Troop C History

With the creation and passing of Senate Bill 36, the Missouri State Highway Patrol began protecting the citizens of Missouri and monitoring traffic on the state's roadways. On October 5, 1931, the First Recruit Class began training at the St. Louis Police Academy. After completing training, officers were assigned to one of the six troops throughout the state. One of the six original troops was located in Kirkwood, MO, and named Troop C. Troop C Headquarters was in the basement of the Highway Department's district building. In November 1931, Captain Thomas L. Leigh became the first troop commander for Troop C. Troop C consisted of 14 counties: Crawford, Gasconade, Phelps, Pulaski, Montgomery, Warren, Lincoln, St. Charles, St. Louis, Franklin, Jefferson, Ste. Genevieve, St. Francois, and Washington. Along with Captain Leigh, the original members of Troop C were Sergeant Robert E. Moore, Troopers Frank D. Hagan, Jerome F. Shaw, Kinnaird O. Duncan, Wayne G. Henderson, Gordon H. Noonan, Aubrey G. White, and Ralph I. Cox. The troop's zones were located in St. Louis County, Wentzville, Rolla, Flat River, and Desloge.

1930s

Section 8 of the original Missouri statute regarding the Patrol stated the superintendent of the Patrol was to keep, collect, and compile information for use in the detection of criminals. To be in compliance with this requirement, Colonel B.M. Casteel created the Bureau of Investigations Unit on August 1, 1934. Colonel Casteel named Sergeant Robert E. Moore, Troop C, as head of the new bureau. In addition, he was promoted to captain. After the word had spread throughout the state about the new bureau, the workload in the division became overwhelming. So many fingerprint and criminal records were coming in that Captain Moore and his limited staff could not keep up. Reorganization efforts within General Headquarters were made to accommodate the workload.

Because of the development of the new Troop F and other boundary changes, Troop C was given Perry County from Troop E, Poplar Bluff. Troop C lost Phelps and Pulaski counties after a shift in the troop assignment of several southern counties.

In October 1939, Lewis B. Howard became the new Troop C commander, replacing Captain Leigh. Captain Howard would hold the position of troop commander until September 22, 1942.

Troop C Headquarters moved from its location in the basement of the Highway Department to a newly constructed headquarters at Highway 40 and Ballas Road. This new, centrally located, headquarters went on the air on January 1, 1939, under the command of the original troop commander, Capt. Leigh. In October 1939, Lewis B. Howard was promoted to the rank of captain and served as the Troop C commanding officer, replacing Capt. Leigh.

1940s

On April 14, 1941, off-duty Troopers Harry K. Thuner and R.E. “Gene” Butler were traveling east on U.S. Highway 66 in Thuner’s personal vehicle en route to Troop C Headquarters. Both were wearing the khaki shirts and trousers that had been their recruit uniforms during the Patrol training at Camp Hawthorne in 1939. As all new troopers do, they were observing traffic. About 20 miles west of Eureka they observed a 1940 Chrysler, bearing Nebraska plates, which caught their eye. They turned to each other and attempted to recall information they had received previously regarding this vehicle. Neither was able to recall the information but continued to observe the vehicle. They began following the vehicle as it began to pull away from them. This peaked their suspicions even more. They began pursuing the vehicle for 15 miles, before they forced the vehicle off the road. As they approached the vehicle and identified themselves as troopers, the driver yelled, “Ha, cops! I thought you were a couple of yokels wantin’ to race. That’s what I get for not holing up somewhere and getting some sleep. So, I’m pinched at last! Well, here’s the loot".

He then handed them a briefcase which contained a .380 automatic, a .38-caliber revolver and $1,295. Both troopers asked, “The loot?” The driver then realized he had blown his own cover. He stated, “I’m caught, and you don’t even know me? What were ya chasin’ me for?” They informed him that they were just “in pursuit of a hunch”. The driver then informed them that it was a good hunch. He identified himself as Orval Lloyd Skinner, a man wanted in several states for bank robbery, the most recent which was the day before in Louisville, NE. After Mr. Skinner completed his confession and surrendered the evidence, both troopers recalled the dispatch they had been given of a lone male driving a 1940 Chrysler with Nebraska plates who was wanted for two bank robberies in Nebraska and two in Iowa. These two officers ended a criminal career which had great potential. Upon his release from the Missouri State Penitentiary in 1939, Mr. Skinner had devised a plan for robbing banks. He also stole cars and license plates for use during the robberies before he flew on TWA back to his safe residence in California to hide his loot. Three weeks after Mr. Skinner’s capture, he pled guilty to all four robberies and was sentenced to permanent residency in the federal penitentiary in Leavenworth, KS, by the U.S. government.

On October 4, 1941, the Tower Room of the Congress Hotel in St. Louis, hosted the “First Decennial”, commemorating the 10th anniversary of the Patrol. The event was planned and organized by Sergeant Eugene P. Clark. Thirty-seven original members of the Patrol, and an equal number of distinguished guests, gathered to honor the two deceased members of their class, Sergeant Ben O. Booth and Trooper Clyde Kinder, as well as the four current members who had been wounded in the line of duty. Governor Forrest Donnell and Colonel Lewis Ellis addressed the group.

In response to a significant loss of manpower to the military due to onset of World War II, Colonel M. Stanley Ginn decided to supplement the Patrol with a force of trained, part-time civilians. The formation of the Missouri Auxiliary Highway Patrol was announced on February 21, 1942. The individuals received no pay, had no police authority, and used their own vehicles. The vehicles equipped with a radio were given the Patrol frequency to receive information from troop communications. All troop commanders formed an auxiliary unit in their troop. Applicants were required to attend a

16-week, two-hour training session, to include topics such as war traffic, theft prevention, geography, combating incendiary bombs, and protection against gas, internal security investigations, and military drill. They purchased their own uniforms, and were issued only a cap, patch, and emblem for their windshield of their car by the Patrol. Nine hundred-fifty auxiliary members were trained originally; Troop C was assigned 150.

A change occurred in the Troop C command staff on November 9, 1942, with Thomas E. Whitecotton being promoted to the rank of captain, replacing Capt. Howard. Captain Whitecotton would remain troop commander until August 31, 1944.

On August 11, 1943, Troop C radio received information about a bank robbery that had occurred in Hawk Point, MO, in southwest Lincoln County, by two men who fled in an older model Pontiac. Patrol cars were immediately advised by radio and dispatched to the area, and surrounding agencies were notified by telephone. In a very short time 29 patrol and sheriffs provided a perimeter to the area while officers on the scene provided more detailed information to the perimeter officers.

An article in the 1943-44 Official Manual of Missouri stated, “No one can foretell how the advancements in communication being made during the war will affect police radio, but it can be stated definitely that the Missouri State Highway Patrol will take full advantage of these new developments to assist in the protection of lives and property of the people of the state.”

On September 22, 1944, Jerome F. Shaw became the new troop commander for Troop C, replacing Capt. Whitecotton. Captain Shaw would hold this rank until July 31, 1945.

John A. Tandy was promoted to captain and replaced Capt. Whitecotton on August 1, 1945. Captain Tandy held the position of troop commander from August 1, 1945, until August 14, 1946. On August 15, 1946, Lieutenant Clarence E. Potts assumed the position of “acting” troop commander until September 30, 1946.

On October 1, 1946, after returning from military service, Lewis B. Howard was promoted to the rank of captain, and became the new commanding officer of Troop C, replacing “acting troop commander” Lt. Potts.

1950s

In January 1950, the troop boundaries again changed. Troop C relinquished Perry County to Troop E, Gasconade and Montgomery counties to Troop F, and Crawford County to Troop I. In exchange, Troop C gained Pike County from Troop B.

On March 1, 1954, Chester R. Oliver was promoted to the rank of captain and became the new Troop C commanding officer. Captain Oliver replaced Capt. Howard, who held the position from October 1, 1946, through February 28, 1954.

The Patrol’s radar program started in June 1956, with Trooper Bob Burgess being selected to be the Patrol’s first and only radar operator. He conducted very thorough

research of the dual antenna radar units, even traveling to New Hampshire to the factory where the first radar unit was made. Upon returning, Tpr. Burgess' patrol car was equipped with a two-piece electromatic stationary radar unit.

He is the only officer who has made arrests in every county in the state. His first arrest using the radar unit occurred in Jefferson County, in October 1956. This arrest and 13 others made the same day were tried together because radar was so new. The judge found all defendants guilty; however, he imposed no fines. The judge anticipated the cases would draw a lot of publicity and the word of the new highly effective equipment being used would warn motorists to slow down.

On July 26, 1956, newly trained driver examiners in brown uniforms reported for duty at examination stations in St. Louis County, Jackson County, Buchanan County, and the city of St. Louis. Prior to this, all driver examiners were commissioned officers. Officers of the police departments in their area examined those applying for a driver's license. Troop C Driver Examiner Joe Bacon was assigned to give road tests in the city of St. Louis in the late 1950s.

Retired Captain Bob Hagan began his career with the Patrol as a driver examiner. He tells the following stories: "I was involved in several accidents while giving the driver's test. We had moved the examination office from Grand Avenue to 10th and Washington in downtown St. Louis, and the road test was given in the downtown area, which was always congested. While giving the driving test to a gentleman, I instructed him to make a right turn at the next corner. After making the turn, he held onto the steering wheel. We jumped the curb and drove into the side of a restaurant, knocking a large hole into the side of the brick building".

"We always asked applicants for identification. For a young man, we would accept a draft card as ID. Some people who felt they couldn't pass the test would have someone else come in and try to take the test for them. A lot of the people in the area didn't have middle names, so their draft card would have "NMN" in that blank, which stood for "no middle name". One day, a man came in and handed me a draft card. I asked him for his date of birth and then asked him what his middle name was. He made the sound for the letters "NMN". He had read the card and didn't realize what "NMN" stood for. He thought it was the person's middle name."

1960s

The Water Rescue Recovery Unit was established to provide trained personnel to search underwater where drowning or other water-related disasters occurred. The team originally consisted of four troopers; however, the team grew quickly. Troop C members, Troopers A.R. Lubker and R.J. Hagan became members of the Underwater Recovery Team (URT). The St. Louis Post Dispatch featured the URT in their Sunday Magazine on March 26, 1961. The article reported that in the first eight months of the unit's existence they recovered three bodies from the Lake of the Ozarks and one from a pond in New Bloomfield. The Post referred to the team as "frog cops". A shortage of scuba gear plagued the team, but several of the men bought their own equipment. Due

to a constant struggle with funding and the creation of the Boat Commission, the team was discontinued in 1966.

On October 1, 1961, Willie S. Barton was promoted to the rank of captain and became the new Troop C commanding officer. Captain Barton replaced Capt. Oliver and would hold this position until February 28, 1970.

On February 15, 1964, Sergeant Herbert L. “Soby” Sobolewski suffered a brain aneurysm while directing traffic on U.S. Highway 40 near Wentzville. He was directing traffic near a tractor-trailer crash when he collapsed. He was taken to St. Joseph’s Hospital in St. Charles, and later transferred to St. Luke’s Hospital, where he died. Sergeant Sobolewski joined the Patrol October 1, 1939, and was first assigned to Troop D, but transferred to Troop C during World War II. He was promoted to sergeant and assigned to Wentzville on September 1, 1946.

After losing the troop range and other acreage, and having outgrown the building at Highway 40 and Ballas Road, 16 acres of land was purchased at Highway 40 and Mason Road, to construct a new Troop C Headquarters in 1966. Construction began on the new building in April 1966. The 22,000-square-foot structure was expected to be complete by June 1967, at a total cost of $575,000. This new facility would have two levels, consisting of administrative offices and public waiting area, a central Communications Division with skylights, pneumatic tube system throughout the building for the rapid transfer of documents, mechanical equipment space, extensive storage areas, and radio and repair shops.

In June 1967, after 14 months of construction, the new 22,000-square foot Troop C Headquarters was completed. Capt. Barton was instrumental in the design of the new headquarters and took great pride in the success of the new construction. An open house was held on July 16, 1967, for public inspection. For several weeks prior to the open house, Capt. Barton, Lieutenant William Dolan, Lieutenant George Thurmond, and many of the Troop C officers and employees planned and worked to make the open house a success. Approximately 2,000 invited guests and friends toured this new and most modern Patrol facility in the nation.

1970s

On March 1, 1970, William A. Dolan was promoted and became the eighth commanding officer of Troop C. Captain Dolan served in this capacity until May 31, 1973. In June 1973, Albert F. Closson was promoted and became the ninth commanding officer of Troop C. Captain Closson served in this capacity until September 1977.

