercial vehicle inspectors/officers was conducted at the Academy in 2008, as well as a radio academy and driver examiner basic training.

The 88th Recruit Class began training on July 1, and graduated 26 new troopers on December 19, 2008. Just one month later, the 89th Recruit Class began training on January 16, 2009, and graduated July 10, 2009, with 29 newly commissioned troopers.

Capt. Lindsey retired on January 1, 2009, and was followed by Captain Jerel A. Schomer, who assumed command of TND on January 1, 2009. One of Capt. Schomer's primary initiatives was the renovation of the Academy complex and dormitories. The long-standing blue and white exterior of the Academy dormitory was replaced with a more contemporary brown and tan stucco exterior, along with the installation of new, energy-efficient windows. Additional renovations were made to the cafeteria and air conditioning systems, along with the addition of new glass backboards for the basketball goals in the Academy gymnasium.

Although there was no centralized member in-service held in 2009, it was still a busy year. The 89th Recruit Class began training on January 16 and graduated with 29 members on the steps of Missouri's Capitol on July 10. The 90th Recruit Class began training on July 1 and graduated with 25 members in the gymnasium on December 18.

The first of two planned CVO POST classes began in August 2009 and graduated in November, having completed the 15-week POST curriculum for 600-hour licensure. This training was conducted to facilitate current CVOs becoming licensed peace officers and was first introduced by then-Colonel Fred Mills. Although it took many years to come to fruition, interest in the class was good, and all 40 CVOs who began the training successfully graduated on November 12, 2009. The CVOs and the 90th Recruit Class received several hours of training together, facilitating good relations and a bit of friendly competition between the two groups—one group of seasoned veteran employees and the other a group of (mostly) very young and inexperienced employees.

2010-2019

The 91st Recruit Class began February 1, 2010, and graduated 27 new troopers on July 23, 2010. Shortly after the start of the 91st Recruit Class, Capt. Schomer retired and

was replaced by Captain David P. Perkins, who became the director of TND on March 2010.

Another "overlap" class, the 92nd Recruit Class began on July 1, 2010, and graduated 36 new troopers on December 17. The second and final 600-hour Basic Training Course was completed for 40 CVOs during 2010.

Under the command of Capt. Perkins, the recruit uniform changed from a tactical, TDU-style outfit to a more formal, light-blue button-down dress shirt with navy blue slacks. Additionally, Capt. Perkins provided the class commander, vice commander, and chaplain with blue, red, or white shoulder aiguillettes to signify their position/standing as elected class officers. Capt. Perkins also posted a sign above the recruit classroom, which became emblematic of the high standards expected of both recruits and the training staff. The sign reads: "Staff Instructor Creed – These recruits are entrusted to my care; I will train them to the best of my ability. I will develop them into smartly disciplined, academically sound, physically fit, and basically trained probationary troopers. I will demand of them, and demonstrate by my own example, the highest standards of professional conduct, morality, and professional skill".

In addition to the 93rd Recruit Class, which began training on January 3, 2011, the Academy continued to provide first-class training to both enforcement and civilian personnel from a variety of departments and Patrol divisions. Most notably, two, four-week transitional training classes were conducted for the 88 Water Patrol officers who officially became part of the Patrol on January 1, 2011.

The Academy graduated 26 new troopers in 2012. The 95th Recruit Class began training on April 2 and graduated September 21, 2012. All Patrol managers and supervisors received specialized training in order to comply with the state's revised management training rule. The first Swiftwater Rescue course since the merger of the Missouri State Water Patrol into the Missouri State Highway Patrol took place April 7-10, 2012, at Pomme de Terre Lake. The Academy provided marine enforcement training for 31 incumbent members during a four-week course. The training focused on watercraft law and crash investigation, boat operation, stop and approach tactics, water survival, and other related topics.

In 2013, 12,887 seats were occupied in the 931 Patrol recertification sessions. Also in 2013, 22,986 seats were occupied in 1,765 continuing education classroom sessions, totaling 66,228 session hours of continuing education training.

The 96th Recruit Class began training on January 1 and graduated July 12, 2013. The 97th Recruit Class began training on July 1 and graduated December 20, 2013. Sixty-eight new troopers graduated from the Academy in 2013.