Colonel Sam S. Smith announced Perry County would become a part of the Patrol’s Troop C effective January 1, 1975. Perry County was under the administrative jurisdiction of Troop E, Poplar Bluff, previously. “The completion of Interstate 55 makes Perry County much more accessible to our Troop C Headquarters in Kirkwood, in terms of mileage and communications.” Colonel Smith also stated a new Zone 14 would be created in Troop C effective January 1, 1975. The new zone included Ste. Genevieve

and Perry counties. Corporal George R. Cumberland, who was stationed in Ste. Genevieve, was promoted to sergeant on January 1, and was the first zone sergeant in Zone 14.

In October 1977, John N. Kiriakos was promoted to captain and became the 10th commanding officer of Troop C. Captain Kiriakos served as troop commander until May 1980.

1980s

In May 1980, Edward F. Christman was promoted and became the 11th commanding officer of Troop C. Captain Christman served as troop commander until June 1981.

In July 1981, Carl J. Hucke Jr. was promoted to captain and became the 12th commanding officer of Troop C. Captain Hucke served as troop commander until October 1984.

In November 1984, John H. Ford was promoted to captain and named the 13th commanding officer of Troop C. Captain Ford served as troop commander until August 1987.

In September 1987, Roy G. Foss was promoted and became the 14th commanding officer of Troop C. Captain Foss served as troop commander until August 1988.

In September 1988, Dale E. Buschmann was promoted to captain and designated the 15th commanding officer of Troop C. Captain Buschmann served in this capacity until August 1994.

On January 26, 1989, inspection stations in the Troop C area were honored for 20 years of uninterrupted service to the state of Missouri. Capt. Buschmann presented a special, silver commemorative inspection station license, issued by Colonel John H. Ford, to approximately 45 inspection station owners who had been in the inspection program since 1969.

1990s

The Great Flood of 1993 affected nine of the 11 counties in Troop C. Troop C officers directed traffic, blocked highways, and assisted the public evacuating their homes when floodwaters started to rise. The Troop C helicopter 96MP was in constant demand by the State Emergency Management Agency, the Missouri State Water Patrol, the Coast Guard, and the Missouri Department of Transportation, as well as numerous local departments. Troop C pilots used the helicopter to rescue a local resident from the floodwaters. Troop C also assumed a primary role in the visit of President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore to a flood summit of affected governors in Arnold, MO.

In September 1994, William K. Seibert was promoted to captain and named the 16th commanding officer of Troop C. Captain Seibert would serve as troop commander until September 1997.

From July 1, 1994, through July 10, 1994, the Patrol provided security at the Olympic Village on the campus of Washington University during the U.S. Olympic Festival, which was held in St. Louis, MO. More than 3,000 amateur athletes from around the country competed in the games. The Patrol provided 35 officers and 13 communications personnel.

In 1995, telecommunicators replaced troopers assigned to the desk (desk sergeants), which allowed three additional officers to be reassigned to road duties. Troop C's authorized strength was increased from 134 troopers to 137.

In Summer 1995, the Commercial Motor Vehicle Division brought online a state-of-the-art weigh station on Interstate 70 at Foristell, MO, in St. Charles County. A special technological feature of the facility was a system known as WIM (weight-in-motion). The scales weighed the tractor-trailer unit as it moved across the scale, and the vehicle did not have to stop unless required to do so by the commercial vehicle inspector.

In October 1997, Paul D. Parmenter was promoted to captain and named 17th commanding officer of Troop C. Captain Parmenter served as troop commander until September 2002.

On April 7, 1998, Commercial Vehicle Officer (CVO) Steve D. Wilmesherr was traveling east on Interstate 44 near Eureka, MO, when he noticed a tractor-trailer traveling in the passing lane at a high rate of speed. When the truck passed CVO Wilmesherr, he heard the slapping sound of a tire that had gone flat. CVO Wilmesherr stopped the truck. The driver of the truck told CVO Wilmesherr he was hauling limes and pineapples to Chicago, IL. While speaking to the driver, CVO Wilmesherr noticed several inconsistencies with the statements the driver made. While inspecting the driver's logbook, several discrepancies arose as to locations, dates, and times. Sergeant Sean B. Moore arrived a short time later and gained consent to search the tractor and trailer. The truck and trailer were transported to Troop C where it was searched. A search of the trailer revealed the largest drug seizure in the history of Troop C. Over 827 kilos of marijuana, along with 667 kilos of cocaine, and two kilos of heroin were seized.

On Wednesday, April 15, 1998, at 8:30 a.m., the largest traffic crash in Missouri's history occurred. The 98-car pileup blocked eastbound Interstate 70 for one-half mile in O'Fallon, MO, and resulted in over 40 people being transported to four area hospitals. Fortunately, none of the injuries were considered life threatening. Four officers wrote 98 individual crash reports. Sergeant William (Bill) T. Davis was one of the first troopers to arrive on the scene. Shortly after arriving on the scene of the 98-car pileup, Sgt. Davis called Corporal Bennie W. Flowers on his radio and requested his expeditious response to the scene. Cpl. Flowers immediately advised Sgt. Davis that he was on the scene. It turned out Sgt. Davis arrived on the scene from the west and Cpl. Flowers arrived on the scene from the east. Trooper Noel C. Davenport and Trooper Harold E. Smith also assisted with the crash reports. The cause of the crash was contributed to a hard rain, making the pavement slick, sunshine appearing blinding drivers, too many drivers traveling too fast for road conditions, and drivers following too closely. The O'Fallon, St. Peters, and St. Charles County police departments assisted the Patrol.

In April 1998, a runaway barge on the Mississippi River in downtown St. Louis struck the President Riverboat Casino (Admiral). At the time of the collision, there were 2,300 people on board the 375-foot-long casino. The impact caused the Admiral's center exit ramp and temporary walkway just off the ramp to buckle and break. Trooper Eric C. Beishir was working at the time and was able to warn patrons on the walkway. Patrons were evacuated with the assistance of the Patrol. Only minor injuries were reported.

During the month of January 1999, Pope John Paul II visited St. Louis, MO. Plans for the pope's visit began in the spring 1998, and involved federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies. More than 130 troopers were assigned to the detail. Assignments included security, motorcade, parade routing, and crowd and traffic control.

In April 1999, Troop C's new laboratory opened for business. The laboratory was located on the Mineral Area College campus near Flat River. The building also housed the Troop C Service Center, Division of Drug and Crime Control office, and garage.

In August 1999, the National Governors' Association (NGA) was held in St. Louis, MO. Governors, as well as their family members, from more than 40 states came to participate in the weeklong conference. Planning for the conference began two years prior and included an on-site visit by key coordinators from the 1998 conference, which was held in Wisconsin. The Patrol had more than 180 personnel assigned to the detail. The conference was held at the Adams Mark Hotel in downtown St. Louis, and included many venues such as the Fox Theater, the St. Louis Art Museum, and the City Museum. President Bill Clinton and Chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff General Colin Powell attended the conference.

2000s

Monday, October 16, 2000, was a sad and tragic day for the citizens of the state of Missouri. While flying through a thunder storm over Jefferson County, Missouri's Governor Mel Carnahan, his son Randy Carnahan, and the governor's long-time aide Chris Sifford were killed in a plane crash. Troopers working in Jefferson County, as well as adjoining counties, responded to the crash site.

On October 17, 2000, a presidential debate between U.S. Vice President Al Gore and Texas Governor George W. Bush took place at Washington University in St. Louis. The Patrol was charged with establishing an outer perimeter to prevent demonstrators from interrupting the debate. Eighty-one members were assigned during the two-day detail.

In September 2001, Sergeant James W. Remillard was recognized as Troop C's Officer of the Year for his efforts in a variety of activities. Sgt. Remillard wrote the Troop C Exposure Control Plan. Sgt. Remillard also spent hundreds of hours planning and organizing the NGA conference, which came to St. Louis in 1999. Because of his work with the Troop C Exposure Plan, Sgt. Remillard was appointed as the chairman of a committee to reformulate the method in which the Patrol handled hazardous exposures

statewide. In 2002, Sgt. Remillard was promoted to lieutenant and transferred to Troop I, Rolla, MO.

In September 2001, Troop C recognized Sergeant Hubert Looney as the first African-American to retire as a member of the Patrol. Sgt. Looney was employed by the Patrol for 24 years and retired as one of Troop C's public information and education officers.

On Friday, January 18, 2002, Zachariah B. Bell entered the Farmers Bank of Jefferson County, robbed it, and took Angela S. Voiles, a female customer, hostage. The subject fled the area in the hostage's vehicle. A pursuit ensued in St. Louis County, into Illinois, and back into St. Louis County. Sergeant Gary Heskett and the St. Louis County Police Department were involved in the pursuit. After the robber drove the hostage's car off the road and the chase ended, the robber held the hostage at gunpoint and refused to surrender. Sgt. Heskett took control of the negotiations with the bank robber and was able to convince him to release the hostage and surrender. Sgt. Heskett was later awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the United States Attorney's Eastern District Office.

Ronald S. Johnson was promoted to captain and became the 18th commanding officer of Troop C.

The Department of Public Safety named Troop C Trooper Al P. Nothum as DPS Employee of the Month for November 2002. Tpr. Nothum initiated a traffic stop on Interstate 44 in St. Clair, MO, which led to the arrest of the driver. Further investigation revealed a fully functional methamphetamine laboratory in the trunk of the vehicle. The arrest of the subject led to the arrest of four other subjects actively making methamphetamine at a residence in Franklin County.

On November 16, 2003, Trooper Amie McClelland was promoted to the rank of corporal. Corporal McClelland was assigned to Jefferson County, Zone 3, as assistant zone supervisor and had the proud honor of being the first female corporal in the history of Troop C to serve as an assistant zone supervisor.

On March 10, 2004, Corporal Gary C. Swartz stopped a vehicle on Interstate 70 in Warren County for a traffic violation. A computer check revealed the vehicle, and occupants, were wanted in King County, WA, for the murder of a King County deputy sheriff's son. The subjects were taken into custody without incident.

Trooper Michele Coon received the Troop C Officer of the Year award for 2004. Tpr. Coon received this award for her dedication as a member of the Troop C Special Emergency Response Team where she served as a negotiator. Tpr. Coon also served as a member of the Critical Incident Stress Management Team. She also continually volunteered her time to support those less fortunate in her community.

In 2005, Sergeant Norman Murphy received The MASTERS Public Service Award. Sgt. Murphy was also selected by the Troy Chamber of Commerce as the "Man of the Year" for his integral service and commitment to the Troy and Lincoln County communities.

For the past 18 years, Sgt. Murphy had been involved in various youth activities, such as football and soccer, and has assisted in the growth and development of over 650 athletes. He also assisted parents through trying times involving their children. Sgt. Murphy was chosen as the recipient because of his undying commitment to the growth, development, and progress of the community he serves as a member of the Patrol.

On March 11, 2006, an F3 category tornado touched down in northern Perry County, leaving behind a 400 to 700-yard swath of death, injuries, and devastation for almost 10 miles. Corporal Donald S. Larsen, Trooper Jarrod S. Thomas, Trooper Christopher M. Arbuthnot, and Trooper W. Brad Sevier (who responded while off duty) worked alongside Perry County deputies to locate and rescue the injured.

On August 24, 2006, Troop C kicked off Operation P.R.O.T.E.C.T. (Patrol Response Operation To Enforcement Of Construction/Work Zone Traffic). This enforcement program was created and implemented as a response to several high-profile crashes in highway/construction work zones in the Troop C area. In those two crashes, a highway construction worker and a MoDOT employee were killed. The program identified and prioritized construction/work zones with critical issues affecting highway safety through accident crash analysis and statistics. In addition, Operation P.R.O.T.E.C.T. combined the resources and personnel of other law enforcement agencies to enhance the enforcement efforts of each operation. Since August 2006, there had been nine Operation P.R.O.T.E.C.T. projects, resulting in over 801 tickets, 27 warrant arrests, and 340 warnings issued in targeted construction zones.

Effective May 30, 2008, Troop C Operation A.R.R.E.S.T. (Alcohol-Related Response Enforcement Strike Team) began. This enforcement program was created and implemented as a response to the increasing number of alcohol-related traffic crashes. The program identified the top six driving while intoxicated arrest officers. These officers focused on moving violations associated with impaired driving and other traffic/criminal violations. Operation A.R.R.E.S.T.'s main goal was to increase the motoring public’s awareness of the dangers of operating a motor vehicle while in an intoxicated condition, deter impaired driving, remove intoxicated drivers from Missouri’s roadways, and reduce fatalities and injuries within the Troop C area.

On July 13-14, 2009, St. Louis was the host city for the 80th Major League Baseball All-Star game and other related events. On July 13, 2009, 31 members of Troop C partnered with the St. Louis City Police Department to provide security for a variety of events associated with the All-Star game. On July 14, 2009, 33 members of Troop C provided assistance with security and the motorcade for President Barack Obama. President Obama arrived at Busch Stadium to throw the first pitch of the All-Star Game.

On September 8-9, 2009, Troop C members partnered with local law enforcement agencies to provide traffic control and escort vehicles for the “Tour of Missouri” professional bicycle race. The race traveled through the counties of Ste. Genevieve, Perry, and St. Francois.

A ceremony to open the newly reconstructed Interstate 64 was held December 6, 2009. Troop C members provided assistance with security and crowd control during the ceremony and for various activities that were provided for the public. The Troop C Honor Guard also participated in the opening ceremony.

2010s

On Thursday, January 7, 2010, Troop C SWAT was activated to assist the St. Louis Police Department with clearing the ABB Corporation's 200,000-square-foot facility in North St. Louis. A long-time employee of ABB Inc. opened fire upon fellow workers as they arrived at work. Four people were killed, including the shooter, and numerous people were injured.

In November 2010, Troop C's Division of Drug and Crime Control and Public Information and Education Division units were called to assist the Bonne Terre Police Department in a triple murder/suicide investigation. The investigation discovered that the alleged suspect had shot and killed three victims at a home in Bonne Terre, MO, and later committed suicide. Further investigation revealed a connection between the alleged suspect and a fourth murder, a young female, the night before the triple homicide.

On December 31, 2010, several tornados touched down in Troop C. Sunset Hills, Robertsville, and the Fenton areas were hit hardest. In Sunset Hills, powerful winds blew over numerous cars and trucks. Many homes and businesses were leveled to the ground. Winds were so strong in the Fenton area they lifted Sergeant Kevin B. Miller's patrol car off the ground and blew out the windows. Troop C officers assisted the Sunset Hills Police Department with traffic and provided security throughout the afternoon and night in Robertsville. In Fenton, troopers worked several incidents with overturned vehicles in the roadways. A tornado in Fenton picked up a car and blew it across Missouri Highway 141. The driver died 11 days later from injuries sustained in the crash.

On April 22-23, 2011, Troop C experienced another huge spring storm system where a tornado touched down in Warrenton, New Melle, and several locations throughout St. Louis County. Troop C activated 26 additional troopers to help in the security and recovery efforts for the victims hardest hit by the storm. Troopers patrolled the neighborhoods of Florissant, Ferguson, Maryland Heights, and Lambert International Airport, where most air traffic was shut down for more than 24 hours.

On September 12, 2011, Troop C's eastbound weigh station, Post C2, located just west of St. Clair, reopened with a small ribbon cutting ceremony that included the Troop C staff and members of MoDOT, including Judy Wagner, the resident engineer for Franklin and Jefferson counties. This weigh station was closed for approximately a year and a half due to the building being condemned after it was struck by a vehicle operated by an intoxicated driver. The building was rebuilt by MoDOT, who was the general contractor, at an estimated cost of $40,000. The new building was a modified trailer sitting on a concrete foundation, with new electronics running to and from the scale.

Reinhold Electric completed the electrical work, and Technology Systems completed the electronics work, for a total cost of about $250,000. The reopening provided much needed services coming into the St. Louis area via the Interstate 44 corridor.

On May 28, 2012, Troop C officers and SWAT team responded to Florissant, MO, to assist with a manhunt for subject who shot Florissant Police Officer Michael Vernon. The subject had just committed a burglary when contacted by Officer Vernon. The suspect shot Officers Vernon twice; his injuries were life threatening. Members of the Patrol, St. Louis County Police Department officers and tactical team, and officers with the surrounding municipalities assisted in an extensive, large-scale manhunt. The suspect was located and taken into custody.

On July 25, 2012**,** Troop C SWAT team assisted the St. Charles County Sheriff's Department with a manhunt for a suspect who shot two St. Charles Sheriff's Deputies. The deputies responded to a disturbance call, and upon arrival, a subject shot the deputies from outside the residence. The deputies sustained non-life-threatening injuries. After the shooting, the suspect fled on foot and was believed to be in the residential area. During the manhunt, St. Charles County Sheriff's Department SWAT team encountered the suspect who lunged at deputies with a knife, wounding one of them. The officers shot and fatally wounded the suspect.

On July 21-25, 2012, the Conference of Chief Justices and Conference of State Court Administrators held their 2012 annual conference at the Four Seasons Hotel, St. Louis, MO. Over 200 attendees and family members attended. The Patrol provided security for the hotel and off-site venues. Troop C provided 19 officers, Troop C, E, and F provided five officers each, and the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department provided ten officers to complete the security detail.

Troop C kicked off the Click It 4 Life Campaign by conducting a public service announcement with players from St. Louis Cardinal's baseball organization on October 1, 2012. Sergeant Al P. Nothum, Sergeant Amy E. Reynolds, Trooper Juston R. Wheetley, and Trooper Derek A. Mason participated in the video announcements with Cardinal players Jason Motte, Matt Carpenter, Joe Kelly, Shelby Miller, and Jon Jay.

The Second Annual Run for Remembrance was held on November 10, 2012. The Patrol's 1959 Dodge vehicle led the run, occupied by Mrs. Georgiana Schuengel, mother of Sergeant Joseph G. Schuengel, and Mr. Frederick Guthrie Sr., father of Trooper Frederick F. Guthrie Jr. The run was dedicated to law enforcement officers and first responders who have made the ultimate sacrifice. Approximately 280 runners participated, including families of Sgt. Schuengel, Tpr. Guthrie, and other first responder families whose loved ones died in the line of duty.

On December 15, 2012, Troop C officers and SWAT team responded to Washington County to assist with the fatal shooting investigation of a Washington County Sheriff Department deputy. Deputy Christopher R. Parsons responded to a residence for a medical case and while there, a subject shot and fatally wounded him, then fled on foot

into a wooded area. Troop C officers, SWAT team, and Patrol aircraft searched the area for the suspect and, after a lengthy manhunt, took him into custody.

Troop C opened a new driver examination station in St. Peters on April 1, 2013. The station was a necessary addition to serve the growing population of St. Charles County.

On May 10, 2013, Trooper Adam J. Michels joined a vehicle pursuit after it was reported the driver had pointed a pistol at deputies from the Franklin County Sheriff's Department. Members of the St. Louis County Police Department and the Eureka Police Department also joined the pursuit. The pursued driver contacted St. Louis County dispatchers and threatened to use the pistol and kill himself if approached by police. The pursuit continued through several residential areas and ended when two Eureka Police Department vehicles blocked the residential street in front of the pursued vehicle. At the termination of the pursuit, the pursued vehicle traveled forward, toward the Eureka officers, who fired their weapons. The vehicle came to a stop, and Tpr. Michels, along with officers from other departments, approached the right side of the vehicle. As the officers approached, Tpr. Michels observed the driver raising a pistol to his chest and point it toward another officer. At that time, Tpr. Michels and other officers fired upon the driver, fatally wounding him.

The 74th Senior PGA Championship took place at the Bellerive Country Club from May 21-26, 2013. During this well-known golf event, members of Troop C provided security for the players and event functions.

Troop C hosted the 2013 National Black State Trooper Coalition's 28th Annual Summer Training Conference and Membership Meeting July 16-21, 2013. Over 100 attendees from 16 states, including spouses, children, and friends, were present.

On October 26-28, 2013, the 2013 World Series returned to St. Louis in 2013. Members of Troop C provided security for this event by securing the interstate systems surrounding Busch Stadium.

St. Louis hosted the 2014 Mardi Gras Grand Parade and Celebration on March 1, 2014. The St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department requested assistance from the Patrol and members of Troop C assisted with the event and other traffic-related activities.

On Sunday, June 1, 2014, Mungenast Motorsports hosted a fundraising event to provide financial support to The MASTERS (Missouri Association of State Troopers Emergency Relief Society). The event was titled, "Roll for the Patrol," and involved a motorcycle ride that started in St. Louis County and ended in Arcadia, MO. Troop C officers provided traffic assistance during the motorcycle ride to ensure the safety of riders, as well as other motorists on the roadway.

The St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department requested assistance from the Missouri State Highway Patrol for the 2014 Fair St. Louis Veiled Prophet Parade and Fair which was held on July 3-5, 2014. Members of Troop C provided traffic direction, enforcement, and other related duties.

On August 9, 2014, at approximately 1:33 p.m., Troop C received a call from the Ferguson Police Department to respond and assist with an officer-involved shooting. The responding officers were unaware that they were some of the first officers on the scene of what would become the longest period of civil unrest in American history. During the next couple days, tensions between protesters and police grew. Governor Jay Nixon directed the Patrol to step forward in a security role. Captain Ronald S. Johnson, Troop C troop commander, was named head of security in Ferguson with the hope of restoring peace and order to the devastated community. Over the next four months, looting, rioting, and violence plagued the Ferguson community. Even through the violence and devastation, troopers were able to reach out to the community and show their support. Troopers connected to people of all ages. In one example of their community policing approach, troopers spent their own money to restore a rundown basketball goal, provided a new basketball for the neighborhood children, and later shot a few hoops with them. This is just one example of many. Over the four months of unrest, troopers from all over the state were sent to assist with maintaining security in Ferguson and the surrounding area.

The St. Louis area was prepared for the one-year anniversary of the civil unrest in Ferguson, MO. Officers from Troop C, St. Louis County, and St. Louis City worked together from August 6-10, 2015, to maintain peace and order, and prevent a repeat of the events in 2014. The peace and order allowed those who chose to peacefully protest the opportunity to exercise their right to do so.

On December 10, 2015, Trooper Shannon S. Sitton was involved in a vehicle pursuit on Missouri Highway 21 in Washington County. During the pursuit, a passenger in the vehicle fired numerous gun shots from the sunroof of the vehicle. One round struck the windshield of Tpr. Sitton's vehicle, causing shattered glass fragments to strike his face and eyes. Tpr. Sitton was forced to terminate the pursuit as a result. Troop C SWAT was activated and arrested both suspects on December 11, in De Soto, MO.

Numerous troopers assisted the Secret Service during the final presidential debate between Mr. Donald Trump and Ms. Hillary Clinton at Washington University in St. Louis on October 9, 2015. The troopers played a major role in providing a secure environment at Washington University and escorting the candidates to and from the airport.

The St. Louis Region experienced a historic ice storm on December 16, 2016. The ice storm shut down several roadways and major interstates within Troop C. Troopers investigated hundreds of crashes and assisted hundreds of motorists who became stuck on the icy roadways.

In the late evening hours of February 28, 2017, a tornado touched down just outside Perryville, MO. The storm destroyed dozens of homes and businesses. Many people were trapped in their homes and vehicles were blown off the highway and Interstate 55. There was one fatality reported. Troop C sent 21 troopers to the Perryville area in response to the tornado. The National Weather Service (NWS) categorized the tornado as an EF-4, making it the first violent tornado of 2017. The event lasted an astounding

62 minutes and was the longest track tornado in the coverage area of NWS Paducah since April 22, 1981.

The beginning of May 2017 saw significant flooding throughout the Troop C area. Many troopers worked long hours as they showed dedication to helping the citizens of Missouri. Numerous citizens had to be evacuated from their homes and businesses as flood waters continued to rise. Many roads and major interstates were shut down for several days during this historic event.

A team of 24 troopers were tasked with patrolling Interstates 55 and 70 in the city of St. Louis on July 9, 2017. This detail started as an effort to allow the St. Louis City Police Department officers more opportunity to patrol neighborhoods. During the first 90 days of the detail, troopers made 87 driving while intoxicated arrests, issued 1,418 speed and hazardous moving citations, issued 3,280 nonmoving violation citations, and made 766 arrests for driver's license violations. These troopers made an additional 466 misdemeanor arrests and 176 felony arrests. They also seized 38 firearms in connection with criminal charges.

On September 15, 2017, St. Louis Police Officer Jason Stockley was found not guilty of first-degree murder. In the coming days, numerous protests were planned and set into motion throughout the St. Louis area. Troopers from around the state were called upon to respond to the St. Louis area and assist with keeping the protests peaceful. The officers' training, experience, and professionalism prevented any closures of the interstates in the metro area.

Stephen B. Ferrier was promoted to captain and became the 19th commanding officer of Troop C in October 2017.

From Monday, August 6, 2018, through Sunday, August 12, 2018, the 100th PGA Championship was hosted at the Bellerive Country Club, in Town & Country, MO. As one of the four major championships on the PGA Tour, this event drew the top international golfers from around the world, resulting in large and excited crowds. In addition, the event was broadcast to a worldwide audience by a large contingent of media outlets. Throughout the week, the Patrol was tasked with providing a large contingent of troopers to assist other local departments with traffic control and on-course player security.