A marine enforcement training four-week course was held for 28 members during the month of March. The training focused on watercraft law and crash investigation, boat operation, stop and approach tactics, water survival, and other related topics.

Sixteen civilians graduated on September 13, 2013, from the 5th Basic Law Enforcement School consisting of 600 hours of instruction in the basic techniques necessary to begin a law enforcement career.

On November 10, 2013, Ms. Jeanne Livers transferred from the Information and Communications Technology Division to TND to become the first civilian staff instructor. Some of her duties include planning and coordinating 2014 civilian in-service training, recruit report writing, and cultural awareness training.

The first Leadership in Police Organization (LPO) course began in the fall 2013. Three one-week sessions held at GHQ culminated with the graduation of 37 students on December 6, 2013.

After being closed for 10 years, renovation of the Academy training tank and construction of a new weight training and defensive tactics facility began.

The Academy graduated 65 new troopers in 2014. The 98th Recruit Class began training on January 2 and graduated June 27, 2014. The 99th Recruit Class began training on July 1 and graduated December 19, 2014.

Patrol employees received training on various topics at the Academy. Some areas that were highlighted in 2014 included the development of the first structured in-service training for civilian personnel from all Patrol divisions. The training focused on the importance of each employee's position and job tasks in supporting the Patrol's mission.

In June 2014, with the theme of "We Are Family," an eight-hour, dual instructor, curriculum consisting of communication, leadership, and motivation was finalized as the 2014 civilian in-service. In an effort to promote a positive training experience, reduce costs, and alleviate scheduling concerns, the training was taken on the road to each of the nine troops. With 38 scheduled sessions, the 2014 civilian in-service tour began at GHQ on July 22, 2014, and ended with the final session on December 2, 2014. In all, 1,046 employees attended civilian in-service across the state.

All Patrol managers and supervisors received specialized training to comply with the state's revised management training rule.

The Academy provided Marine Enforcement Training for 41 incumbent members during a four-week course. Additionally, Academy staff conducted three separate three-day Basic Boat Operation courses and one four-day Swiftwater Rescue course to 67 incumbent members and 32 agents from outside agencies.

The Academy graduated 57 new troopers in 2015. The 100th Recruit Class began training on January 5 and graduated June 26, 2015. The 101st Recruit Class began training on July 1 and graduated December 18, 2015.

After closing the training tank in 2003 due to maintenance issues, division personnel were pleased to announce the reopening of that facility. A strength training room and defensive tactics room were constructed adjacent to the training tank. These facilities provided a convenient location for Patrol employees and other public safety personnel

to receive invaluable water safety and tactical training. The training tank was dedicated in memory of Trooper Frederick F. Guthrie Jr. on August 5, 2015.

The Academy provided Marine Enforcement Training for 13 incumbent members during a four-week course. The training focused on watercraft law and crash investigation, boat operation, stop and approach tactics, water survival and other related topics. Additionally, Academy staff scheduled two separate, three-day Basic Boat Operation courses and one four-day Swiftwater Rescue course to 31 incumbent members and 24 agents from outside agencies.

In 2015 the Patrol migrated from the two and one-half-day Academy-based in-service for members and CVOs every three years, to a model requiring 12 additional elective POST credit hours annually. The requirement was approved mid-year, and it was recommended all officers make a concerted effort toward that goal. Of almost 1,300 officers, over 930 earned the required 12 elective hours or more, with less than 70 who earned no additional POST credit hours.

The Academy graduated 65 new troopers in 2016. The 102nd Recruit Class began training on January 4 and graduated June 24, 2016. The 103rd Recruit Class began training on July 5 and graduated December 30, 2016.

In May 2016, the Academy conducted a faculty development workshop to train six LPO instructors. Those instructors then facilitated the Patrol's first in-house course for 36 students in July 2016.

The Academy graduated 27 new troopers in 2017. The 104th Recruit Class began training on January 2, and graduated June 23, 2017.

The two LPO schools were conducted in 2017 with 71 graduates.

New courses added to the Academy curriculum for 2017 were Tactical Emergency Casualty Care Provider, Basic Executive Protection, and Advanced Executive Protection. The Academy also added a new course titled Armed Encounters & High-Risk Traffic Stops to specifically address and provide officers with tactical strategies needed to prevail in an armed encounter during a traffic stop. Prior to this class, the only formal training officers had relative to conducting vehicle stops came during recruit school.