Troop C welcomed a new K9 in March 2019. Pelle and was assigned to Corporal Travis L. Peters. After training, Cpl. Peters and K9 Pelle began work in April 2019 in Troop C's newly established criminal interdiction zone.

2020s

In February 2020, the Troop C PIED unit worked with the St. Louis Battlehawks XFL football team to record several public service announcements about the dangers of driving impaired and driving while distracted. The PSAs were played on social media and at home games until the season was canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Members of Troop C participated in a birthday parade to honor retired Major and WWII veteran Francis “Bud” Jones on his 99th birthday in May 2020.

In the days following the May 25, 2020, death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, MN, civil unrest erupted around the country, including the St. Louis area. Troop C was tasked with assisting St. Louis City with the civil unrest and subsequent riots. Troop C, and additional troops, provided Mobile Field Force squads and SWAT teams to aid in maintaining peace in the St. Louis area. While responding to a riot situation in downtown St. Louis, several of the Troop C cars took on gunfire. Lieutenant Gregory K. Leftwich's riot helmet was struck by a bullet after the bullet struck the top of the windshield. Thankfully, Lt. Leftwich was not injured.

In October 2021, Captain Ryan A. Burckhardt became the 20th commanding officer of Troop C.

In the late evening hours of October 24, 2021, a tornado tore through Ste. Genevieve, MO. The storm destroyed dozens of homes and businesses, with the majority of the devastation being in St. Mary, MO. There was one injury reported. Troop C dispatched several troopers to the area to assist with search and rescue, as well as security for local businesses. The National Weather Service categorized the tornado as an EF-3 that traveled 42.4 miles with maximum winds of 151 mph.

In 2022, Troop C members continued to participate in the St. Charles County Criminal Interdiction Task Force, along with six other St. Charles County police agencies. The task force was created in response to a significant increase in motor vehicle thefts and break-ins and had been viewed as a model throughout the United States. During 2022, the aggressive enforcement resulted in a 28 percent decrease in vehicle thefts and 437 arrests.

Historic flash flooding hit St. Charles County and west St. Louis County areas on July 26, 2022. The National Weather Service reported 12.3 inches of rain fell, resulting in dozens of water rescues, evacuations, and the closure of Interstate 70 for several hours. Water assets were called in from Troops F and E to assist local members and the Troop C marine operations troopers.

K-9 Pele retired from Patrol after four years of service on July 6, 2023.

On July 28-30, 2023, Troop C conducted a three-night DWI saturation in St. Charles County. Five troopers were assigned to the detail. During those three nights, 19 DWI arrests were made.

Lieutenant Kevin W. Malugen was promoted to captain and became the 21st commanding officer of Troop C on September 1, 2023.

On September 21, 2023, Troop C assisted the St. Louis County Police Department and the Missouri Department of Corrections with an escaped inmate from Potosi Correctional Center, who escaped custody while being treated at Mercy South Hospital. Troopers, as well as SWAT members, converged on the area for many hours searching

the area and responding to tips of possible sightings. After approximately 16 hours, the inmate was located and taken back into custody.

K9 Aza was assigned to Troop C and began patrolling with her handler Corporal Travis L. Peters on November 1, 2023.

A winter storm covered the Troop C area on February 16, 2024. Troopers responded to multiple calls for slide offs and tractor trailers stuck on hills on Interstate 70 between the 190- and 200-mile markers. Vehicles were stranded for hours while troopers worked with MoDOT to help get vehicles moving. During this time, troopers checked on motorists to ensure they had the resources needed to stay safe during the incident.

On March 14, 2025, storms and tornadoes tore through most of Troop C. The storms destroyed dozens of homes and businesses and affected numerous Troop C employees' homes. There were no reported fatalities. Troop C dispatched numerous troopers to damaged areas to assist with search and rescue, as well as security for local businesses. On May 16, severe weather passed through the Troop C area. The St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department requested Troopers to assist with traffic control. Troopers on scene reported buildings down and people trapped inside. Troopers, along with fire and EMS, assisted on foot with medical supplies and water.

In the morning of August 7, 2025, a utility helicopter working on high tension wires in the West Alton, MO, area struck the wires and crashed onto a barge in the Missouri River. Troop C dispatched several troopers and the Water Patrol Division (WPD) to the area. WPD officers worked into the evening with representatives from Ameren to safely remove live wires from the Missouri River.

On October 14, 2025, members of the Troop C Public Order Unit and numerous Troop C Troopers attended the execution of Lance Shockley at the Eastern Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center in Bonne Terre, MO. Shockley murdered Missouri State Highway Patrol Sergeant C. Dewayne Graham Jr., in the line of duty, after he arrived home at the end of his shift on March 20, 2005. In 2009, a jury found Shockley guilty of murder.

Troop C Ultimate Sacrifice



Trooper Fred L. Walker: On December 2, 1941, Troop C suffered the loss of Trooper Fred L. Walker, a native of Gallatin, MO, and member of the 4th Recruit Class. Tpr. Walker was pursuing a stolen vehicle occupied by two men on Highway 25 near Bloomfield, MO. Tpr. Walker apprehended both men, placed them under arrest, and handcuffed them (in front of their bodies). He placed them in the patrol car, one in the front right seat and the other in the back seat. One of the subjects had a handgun hidden on his body that Tpr. Walker had not found. The subject produced the weapon while they were traveling to the jail. A struggle ensued and the subject shot Tpr. Walker. The two men then pushed Tpr. Walker out of the patrol car and left him by the road. They stole the patrol car but abandoned it a short time later. Tpr. Walker, critically injured, was taken to Barnes Hospital in St. Louis, where he died of his injuries the following day. At the same time, his killers were apprehended in Perryville, MO, following an extensive manhunt. The two men were sentenced to 99 years in prison. Tpr. Walker had been assigned to desk duty prior to the incident; however, he wanted to return to the road. His request had been granted when the new recruit class graduated from the Academy.

Trooper James M. Froemsdorf: On March 2, 1985, Trooper James M. Froemsdorf, 35, gave the ultimate sacrifice when he was killed in the line of duty. Tpr. Froemsdorf had made a traffic stop on Interstate 55 near Brewer, MO. He found the driver, Jerome Mallet, was wanted in Texas on a robbery charge. Tpr. Froemsdorf handcuffed the suspect and began to transport him to the Perry County Jail. Due to a deformity, Mallett was able to free one of his hands from the confines of the handcuffs and attack Tpr. Froemsdorf. During the struggle, Mallett removed Tpr. Froemsdorf's pistol from his holster and shot and killed him. A massive manhunt ensued, and Mallet was captured three days later. Mallett was executed on July 11, 2001, for the murder of Tpr. Froemsdorf.



On August 29, 2002, the family of Tpr. James M. Froemsdorf, as well as troopers from throughout the state gathered in Perryville, MO, to honor a fallen member of the Missouri State Highway Patrol. During a special ceremony, a sign was unveiled which designated a portion of Interstate 55 as the "Trooper James Froemsdorf Memorial Highway". The section of highway dedicated for the memorial includes the 134-mile post, which has been a site over the years for flowers and letters left to Tpr. Froemsdorf and his family. During the dedication, Colonel Roger D. Stottlemyre said, "Tpr. Froemsdorf was the 12th Patrol member to lose his life in the line of duty, and we have had way too many since then."

Trooper James Froemsdorf Memorial Highway Dedication



Sarah Froemsdorf unveils the sign during the dedication ceremony of the Trooper James Froemsdorf Memorial Highway. A section of Interstate 55 from Brewer, MO, to Perryville, MO, was dedicated on Thursday, August 29, 2002, outside the Perry County Courthouse in Perryville.

Trooper Robert J. Kolilis: Trooper Robert J. Kolilis, 24, died on September 21, 1988, as a result of injuries sustained when he was struck by a pick-up truck on Highway M in Washington County, near Irondale, MO. Tpr. Kolilis was the 16th member of the Patrol to be killed in the line of duty. The incident occurred at approximately 7:30 p.m. Two vehicles were stopped along the two-lane road with one vehicle parked approximately two feet onto the traveled portion of the road. Tpr. Kolilis apparently stopped to render assistance or to determine why the vehicle was parked partially on the roadway. The drivers of both vehicles were standing in the roadway to the left of the patrol car, which was stopped in the eastbound lane of Highway M.



Tpr. Kolilis had exited the patrol car and was standing at or near the center of the roadway; the patrol car's headlights were on. A pick-up truck, driven by a 16-year-old male, was traveling westbound and did not see Tpr. Kolilis standing in the roadway. The left front fender of the pick-up truck struck Tpr. Kolilis. Tpr. Kolilis was taken to Washington County Memorial Hospital where he died as a result of his injuries at 9:30 p.m. He had been commissioned and graduated from the Academy on December 11, 1987.

Trooper Robert J. Kolilis Memorial Highway Dedication



On November 17, 2006, a portion of Missouri Highway M in Washington County, located within the city limits of Irondale, MO, was dedicated the “Trooper Robert Kolilis Memorial Highway”. Tpr. Kolilis’ father and mother were in attendance, along with several of his classmates from the 59th Recruit Class. Lieutenant Colonel Richard L. Coffey presents a framed copy of Senate Bill 667 to Mr. and Mrs. Gus Kolilis.



Trooper Ralph C. Tatoian: On April 20, 2005, Troop C suffered a tremendous loss when Trooper Ralph C. Tatoian was killed in a tragic traffic crash on Interstate 44 near Pacific, MO, while responding to a Special Emergency Response Team (SERT) call out. At 2:39 a.m., Troop C's SERT was activated and in the process of responding to the staging area in Leslie, MO. Earlier that same morning, a member of the Gasconade County Sheriff's Department was shot while responding to an armed robbery call at a store in Mount Sterling, MO. A pursuit ensued before the suspect fled on foot into a wooded area near the Gasconade-Franklin County line. This incident led to the SERT call out. While responding to the staging area, Tpr. Tatoian crested a hill on Interstate 44 and struck the rear of a tractor-trailer parked in the passing lane.

The driver of the tractor-trailer had stopped his truck in the passing lane in order to assist a gentleman involved in a minor traffic crash. When Tpr. Tatoian crested the hill on Interstate 44, he saw the headlights of the disabled vehicle. Tpr. Tatoian swerved his patrol car to the right lane to avoid a head on collision. After entering the right lane of Interstate 44, Tpr. Tatoian drove back into the left lane (passing lane) and struck the rear of the parked trailer unit, which killed him instantly. His wife, Deborah, and three children, Samantha, Ralph Jr., and Maxwell, survive him.

Trooper Ralph C. Tatoian Memorial Highway Dedication



On November 9, 2006, a two-mile portion of Interstate 44 in Franklin County, beginning at the U.S. Highway 50 intersection and heading east, was dedicated as the "Trooper Ralph Tatoian Memorial Highway". The Tatoian family stands near the highway sign naming a portion of Interstate 44 in memory of their beloved Ralph.

Corporal Dennis E. Engelhard: On Christmas Day 2009, Corporal Dennis E. Engelhard was investigating a non-injury traffic crash on westbound Interstate 44, in Eureka, MO. While Cpl. Engelhard was outside his patrol vehicle, a westbound motorist lost control of his vehicle on the snow-covered roadway. The vehicle struck and fatally injured Cpl. Engelhard. Cpl. Engelhard became the 28th member of the Missouri State Highway Patrol to make the "Ultimate Sacrifice".



Corporal Dennis E. Engelhard Memorial Highway

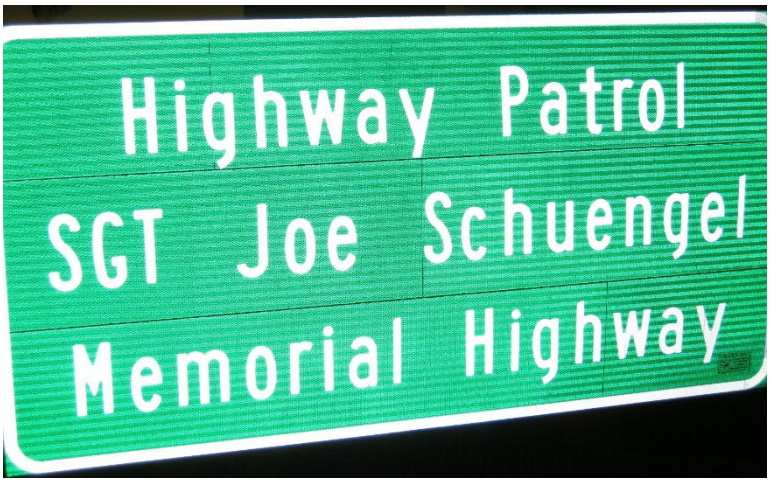


On December 20, 2010, Colonel Ron Replogle, superintendent of the Patrol, and Captain Ronald S. Johnson, commanding officer of Troop C, led a ceremony dedicating a portion of Interstate 44 from Missouri Highway 100 overpass west to the St. Mary's Road overpass as the "Corporal Dennis E. Engelhard Memorial Highway". Dennis' family, State Representative Tom Shively (who introduced the bill dedicating the portion of interstate), and representatives from MoDOT, Back Stoppers, Missouri State Troopers Association, and members of Troop C attended the ceremony.

Sergeant Joseph G. Schuengel: On October 15, 2010, Sergeant Joseph G. Schuengel died when the helicopter he was piloting crashed in west St. Louis County. Sgt. Schuengel was returning to Spirit of St. Louis Airport after completing an aircraft speed enforcement operation in Jefferson County, when the Bell Jet Ranger helicopter he was piloting crashed onto a subdivision road. He was a 17-year veteran of the Patrol. Sgt. Schuengel was the 29th member of the Missouri State Highway Patrol to die in the line of duty.



Sergeant Joseph G. Schuengel Memorial Highway



On October 21, 2011, Colonel Ronald K. Replogle and Captain Ronald S. Johnson, commanding officer of Troop C, led a ceremony dedicating a portion of Interstate 64 from Boone's Crossing overpass west to the Spirit of St. Louis overpass in St. Louis County, in honor of the late Sgt. Joseph G. Schuengel.

Valor Award

May 1997: On May 31, 1997, Trooper James T. Hedrick accepted the Valor Award. On March 21, 1996, a male subject was shot and killed, and a female kidnapped, following a domestic dispute in Cape Girardeau County. Following the homicide, the male assailant and his hostage started north on Interstate 55. A description of the vehicle was broadcast. Tpr. Hedrick spotted the vehicle northbound on Interstate 55; other Troop C officers soon joined him. Once the suspect vehicle turned north onto Interstate 270, a rolling roadblock was established, and the vehicle was forced to a stop at the northbound ramp of Interstate 64. The vehicle was boxed in, with Tpr. Hedrick's patrol vehicle directly in front of the suspect. Two other Patrol officers flanked Tpr. Hedrick. The suspect continually flourished two pistols, pointing them at the officers as well as the kidnap victim. The suspect then accelerated his vehicle, causing it to move forward and strike Tpr. Hedrick's patrol car.

This caused Tpr. Hedrick to fall away from the protection offered by the car. The suspect then pointed one of the pistols directly at Tpr. Hedrick. The two exchanged gunfire. The suspect was struck twice, once in the head and once in the chest. Tpr. Hedrick received a minor wound to the leg from a fragment that apparently ricocheted from a bullet that struck the patrol car.

May 2002: On May 11, 2002, the Patrol presented the Valor Award to Sergeant Marc A. McCalister. On November 2, 2001, Sgt. McCalister joined a vehicular pursuit in Jefferson County. The suspect had committed an armed robbery at the Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy in Leadington, MO, before fleeing from authorities. The suspect's car crashed, ending the pursuit. Sgt. McCalister and officers from other jurisdictions cautiously approached the crashed vehicle, noting the suspect was moving around in the car's interior. Sgt. McCalister commanded the suspect to show his hands. Instead, the man fired a round from inside his car at the approaching officers. Sgt. McCalister returned fire, after which the suspect fell forward and was still. He was pronounced dead at the scene. Recovered from his car were three loaded handguns. Sgt. McCalister's actions prevented the possibility of serious injury or death to himself and the other officers present.

September 20, 2013: Trooper Zachary S. Wang received information a white male robbed the First Bank, in Dutzow, MO, with a firearm. The male left the area in a white Nissan Maxima. Tpr. Wang located the vehicle on Missouri Route F south of New Melle, MO. As Tpr. Wang caught up to the vehicle, the driver accelerated and passed a vehicle on a blind curve and began pulling away. Tpr. Wang rounded a curve and noticed the vehicle drove to the right shoulder and stopped. Tpr. Wang positioned his vehicle behind the suspect vehicle. Tpr. Wang maintained his position and ordered the driver to exit the car and get on the ground. The driver exited the vehicle and began to fire at Tpr. Wang. Tpr. Wang was struck in the chest by the first shot and returned fire as he sought cover. During the exchange of gun fire, the suspect was wounded. Tpr. Wang was able to secure the weapon and take the subject into custody.

April 2016: The Patrol presented a Valor Award to Trooper Jason M. Hurt in 2016. While off duty and traveling in his personal vehicle, Tpr. Hurt observed a female standing on the side of County Road 327 in Monroe County, MO. He stopped and asked if he could assist her, and learned her boyfriend was intoxicated, angry, and attempting to commit suicide in a nearby cabin. A neighbor was at the cabin with her boyfriend trying to prevent this from happening. Tpr. Hurt responded immediately to the cabin and observed two men struggling over a rifle. Tpr. Hurt drew his handgun and identified himself as a Missouri State Highway Patrol trooper, but the men continued struggling. Tpr. Hurt then holstered his handgun, took hold of the rifle, and disarmed the suicidal man. Tpr. Hurt took the man into custody, secured the scene, and contacted the Monroe County Sheriff's Department. The man was transported to a hospital for a psychiatric evaluation.

April 2024: Trooper Richard J. Waite accepted a Valor Award in 2024. On September 24, 2023, Tpr. Waite was on patrol in Lincoln County when Troop C Communications advised him of a wrong way driver traveling southbound on northbound U.S Highway 61. Trooper Waite responded and south of Missouri Route B he observed headlights rapidly approaching. He began slowing as the vehicle approached. The driver of the vehicle traveling the wrong way steered right and traveled partially onto the left shoulder. Trooper Waite then steered his patrol car into the driver's side of the suspect vehicle in an attempt to stop it. The vehicle spun counterclockwise and came to a stop in one lane of northbound U.S. 61. Trooper Waite's patrol vehicle came to rest in the median. He immediately exited his patrol car to check the well-being of the subject. The subject was determined to be intoxicated and placed under arrest.

Benjamin Oliver Booth Officer of the Year



April 2015: The Patrol named Corporal Carl W. Bone the 2014 Benjamin Oliver Booth Officer of the Year. Cpl. Bone was appointed to the Missouri State Highway Patrol on October 20, 2002. He currently serves and protects the Troop C citizens as a commercial vehicle enforcement trooper assigned to Zone 17. Cpl. Bone leads by example through his attention to detail, work ethic, and knowledge of commercial vehicle enforcement. The mission of the Patrol's commercial vehicle enforcement is to promote safety through removing fatigued, unqualified drivers, and mechanically unsound trucks from Missouri's roadways. Cpl. Bone embraces this responsibility and has attended specialized training on driver, vehicle, and hazardous material inspections. He is recognized by his peers as a resource regarding the numerous, sometimes complicated, commercial vehicle rules and regulations. His expertise is such that he often instructs recruits and other troopers in first responder hazardous materials, and federal courses for driver and vehicle inspection. In 2014, he provided instruction during the Patrol's Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Inspector School, the Level 3 class for road troopers, an electronic logbook course for all nine troops, and training for the Alabama Highway Patrol. In 2014, Cpl. Bone performed 271 commercial vehicle inspections, 184 of which were Level 1 inspections. Because of these inspections, 138 drivers and vehicles were placed out-of-service. Approximately one of every two trucks that Cpl. Bone inspected possessed equipment defects or drivers operating in violation of the standards set forth in the out-of-service criteria. From these inspections, Cpl. Bone issued 149 summonses and 1,156 warnings. He also serves as the scale house supervisor for Post C-5, located on Interstate 55 in Ste. Genevieve County. In 2014, he ranked first in out-of-service violations found (286) and total number of violations found (1,305). He ranked second in the number of Level 1 inspections completed (184) and eighth in total number of inspections completed (271).



April 2018: On April 28, 2018, the Patrol named Corporal Dwade F. Isringhausen the 2017 Benjamin Oliver Booth Officer of the Year. Cpl. Isringhausen was appointed to the Patrol on January 3, 2011. He currently serves and protects the Troop C citizens as the assistant zone commander of Zone 2, North St. Louis County. Cpl. Isringhausen has been a vital part of his zone and troop operations. In 2017, he made 1,124 total arrests and 20 driving while intoxicated arrests, issued 1,052 warnings, worked 51 traffic crashes, and made 69 drug arrests. When the St. Louis City detail was formed in 2017, the Troop C staff specifically chose Cpl. Isringhausen to help develop and supervise the detail. He has attended Crisis Intervention Training which, when coupled with his training as a Troop C SWAT team negotiator, proved beneficial to several critical incidents within the troop. He also has taken a personal interest in the development of his fellow zone members. Cpl. Isringhausen designed and provided several training sessions in Standard Field Sobriety Testing, courtroom testimony, and the Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus test for his zone mates. He sets high standards for himself and those reporting to him. When the city detail was downsized, he was the only corporal who was requested to stay in the city in a supervisory role. This is a direct reflection of Cpl. Isringhausen's ability to lead and the trust other officers place in his abilities.

Matilda "Tillie" Sonnen Civilian of the Year Award



May 2003: On May 10, 2003, the Patrol awarded the Civilian of the Year Award to Secretary Sherry L. Carter. Mrs. Carter began her employment with the Missouri State Highway Patrol on July 6, 1966. She has performed a variety of clerical duties and is currently secretary to the Troop C commanding officer. Her commitment to excellence is apparent in her strict attention to detail and deadlines. Mrs. Carter is diligent, dedicated, loyal, selfless, and caring. She is at the forefront in planning Troop C social activities for employees and retirees. Her concern about coworkers and retirees can be seen also in her use of personal funds to keep a variety of greeting cards on hand. She sends the cards in times of joy and sadness, always endorsed from Troop C.

Those who work with her often depend on her for guidance, support, and leadership. Troop C personnel, both young and old, refer to Mrs. Carter as “Mom”. Her tenure exceeds that of over 90 percent of Troop C’s troopers. Daily, Mrs. Carter’s actions provide stability to the present, and a positive outlook about the future of our organization. In the community, she is both an ambassador for the Patrol and a volunteer. She volunteers for the Alzheimer’s Association, speaking to groups with loved ones who battle this disease. Her husband, Sergeant Jimmy L. Carter, battled the disease before his death, and she shares her personal experience with the hope that others might be comforted or gain understanding of Alzheimer’s. Mrs. Sherry L. Carter is a credit to this organization.



April 2012: On April 14, 2012, the Patrol named Commercial Vehicle Officer Supervisor Steven D. Wilmesherr the Civilian of the Year. Sprv. Wilmesherr began his career with the Patrol on March 4, 1994, and has performed many duties and assignments as a commercial vehicle officer. He is a supervisor who conducts enforcement activities in the same manner he asks his subordinates. He conducts himself in a manner supporting the Patrol's mission, promoting safety on highways through enforcement activity and public education presentations. He has been recognized nationally for drug interdiction efforts. In 2002, he received the Interdictor of the Year award from the Drug Interdiction Assistance Program. He has been involved with Special Olympics by organizing and hosting track meets in Washington, MO. Sprv. Wilmesherr is a credit to this organization.



May 2016: The Patrol named Commercial Vehicle Officer (CVO) II Randy E. Fain the Civilian of the Year for 2015. CVO II Fain began his career with the Patrol on May 11, 2003. Currently, he is assigned to portable scale truck #1507. CVO II Fain leads by example. In 2015, he conducted 1,069 inspections, of which 744 were level one inspections. In 2015, CVO II Fain weighed 155 trucks. This involves the extra effort of repositioning his eight scales on the roadside or in a parking lot to weigh the commercial vehicles. When citizens' complaints involve commercial vehicles, CVO II Fain increases his enforcement efforts in that area. He is genuinely concerned with taking appropriate enforcement action and takes extra time to educate drivers when he stops them. He provides presentations to groups of all ages on topics involving commercial motor vehicles. CVO II Fain developed an excellent working relationship with the St. Louis City Police Department's Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit in 2015. He coordinated several projects with them to inspect motor coaches. In November 2015, CVO II Fain attained certification allowing him to teach the Federal Passenger Vehicle Inspection course.



Account Clerk III Dianne P. Stricker accepted the 2018 Matilda "Tillie" Sonnen Civilian of the Year award. Ms. Stricker began her career with the Missouri State Highway Patrol on September 1, 1969. For almost 50 years, she has displayed the agency's core values every day. Ms. Stricker takes time to speak with and get to know every employee and retiree. Throughout her career, she has connected with employees and retirees and helped them connect to one another. Ms. Stricker ensures that employees have what they need to perform their duties and is deeply concerned for their well-being and safety. She enjoys coming to work every day and it shows in her attitude and work ethic. She brightens everyone's day with her smile and laugh.