In December 2017, Sergeant Brandon M. White (Q/TND) was chosen as DPS State Employee of the Month for his dedication and innovative instructional efforts in firearms/tactics training.

The Academy graduated 53 new troopers in 2018. The 105th Recruit Class began training on January 8, and graduated June 29, 2018. The 106th Recruit Class began training on July 2 and graduated on December 21, 2018.

LPO transitioned to Police Leadership the West Point Model (PLWM) in 2018. One LPO and one PLWM school were conducted with 71 graduates.

Sergeant Aaron K. Griffin (Q/TND) accepted the September 2018 DPS Employee of the Month. An instructor at the Academy, Sgt. Griffin's research determined the traditional approach to vehicle stop training was far too basic. Determined to improve training in what is one of the highest-risk areas of policing, Sgt. Griffin developed an in-depth, three-day course, "Armed Encounters & High-Risk Traffic Stops", to provide officers with the tactics needed to prevail in an armed encounter during a traffic stop. Sgt. Griffin's commitment to officer safety and innovative thinking resulted in a new course that will impact generations of officers.

The Academy graduated 62 new troopers in 2019. The 107th Recruit Class began training on January 1 and graduated June 21, 2019. The 108th Recruit Class began training on July 1 and graduated on December 20, 2019.

On the evening of April 20, 2019, Captain Jerry C. West was off-duty and dining at a restaurant in Columbia, MO. An elderly woman in the restaurant began choking. Capt. West observed that she was unable to breathe or speak and began to lose consciousness. He approached and immediately performed the abdominal thrust maneuver. When she lost consciousness, he placed her on the floor and continued to perform an abdominal thrust for approximately one minute. The obstruction, a large piece of chicken, eventually dislodged and the subject resumed breathing. She remained unresponsive, so Capt. West placed her in the recovery position. Emergency medical services arrived and provided her with medical attention. She made a full recovery. In recognition of his actions, Capt. West received a Lifesaving Award.

Two Police Leadership the West Point Model schools were conducted with 67 graduates. One PLWM executive school included an additional 28 graduates.

In July 2019, Trooper Adam Hitt joined the Academy instructional staff.

2020-

The Academy graduated 21 new troopers in 2020. The 109th Recruit class was conducted from January 6 through June 26, 2020. Due to COVID-19 restrictions implemented in March 2020, recruits' temperatures were taken every time they returned from being off campus. Recruits were required to maintain social distance in classrooms and the cafeteria, moved to single room occupancy in the dorm, and required to wear masks during close quarters training (EVOC, defensive tactics, etc.), sanitize work and classroom areas daily, and wash their hands or use hand sanitizer regularly. CVO Basic 600 began July 1, 2020.

A PLWM school began in February. Due to COVID-19, it was rescheduled for 2021.

Also due to COVID-19, most outside classes were canceled beginning in March due to limited dorm/classroom space for social distancing. Much of the required annual recertification training for Patrol employees was rescheduled or accomplished through PowerDMS. Training conducted in person was done so with social distancing, sanitization, and the wearing of masks for safety in mind.

Construction on an outdoor firing range was completed in 2020. Located on Missouri Highway 179 north of State Surplus Property, the new range accommodates rifles, shotguns, and pistols. Prior to this facility, the Patrol did not have an outdoor range. Each range also includes a pavilion with lights and electrical outlets. The facility includes a classroom, shoot house (concrete/ballistic structure for tactical training), bomb disposal area, and parking. The range was first used by the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division's (CVED) CVO 600-hour basic school on September 21, 2020. TND hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony for its outdoor firing range on Wednesday, December 23, 2020.

Captain West retired July 1, 2020, with 34 years of service. Captain Joesph L. Armistead transferred to TND to serve as director effective July 1, 2020.

The 110th Recruit Class began training on August 3, 2020, and graduated 31 new troopers on January 29, 2021. The 111th Recruit class started February 1, 2021, and graduated 29 new troopers on July 23, 2021. The 112th Recruit Class began training on August 2, 2021, and graduated 25 new troopers on January 12, 2022.