Commercial Vehicle Officer II Randy E. Fain accepted the 2019 Civilian of the Year Award. CVO Fain joined the Patrol in 2003, and currently operates scale truck #1507. In 2019, he conducted 750 inspections, which included 1,768 violations. Included in that number of inspections are 58 hazardous material inspections and 48 passenger carrier vehicle inspections. A substantial number of his inspections are level one and entail getting underneath the truck to inspect the frame, suspension, and brakes, in addition to walking around the truck and verifying the driver’s credentials. In 2019, he weighed 71 trucks. CVO Fain has eight portable scales in his assigned Patrol vehicle for use in roadside inspections. This allows him to weigh trucks with four axles. He works in the St. Louis metropolitan area, where there are numerous trucks with more than four axles. Thus, CVO Fain routinely repositions his scales on the road’s shoulder or in a parking lot during an inspection. Each scale weighs 35 pounds and carrying two at a time the length of a tractor trailer takes effort. When citizens call with specific complaints about commercial vehicles, CVO Fain will conduct additional enforcement activities in the area. He is genuinely concerned about the safety of everyone on the road and takes appropriate enforcement action to gain compliance by a company or driver. He also takes extra time to talk with a driver, educating him or her about laws concerning commercial vehicles. He helps educate high school students through presentations addressing common misconceptions of driving on the highway with commercial motor vehicles. CVO Fain shares with these young drivers what to expect and how to safely share the road with these larger vehicles. In addition to attending relevant training to broaden his knowledge, he serves as an instructor. He conducted a three-day class on passenger carrier vehicle inspection in Indianapolis, IN, this past year. CVO Fain was also selected to perform as a field training officer from July 19 to September 30, 2019.

Meritorious Service Award

April 2006: On April 20, 2006, Trooper Jason L. Decker and Trooper Brian J. Geier accepted the Meritorious Service Award. On August 1, 2005, Tpr. Geier stopped a vehicle in north St. Louis County. During the traffic stop, it was determined warrants for the suspect existed in surrounding municipalities in the greater St. Louis area. Tpr. Geier arrested the subject. While being transported to the local jail, the subject stated he wished to cooperate with officers and requested to speak with Division of Drug and Crime Control narcotics officers. Tpr. Geier transported the subject to Troop C Headquarters where he met with Corporal Kenneth J. Schulte and Trooper Thomas P. Hunn. During the investigation, the subject agreed to take officers to his girlfriend's apartment where one ounce of cocaine was hidden. He also agreed to assist officers to obtain more cocaine.

At 5:30 a.m., Corporal Schulte, Tpr. Hunn, and the cooperating subject went to an apartment complex in St. Louis, MO. Tpr. Geier and Tpr. Decker positioned themselves in a nearby parking lot. As they arrived, Tpr. Hunn observed an apartment on fire in a building adjacent to their destination. Both Corporal Schulte and Tpr. Hunn observed a silver-colored vehicle leaving the parking lot of the apartment on fire. The officers immediately acted by making Tprs. Geier and Decker aware of the fire and the vehicle leaving the scene. Tprs. Geier and Decker notified the St. Louis County Fire Department and attempted to overtake the suspect vehicle. Corporal Schulte and Tpr. Hunn began notifying apartment residents of the fire. They assisted St. Louis County officers in evacuating approximately 30 residents from the building before it was fully engulfed in flames and subsequently lost. Troopers Geier and Decker returned to the apartment and assisted with the evacuation when the suspect vehicle could not be located. The following investigation revealed the fire was not related to the drug investigation. Due to the courageous actions of Tpr. Geier, Tpr. Decker, Tpr. Hunn, and Corporal Schulte, no lives were lost.

May 2000: On May 6, 2000, the Patrol presented the Meritorious Award to Trooper Eric T. Bartel. On May 20, 1999, Trooper Mark G. Broniec stopped Thomas O. Keene at the 196-mile marker of Interstate 70 in Warren County. Shortly after the traffic stop, Tpr. Bartel arrived at the scene to provide backup for Tpr. Broniec. Tpr. Broniec asked for and received consent to search Keene's van. Located in the van were five packages of marijuana weighing over 11 pounds. Keene was placed under arrest and handcuffed. As Tpr. Bartel was placing Keene into his patrol car, Keene broke free and ran onto Interstate 70. Keene stood in the passing lane facing traffic and it appeared he wanted to be struck by a passing vehicle. Tpr. Bartel ran onto the highway and tackled Keene, knocking him into the median out of harm's way. Later, Keene admitted he wanted to kill himself. Keene suffered a broken clavicle and was taken to Warrenton Hospital for treatment. According to Tpr. Broniec, who witnessed the event, a vehicle missed Tpr. Bartel and Keene by approximately 30 feet.

May 2014: The Patrol presented Trooper Adam J. Michels the Meritorious Service Award. On May 10, 2013, Trooper Adam J. Michels joined a pursuit in progress on

Interstate 44 near Six Flags Road. The suspect had fled from Illinois State Police earlier in the day. He had an extensive criminal history and multiple warrants for his arrest. The suspect had shown little regard for the safety of others by being involved in two vehicle pursuits that day, one in Illinois and one in Missouri. The man pointed a firearm at Franklin County deputies and made statements to St. Louis County dispatchers that he was willing to use his weapon. Eureka, MO, police officers blocked a residential street and the pursuit came to an end. Tpr. Michels exited his patrol car and approached the suspect's vehicle from the right side. The suspect's car began rolling toward the other officers who fired their weapons at its front. Tpr. Michels saw the suspect raise a pistol across his chest and point at another officer as his vehicle again rolled forward. At that time, Tpr. Michels moved into an elevated position and fired his Patrol issued Remington Model 870 shotgun, striking the suspect. An ambulance transported the suspect to Mercy Medical Center in Creve Coeur, MO, where he was pronounced dead from multiple gunshot wounds. None of the officers at the scene were injured.

May 2014: The Patrol presented Trooper Zachary S. Wang the Meritorious Service Award. On September 20, 2013, Tpr. Wang was working a traffic crash on Missouri Highway 94 near Missouri Highway 47 in Warren County. After completing his investigation, he learned that a man had robbed the First Bank in Dutzow, MO, which was located approximately one mile from where he was located. He began to assist in the search for the bank robber's vehicle and heard a partial license plate number from Warren County dispatch. While traveling southbound on Missouri Route F from New Melle, MO, he observed a vehicle matching the description from the dispatch traveling in the opposite direction. He turned around and attempted to overtake the vehicle. As he rounded a curve, he saw that the suspect's vehicle was on the side of the road with the driver's side door partially open. Tpr. Wang stopped his patrol vehicle behind the suspect's vehicle. Knowing the man was armed, Tpr. Wang immediately exited his patrol car and ordered the driver to exit the vehicle and get on the ground. The driver exited the vehicle, pointed a revolver at Tpr. Wang, and began to fire. The first shot struck Tpr. Wang in the chest, and he returned fire as he sought cover at the rear of his patrol vehicle. During the exchange of gunfire, the suspect was struck and dropped his revolver. Once the suspect was secure, Tpr. Wang requested emergency medical personnel to respond. Further investigation revealed that this man was responsible for three additional robberies in the St. Louis, MO, area.

April 2022: Corporal Andrew J. Mayer accepted a 2021 Meritorious Service Award. At approximately 11:41 p.m. on Saturday, February 13, 2021, Cpl. Mayer observed two vehicles, a Kia Optima and a Hyundai Santa Fe, entering southbound U.S. Highway 61 from Missouri Route U. Cpl. Mayer observed both vehicles accelerate to a high rate of speed. He checked the vehicle's speed at 102 mph. Cpl. Mayer attempted to stop the vehicles and a pursuit ensued. As Cpl. Mayer caught up to the vehicles, the Kia Optima slowed down to allow him to pass. As Cpl. Mayer began to pass the Kia, the driver intentionally swerved into Cpl. Mayer's lane in an attempt to strike his patrol car. Cpl. Mayer was able to take evasive action and avoid a collision. He continued his pursuit of the Santa Fe. A Wentzville, MO, police officer was ahead of Cpl. Mayer, sitting stationary with his patrol car's emergency lights activated. As the pursuit approached

the Wentzville police officer's location, the driver of the Optima caught up to Cpl. Mayer and intentionally struck the rear of his patrol car at over 100 mph. Once again, Cpl. Mayer was able to maintain control of his patrol vehicle while counter steering. After striking Cpl. Mayer's patrol car, the suspect lost control of his vehicle and it traveled around the driver's side of Cpl. Mayer's patrol car and came to rest against the front of it. The driver of the Kia began backing up, nearly striking the Wentzville police officer, who fired three rounds, striking the suspect in the left shoulder. After being shot, the suspect continued backing up while accelerating. The rear of the suspect's vehicle struck the opened door of the Wentzville patrol car. Fearing the suspect could cause serious injury or death to the Wentzville police officer, passing motorists, or himself, Cpl. Mayer made the split-second decision to ram the front of the suspect's vehicle with his patrol car in attempt to disable the vehicle. After striking the front of the Kia with his patrol car, and seeing the vehicle still reversing, Cpl. Mayer intentionally struck the Kia with his patrol car a second time, ultimately disabling the Kia and putting an end to the pursuit. After placing the suspect in handcuffs, both Cpl. Mayer and the Wentzville police officer began rendering first aid to the suspect until emergency medical personnel arrived. Cpl. Mayer placed the lives of the nearby motoring public and the Wentzville police officer above his own safety. His quick thinking and heroic actions ended a dangerous situation.

Lifesaving Award

May 1991: On May 18, 1991, the Patrol presented Lifesaving awards to Trooper K. Wayde Howell and Corporal Norbert L. Weidenbenner. On January 21, 1990, an elderly gentleman and his wife were traveling Interstate 55 through Ste. Genevieve County, when the lady suffered a heart attack. The sudden illness caused the driver to be involved in a minor accident. Tpr. Howell was nearby and responded to the scene where he immediately began to administer CPR to the heart attack victim. Cpl. Weidenbenner responded to the scene and began to assist Tpr. Howell. They continued CPR for several minutes until paramedics arrived. The victim was transported to a hospital for medical assistance. The victim showed signs of life upon arrival at the hospital, however, she died a few hours later.

May 1991: On May 18, 1991, Trooper John J. Koch accepted the Lifesaving Award. On January 19, 1990, Tpr. Koch was investigating an accident on Highway 54 in Pike County. A tow truck operator, preparing to tow a vehicle involved in the accident, collapsed with symptoms of a heart attack. Tpr. Koch called for medical assistance and immediately began CPR, which restored the breathing of the victim. Tpr. Koch continued resuscitation until paramedics arrived and transported the victim to a hospital. The victim survived the heart attack.

May 1993: On May 15, 1993, the Patrol presented the Lifesaving Award to Corporal Sean B. Moore. On September 21, 1992, as Cpl. Moore was preparing to leave a Burger King restaurant, he was notified by restaurant employees of a choking victim. Cpl. Moore responded and performed the Heimlich maneuver, which successfully opened the victim's airway. The victim survived the incident.

May 1994: On May 14, 1994, Sergeant John W. Rhodus and Corporal Kevin A. Geiger accepted the Lifesaving Award. On November 15, 1993, Sgt. John W. Rhodus and Cpl. Kevin A. Geiger manned Patrol helicopter 96MP. While assisting in Carter County in the search for missing deer hunters, and other individuals lost due to flash flooding, they were advised that a Ripley County deputy was requesting assistance with a rescue. Sgt. Rhodus and Cpl. Geiger borrowed a length of rope and a D-ring from a park ranger and rigged their helicopter for the rescue. The rope was tied to the helicopter and a sling was constructed. Cpl. Geiger secured himself to the helicopter and lowered the rope by hand to the waiting victim while Sgt. Rhodus hovered the helicopter at treetop level. The victim was secured to the sling and airlifted to a waiting ambulance. Cpl. Geiger placed himself at risk by hanging from the helicopter, securing the victim in the sling, and shouting encouragement to him as he was being flown to safety. Sgt. Rhodus displayed courage and skill as he hovered among the treetops while the rescue was ongoing.

May 1994: On May 14, 1994, Trooper Gary C. Swartz accepted the Lifesaving Award. On May 8, 1993, the driver of a tractor-trailer unit, eastbound on Interstate 44 through Franklin County, became ill and requested help on CB Channel 9. An unknown motorist heard the request and called the St. Clair Ambulance District requesting an ambulance at Weigh Station Post C-2-East. Tpr. Swartz overheard the ambulance dispatch on his

scanner and responded to the scene. Tpr. Swartz met an off-duty paramedic who had also overheard the dispatch. The paramedic determined the driver to be in full cardiac arrest, and he and Tpr. Swartz removed the driver from the vehicle and began CPR. The driver was transported to the hospital where he remained for approximately three weeks.

May 1996: On May 11, 1996, the Patrol presented Corporal John M. Enderle, Commercial Vehicle Enforcement (CVE) Inspector Denise K. Henson, and CVE Kathleen M. Gentry the Lifesaving Award. On July 17, 1995, CVE Inspector Donald W. Brown was sitting behind a desk at Post C-5-South discussing a recent truck inspection with Inspectors Gentry and Henson when he stopped talking and slumped backward into the chair. Inspector Brown was breathing, but unconscious. Inspectors Gentry and Henson immediately assisted Inspector Brown to the floor. Inspector Gentry continuously checked Brown for respirations and pulse while Inspector Henson contacted Troop C Communications and declared an emergency. Cpl. Enderle overheard the radio traffic and immediately responded to the scene. Cpl. Enderle was advised that Inspector Brown had stopped breathing and Inspector Gentry could no longer find a pulse. Inspector Gentry and Cpl. Enderle performed CPR for approximately five minutes before emergency personnel arrived. Inspector Brown survived the incident.

May 1996: On May 11, 1996, Trooper Mark A. Winder accepted the Lifesaving Award. On August 13, 1995, Tpr. Winder responded to at two-vehicle traffic crash on eastbound Interstate 70 in St. Charles County. Upon arrival at the scene, Tpr. Winder noticed the car, impaled upon and partially underneath the back of the truck-tractor, was on fire in the engine compartment. With a pocket mask provided by Tpr. Winder, a paramedic who happened upon the scene, performed rescue ventilation on the victim, while Tpr. Winder attempted to control the fire. After Tpr. Winder expended his fire extinguisher and one from the truck-tractor, he attempted to free the victim from the vehicle with a crowbar. With the assistance of the Pattonville Fire Protection District and Trooper J.J. Lawlor, Tpr. Winder, despite suffering minor burns to his arm, extricated the victim from the vehicle. The victim survived the incident.

May 1997: On May 31, 1997, the Patrol presented the Lifesaving Award to Sergeant Sean B. Moore. On April 25, 1996, Sgt. Moore was traveling on Interstate 44 in St. Louis County, when he saw several individuals standing around a female, who was lying on the shoulder. Upon stopping to investigate, Sgt. Moore immediately recognized the female subject was displaying signs of a heart attack. He requested that Troop C Communications dispatch an ambulance to his location. Trooper Daniel H. Dubbs arrived to assist in administering CPR. They continued their lifesaving efforts until relieved by paramedics. The victim survived the incident.

May 1997: On May 31, 1997, Trooper Perry L. Smith accepted the Lifesaving Award. On May 8, 1996, Tpr. Smith and officers from the Pevely and Herculaneum police departments responded to the scene of a one-car traffic crash in eastern Jefferson County. A vehicle ran off the roadway and overturned, trapping two of the occupants in

the submerged vehicle. Upon arrival at the scene, two female victims were lying on the ground near the submerged vehicle. Both were cyanotic, and neither was breathing or had a pulse. Officers began CPR until relieved by emergency medical personnel. Pulse was restored on each of the girls before arrival at the hospital. The younger female died two days later and the older survived the incident.

May 2000: On May 6, 2000, Sergeant Kenneth W. Howell accepted the Lifesaving Award. On May 29, 1999, a motorist flagged down Sgt. Howell on U.S. Highway 67 in Jefferson County. The subject indicated to Sgt. Howell that his wife had a severe ulnar artery injury on her right wrist. Sgt. Howell immediately requested emergency personnel and retrieved his first aid equipment from his patrol car. The female passenger was conscious, her face was flushed, and her right arm was wrapped in a blood-soaked towel. She complained of pain and said she felt blood pulsating from her wrist. Sgt. Howell applied dressing and a pressure bandage. He then elevated her wrist near her right shoulder and above heart level. The female had cut her wrist while reaching into a glass lantern she was cleaning. When a St. Francois County ambulance passed their location, Sgt. Howell requested assistance. The victim was transported to Jefferson Memorial Hospital where Doctor Peter Stucki indicated it was the decisive actions of Sgt. Howell that saved the victim's life.

May 2002: On May 11, 2002, Trooper James W. Robinson accepted the Lifesaving Award. On June 16, 2001, Tpr. Robinson was attending the spring car races at the St. Francois County Fairgrounds. He observed a commotion at a trailer in the pit area and heard a lady asking for an ambulance. Tpr. Robinson, who was off duty, identified himself and offered assistance. Upon arrival at the trailer, he found a man unresponsive. He checked for a pulse, made sure a by-stander called an ambulance, and began CPR. A man, who identified himself as a nurse, assisted Tpr. Robinson. Emergency personnel on duty at the racetrack arrived and started lifesaving procedures, yet Tpr. Robinson continued to assist. Later, it was learned the man died because one side of his heart had burst.

May 2004: On May 8, 2004, Corporal Joseph G. Schuengel accepted the Lifesaving Award. On July 30, 2003, Cpl. Schuengel observed a van that had struck the concrete median on westbound Interstate 64 in St. Louis. He immediately notified Troop C communications personnel to request fire and emergency medical personnel be dispatched to the scene. As he approached the van, he saw a man slumped over the passenger side floorboard. Cpl. Schuengel noted the man's face was blue, he was not breathing, and he had no pulse. Cpl. Schuengel removed the man from the van and began CPR. An off-duty Olivette police officer stopped and assisted Cpl. Schuengel. When emergency personnel arrived, the man's breathing and blood pressure were restored. He fully recovered.

May 2005: On May 7, 2005, the Patrol awarded Corporal Chris L. Patton the Lifesaving Award. On March 12, 2004, Cpl. Patton was off duty and completing scuba diving class at the YMCA in Washington, MO. As he was putting his equipment together, he noticed a group of teenagers taking swimming lessons in the pool nearby. When he glanced

across the pool, he saw a 17-year-old girl face down in the water. It appeared she was having a seizure. Cpl. Patton reacted quickly, entering the water to assist the instructor, who was struggling to get the young lady out of the pool. Cpl. Patton was able to get her out of the water and began administering first aid to keep her from further injuring herself during the seizure. After the seizure subsided, he saw her face was purple, which is indicative of oxygen deprivation. He called to Doctor Nestor Shust, who was a member of his scuba diving class. The doctor found a pulse, then administered two quick breaths. The young lady coughed and began breathing on her own. She has since recovered from the incident.

April 2007: On April 21, 2007, Trooper Huntley H. Hoemann accepted the Lifesaving Award. On October 16, 2006, Tpr. Hoemann was called to a traffic crash on Interstate 44 near the 247-mile marker in Franklin County, to assist Trooper Eric R. Kriete. This traffic crash damaged a concrete median wall resulting in debris landing in the roadway. Tpr. Hoemann positioned his patrol vehicle partially in the passing lane with his emergency lights activated and began removing the debris. At this time, a second crash occurred just west of his location. Tpr. Hoemann went to the crash scene and discovered one vehicle was disabled. He then directed the second vehicle to a position in front of his patrol vehicle. As Tpr. Hoemann collected information, a tractor-trailer unit approached the scene traveling 70 miles per hour on the west roadway. Unable to stop, the tractor-trailer unit struck another eastbound vehicle, struck the disabled vehicle, then traveled in the direction of Tpr. Hoemann, the occupants of both vehicles, and Commercial Vehicle Officer Freddie R. Perkins, who had been working an overtime project with Tpr. Hoemann. Immediately, individuals began jumping over the median to avoid being struck by the tractor-trailer. However, one woman froze in place. Realizing this, Tpr. Hoemann pulled her over the concrete median to safety. Shortly after the woman was over the wall, the tractor-trailer struck the rear of Tpr. Hoemann's patrol vehicle.

December 2006: On December 30, 2006, Corporal T.J. Wild and Deputy Jason Schuster of the Franklin County Sheriff's Department received a call from Officer Meg Parks of the New Haven Police Department requesting assistance with a domestic disturbance involving a weapon. Upon arriving at the residence, the officers took positions of cover establishing a perimeter. Cpl. Wild observed a window being opened near the rear of the residence directly above Officer Parks. Cpl. Wild moved from his position of cover to alert Officer Parks. While moving back to cover, the suspect opened fire with a .30-caliber rifle, firing numerous rounds. One of the rounds struck Cpl. Wild near the neck on the left side of his body. Cpl. Wild fell to the ground near the driver's door of his patrol car. He immediately attempted to call for help, however some 14-rounds of rifle fire had struck his patrol car and disabled the radio system. Deputy Schuster and Officer Terry responded to Cpl. Wild's location. Officer Terry observed Cpl. Wild was still in the line of fire from the residence and dragged him closer to the patrol vehicle. A nearby resident, off-duty officer Chad Sloan of the Washington, MO, Police Department, heard the shots fired and responded from his home. Trooper J. Michael Linegar heard the call of an officer down and immediately responded to the area. Tpr. Linegar placed his patrol car in a position to provide cover for the downed

officer. Deputy Schuster, Officer Sloan, and Tpr. Linegar, exposing themselves to extreme danger, carried the wounded deputy approximately 75 yards through the potential line of fire to a place of safety where emergency medical personnel could treat Cpl. Wild. Officer Terry remained providing cover for the other officers.

November 2008: On Saturday, November 29, 2008, while off-duty, Trooper Phillip G. Sarakas and his family were attending a birthday party at the Old Times Cafe in Fredericktown, MO. Tpr. Sarakas observed an elderly female subject stand up from the table at which she was seated. Although the elderly subject did not display the universal sign of choking by grabbing her neck, she was obviously in distress and was unable to speak or breathe. The subject began walking slowly away from the table in a confused manner. Tpr. Sarakas immediately approached the elderly female subject and asked if she was all right. The lady was unable to speak, but shook her head from side to side, indicating she was not all right. Tpr. Sarakas then asked the lady if she was choking. The subject shook her head up and down. Tpr. Sarakas then asked the subject if she could breathe. Again, the lady shook her head from side to side. Tpr. Sarakas immediately instructed his wife to call 9-1-1 and have an ambulance respond to the restaurant. Tpr. Sarakas then reached around the female subject and applied an upward abdominal thrust three times. After the third attempt, the female subject gasped for air; however, the foreign object that had caused her to choke was never visibly expelled from her throat. Tpr. Sarakas escorted the subject back to her chair and continued to monitor her condition, until members of the Madison County Hospital ambulance arrived on the scene. On December 11, 2008, Tpr. Sarakas received a thank you card in the mail, signed by the lady he had helped that day. The card stated, “It sure was a relief to breathe again. Thanks so much.”

May 2009: On May 8, 2009, Trooper Timothy S. Craig and Conservation Agent Rob Sulkowski responded to the area of Interstate 55 near Missouri Route Y, in Ste. Genevieve County, where flood waters had begun to rise out of the banks of Establishment Creek. The water filled the median and began to rise over the lanes of Interstate 55. Tpr. Craig acted quickly to close the southbound lanes of the interstate to prevent motorists from driving into the flood water. He directed a Ste. Genevieve County deputy to close the northbound side of the highway, fearing it would cover those lanes as well. Before the deputy could close the northbound side of the highway, the water began to flood the northbound lanes. A 2001 Oldsmobile Alero skidded out of control and overturned into the median, coming to rest on its driver’s side in the flood water. Tpr. Craig and Conservation Agent Sulkowski rushed into the flood water to rescue the driver, who was unable to exit her vehicle. Sulkowski held the vehicle, which was teetering toward rolling onto its top, while Tpr. Craig pulled the driver out of the vehicle from the passenger door. Tpr. Craig then carried her out of the flood water onto the highway. After all persons reached the pavement, the water rose to a level causing the Oldsmobile to roll over onto its top, completely submerging the passenger compartment in the water.

April 2010: On April 7, 2010, Clerk Typist Jamie L. Eichholz risked her own well being to assist a friend that was in eminent peril. A friend was trapped beneath a garage door

that would not operate, so Ms. Eichholz held the door off her friend until help arrived. She received numerous lacerations and bruises. Her unselfish actions very possibly saved the life of her friend.

July 2010: On July 7, 2010, Sergeant Joseph G. Schuengel and Trooper Jason M. Hurt saved the life of a man from Sullivan, MO. The man was attending a horse competition at the Saddle Club and fell from his horse due to cardiac arrest. Sgt. Schuengel and Tpr. Hurt immediately began to administer basic life support. The quick decisive actions by Sgt. Schuengel and Tpr. Hurt sustained this man's life.