For the first time in Patrol history, an accelerated academy was offered. This 15-week recruit class was designed for law enforcement professionals interested in becoming a trooper. To be eligible, candidates had to possess an active Missouri Class A POST license in good standing or be able to obtain one prior to the start of recruit training. Candidates had to have served a minimum of three consecutive years as a full-time Missouri POST-commissioned police officer, military police officer, or out-of-state police officer in a traffic, patrol, or investigations capacity. The candidates were also required to successfully complete the trooper selection process. This first accelerated academy formed the 114th Recruit Class began training January 18, 2022, and graduated 10 new troopers on April 29, 2022.

Also on January 18, 2022, the 113th Recruit Class entered the Academy. The two classes trained side-by-side for the first month. The 113th Recruit Class completed 25 weeks of training and graduated 25 new troopers. The first female recruit class commander, new Trooper Shayla Latture, was one of them.

The 115th Recruit Class graduated 19 new troopers on December 22, 2022. The 116th Recruit Class (accelerated academy) graduated six new troopers on April 14, 2023. The 117th Recruit class graduated 11 recruits on June 23, 2023. The 118th Recruit Class graduated 25 new troopers on December 22, 2023.

The 119th Recruit Class (accelerated academy) graduated five new troopers on April 17, 2024. The 120th Recruit Class graduated 21 new troopers on June 21, 2024.

The 16th CVO Class graduated five new CVOs on June 7, 2024, after 23 weeks of training. The CVO's basic training responsibility was transferred from the CVED to the Academy in February 2024.

The Academy hosted the 52nd American Legion Cadet Patrol Academy from June 10-14, 2024. Cadets apply through their local American Legion branch and had to be between the ages of 16 and 18 years of age, enrolled in high school and in the upper

50th percentile of their class. If accepted, the cadets attended a week of modified law enforcement training in courses. While in training, just like a recruit class, the cadets stay in the dormitory and eat in the cafeteria.

The 123rd Recruit Class started their journey on January 2, 2025, and after completing 24 weeks of training, graduated 28 new troopers on June 18, 2025. The class officers were Dallas T. Waller, Commander, Daniel D. Mullins, Vice Commander, and Charles C. Swederska, Chaplain.

The 124th Recruit Class started on July 1, 2025, with 51 recruits and after completing 24 weeks of training, graduating 25 new troopers on December 19, 2025. The class officers were Jordan N. Schafer, Commander, Grant D. Miller, Vice Commander, and Kyle J. Atkisson, Chaplain.

The 18th CVO Class started their journey on January 2, 2024, with 7 trainees, and after completing 17 weeks of training, 3 new CVOs graduated on May 2, 2024. The class officers were Cameron J. Wilkes as Commander and Patrick L. Katumpe as Chaplain.

The Academy also hosted the 53rd American Legion Cadet Patrol Academy from June 8, 2025, thru June 13, 2025. Class officers were Ryan Whitlock as Class Commander, Eli-Judah Stuesse as Vice Commander, and Ethan Stout as Chaplain.

The Academy also hosted a myriad of curriculum classes, including four First Line Supervision classes, two Police Instructor classes, and two PLWM classes. Several EVOG classes, Firearms Instructor, and a mix of Crash Investigation classes were taught. Training also included Advanced Crash Investigation, Crash Reconstruction, and Crash Reconstruction Re-training. In June 2025, the Academy introduced Tactical Vehicle Intervention (TVI). This is an advanced drivers training class for all road officers. The Academy hosted 18 basic TVI courses and four TVI Instructor courses in 2025.

The following is a list of past and present training directors. While some of the dates overlap, they have been verified as much as possible to ensure accuracy.

Captain Joseph L. Armistead	2020 — present
Captain Jerry C. West	2017 — 2020
Captain Vince S. Rice	2013 — 2017
Captain David P. Perkins	2010 — 2013
Captain Jerel A. Schomer	2009 — 2010
Captain M. Barry Lindsey	2007 — 2009
Captain J.D. Biram	2000 — 2007
Captain B. Chris Baker	1992 — 2000
Captain William B. Darnell	1991 — 1992
Captain G. Paul Corbin	1986 — 1991
Captain Charles D. Whitehead	1979 — 1986
Captain James H. Dickson	1971 — 1979
Lieutenant Dale Crites	1969 — 1971
Sergeant William D. Searce	1967 — 1971
Lieutenant Walter Snyder Jr.	1957 — 1969

Lieutenant Colonel Kenneth K. Johnson 1941 — 1953