July 2011: On July 28, 2011, Trooper Joseph D. Flynn and Trooper Jeffrey D. Maudlin were riding their motorcycles off duty on eastbound Interstate 44 in St. Louis County when Tpr. Maudlin became involved in a traffic crash. He was ejected, and after the motorcycle overturned, it came to rest on him in the right lane of Interstate 44. Tpr. Maudlin was unconscious, lying face down, with the motorcycle on top of him, and in danger of being struck by oncoming traffic. Tpr. Flynn lifted the 500-pound motorcycle off Tpr. Maudlin and dragged him onto the shoulder, protecting his head and neck, and rendered first aid until the ambulance arrived.

April 2016: On April 29, 2017, the Patrol awarded Corporal Larry A. Turner the Lifesaving Award. On April 18, 2016, Cpl. Turner overheard radio traffic regarding an overdose at a residence in House Springs, MO. He responded to the scene and found a man with no pulse laying on the kitchen floor. Cpl. Turner performed a head tilt and chin lift and provided two rescue breaths. After repeating this procedure, Cpl. Turner found the man had a faint pulse. He continued delivering rescue breaths until paramedics arrived and took over the man's care. When the man regained consciousness, he became combative. Cpl. Turner and a deputy then subdued the man, so he could be transported to the hospital.

April 2017: On April 28, 2018, the Patrol awarded Trooper Mark W. Hedlund and CVE Inspector II Brian J. Hulsey the Lifesaving Award. On April 18, 2017, Tpr. Hedlund was on routine patrol in Franklin County. CVE Inspector II Hulsey was with Tpr. Hedlund on a ride-along. When Tpr. Hedlund came upon a single vehicle crash on Missouri Route N near Missouri Route O, he stopped to assist. Tpr. Hedlund and Inspector Hulsey ran to the vehicle, which was on fire, and found the seriously injured driver trapped inside the passenger compartment. Working together they removed the driver from the vehicle as it became engulfed in flames. Their unselfish actions saved the driver's life.

April 2019: On April 13, 2019, the Patrol awarded Trooper Michael K. Halim a Lifesaving Award. On September 1, 2018, Tpr. Halim was off duty and walking with a friend near his home in St. Clair, MO. He observed two kayaks on the lake as he and his friend stood visiting. A short time later, Tpr. Halim saw the people were out of the kayaks and appeared to be swimming. Apparently, the young child stood up in the kayak and threw it off balance. The kayak capsized, throwing both the child and the man into the water. The woman in the second kayak went into the water to assist her daughter. All three were in distress, thus Tpr. Halim and his friend instantly entered the water, swam to where the subjects were, and got them safely to shore.

April 2019: On April 13, 2019, the Patrol recognized Trooper Quentin H. Hooks, Trooper Joseph V. BonDurant, Trooper Blake G. Groves, and Trooper Christian J. Mendez with Lifesaving Awards. On November 21, 2018, Tpr. Hooks, Tpr. BonDurant, Tpr. Groves, and Tpr. Mendez all responded to a traffic crash on Interstate 270 in St. Louis County. A vehicle had crashed into the center median; its driver was unresponsive and trapped inside the vehicle. Officers worked together to extricate the driver through the passenger side of the vehicle then laid him on the ground. The officers then provided chest compressions and rescue breaths. Recognizing the signs of an overdose, a dose of Narcan was administered and CPR continued. After two more doses of Narcan, sternum rubs, and additional rescue breaths, the driver began breathing. Emergency medical technicians arrived and transported the man to the hospital where he made a full recovery.

Note: Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the 2020 awards banquet was postponed. Thus, the awards for 2019 and 2020 were presented at the awards ceremony held April 10, 2021. The ceremony was broadcast via Facebook Live and attendance was limited.

April 2021: CVO II Randy E. Fain, Troop C, and Sergeant Bradley D. Moore, Troop C, accepted 2019 Lifesaving Awards. On September 24, 2019, Sgt. Moore and CVO II Fain enjoyed an evening meal together before continuing their respective tours. Shortly thereafter, Sgt. Moore turned onto a city street in Festus, MO, and saw people gathered in the roadway where a citizen was performing CPR on an unconscious man. He notified Troop C to summon an ambulance and stopped to assess the situation. Sgt. Moore learned the man had been struck by a car. He relieved the citizen providing CPR when he became fatigued. CVO Fain overheard radio traffic and returned to the area. He relieved Sgt. Moore and provided CPR to the man until he began taking short breaths. Sgt. Moore and CVO Fain then monitored the man until the ambulance arrived and transported him to the hospital for further treatment. He survived the incident.

April 2021: Trooper Benjamin S. Giesler and Corporal Michael G. Autenrieth accepted 2019 Lifesaving Awards. On Friday, May 3, 2019, a hiker slipped off the Chubb Trail of Castlewood State Park and went into rising floodwaters along the Meramec River. The water was up to her chest, but she was able to use her cell phone to call for help. Cpl. Autenrieth and Tpr. Giesler were made aware of the situation and met at the closest boat ramp. Cpl. Autenrieth assisted Tpr. Giesler in launching his patrol vessel. Two local firefighters also responded and joined the officers on board. Using GPS coordinates of the cell phone acquired by troop communications, Tpr. Giesler navigated to the area near the hiker. He turned off the boat's engine, which allowed the group to hear the hiker calling for help. Tpr. Giesler then maneuvered the boat into the flooded, wooded area following the hiker's voice. They located the hiker holding onto a log in water up to her chest. Cpl. Autenrieth and Tpr. Giesler provided counterbalance on the boat in the rapidly rising floodwaters, while the two firefighters pulled the subject from the water. Tpr. Giesler then navigated the boat out of the wooded area and back to the boat ramp. The hiker was checked by paramedics and released.

April 2021: Trooper Dylon M. Wyatt accepted a 2019 Lifesaving Award. While on routine patrol in Perry County, MO, Tpr. Wyatt drove up on an injury traffic crash on northbound Interstate 55, near the 134-mile marker. The crash involved seven occupants, including one fatality, three people with serious injuries, and three people who were not injured. Tpr. Wyatt assessed the scene and observed a six-year-old boy lying in the median. The child was not breathing and had no pulse. Tpr. Wyatt immediately began CPR. After approximately 15 chest compressions, the child began showing signs of life. Tpr. Wyatt turned his care over to a first responder who had arrived on the scene, and then began assessing the other occupants' injuries. Air Evac transported the child to the children's hospital in Memphis, TN. The little boy survived.

April 2021: Trooper A. Dennis Pogue accepted a 2020 Lifesaving Award. On November 5, 2020, Tpr. Pogue was on patrol on Missouri Highway 32, in St. Francois County. A vehicle approached him traveling 127 mph in a 55 mph zone. Tpr. Pogue turned around, activated his emergency equipment, and attempted to overtake the vehicle. As he accelerated, he saw an explosion through some trees. The vehicle had traveled off the roadway, struck the rock embankment, overturned, and exploded. Tpr. Pogue stopped at the scene, exited his vehicle, and attempted to put out the fire with his fire extinguisher. He then attempted to break the sunroof on the vehicle as the fire became more intense. His efforts roused the driver and passenger back to consciousness, and Tpr. Pogue assisted them from the elevated passenger's side door and moved them to safety. Both were transported to the hospital for treatment; they survived the crash.

April 2021: Trooper Brock A. Teague accepted a 2020 Lifesaving Award. On June 13, 2020, Tpr. Teague responded to a traffic crash off the ramp from westbound Interstate 255 to northbound Interstate 55. The vehicle involved was engulfed in flames. Tpr. Teague and an officer with the St. Louis County Police Department approached the vehicle with fire extinguishers. Tpr. Teague also scanned the vehicle and called out to determine if anyone was inside. Hearing a cry for help, he broke the vehicle's rear glass using his ASP baton. Tpr. Teague partially entered the vehicle to pull the occupant to safety. He then moved the man farther away from the intense flames. The occupant refused medical treatment saying he was not injured.

April 2021: Trooper Dylon M. Wyatt accepted a 2020 Lifesaving Award. On November 8, 2020, Tpr. Wyatt was assisting the Ste. Genevieve County Sheriff's K-9 officer search a wooded area during a manhunt for a suspect who had stolen a vehicle. The suspect was located and apprehended by the K-9 biting the man's upper right arm. After the K-9 was ordered off, Tpr. Wyatt observed the suspect bleeding heavily from his wounds and took immediate action to properly apply a tourniquet to the suspect's arm. The suspect was then transported to a St. Louis hospital.

April 2021: Sergeant Jason L. Decker accepted a 2020 Lifesaving Award. On April 6, 2020, Sgt. Decker and Trooper Kimberly D. House were traveling westbound on Interstate 70 approaching the U.S. Highway 61 interchange. A Chrysler 300 left the southbound lanes of U.S. 61, traveled off the overpass, and landed on westbound

Interstate 70, directly in front of their patrol car. The Chrysler, traveling at a high rate of speed, then struck the median wall, spun around, and came to rest partially on the roadway and partially on the shoulder. Sgt. Decker and Tpr. House stopped at the scene and exited the patrol vehicle. Sgt. Decker retrieved his fire extinguisher and attempted to put out the growing fire beneath the Chrysler. Seeing a man attempting to exit the burning vehicle from the passenger window, Sgt. Decker responded immediately. He and a Troy, MO, police officer on the scene pulled the man from the vehicle and moved him to a safe location. The man was transported to the hospital with serious injuries; he survived.

April 2022: Corporal Alex J. Shibley, Trooper Thadeus E. McVeigh, and Trooper Jeffrey J. Wilt accepted a 2021 Lifesaving Award. On August 20, 2021, Cpl. Shibley and Tpr. Wilt were driving southbound on U.S. Highway 67, south of Doubet Road, in St. Francois County, MO, when they observed a tractor-trailer driving northbound on U.S. 67 crash into the center median in front of them. Tpr. Wilt immediately turned around and positioned his Patrol vehicle behind the crashed tractor-trailer. As Cpl. Shibley climbed onto the step on the passenger's side of the tractor-trailer, he observed the driver attempting to put his shoe on. Cpl. Shibley knocked on the window, but the driver did not acknowledge him. Cpl. Shibley re-positioned to the driver's side of the tractor-trailer to gain the driver's attention. Cpl. Shibley immediately recognized the driver's arm had drawn up, and he had begun to exhibit agonal breathing. Cpl. Shibley immediately opened the driver's side door and, with the help of Tpr. Wilt, removed the driver from the vehicle. They carried the driver to a safe location. Noticing the driver was not breathing and had no pulse, they immediately began CPR. A short time later, Tpr. McVeigh arrived on scene to assist. After numerous cycles of CPR, the driver regained a pulse and began breathing on his own. The driver was subsequently transported to a local hospital where he recovered.

April 2022: Corporal Adam D. Smith accepted a 2021 Lifesaving Award. At 1 p.m. on Tuesday, March 16, 2021, Dive Team member Corporal Jason M. Hurt, Troop I, suffered a cardiac arrest while participating in a Dive Team operation. Cpl. Hurt's life was saved by the immediate actions of fellow Dive Team members Sergeant Charles W. Hoff, Q/WPD, Corporal Dean A. Bartlett, Troop F, Corporal Billy V. Cole, Troop A, and Cpl. Smith, along with Kansas City (MO) Police Department Detectives Jacqulynn Mutschler and Tom Hammond. Cpl. Hurt subsequently received CPR, a shock delivered by an AED, and was transported to the Research Medical Center where he received emergency cardiac care. Thanks to actions by Cpl. Hurt's teammates and the Kansas City detectives, he is alive today and has fully recovered.

April 2024: Trooper Eric R. Sikes accepted a 2023 Lifesaving Award. On November 25, 2023, Tpr. Sikes was outside the North St. Louis County, Missouri, zone office when he heard gunfire. As he responded to the area, a vehicle passed him at a high rate of speed. Trooper Sikes initiated a traffic stop and found one of the passengers had sustained a bullet wound to his chest. He applied a chest seal to the shooting victim and checked him for additional wounds, all while gathering additional information from the vehicle's occupants. Ambulance personnel arrived and transported the shooting victim

to the hospital. In November 2023, the St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney's Office charged all four of these people with one count of murder-second degree and two counts of armed criminal action.

April 2024: Trooper Dylan H. Bert and Corporal Blake G. Groves each accepted a 2023 Lifesaving Award. On March 29, 2023, Tpr. Bert and Cpl. Groves were dispatched to the scene of a traffic crash on Interstate 70 west of Interstate 270. Numerous Lake St. Louis and St. Charles County police officers were working a crash when they were struck by a vehicle in a second crash. The troopers first encountered an officer with severe fractures in both legs and a serious head injury. They applied a tourniquet to his left leg, worked to control the heavy bleeding from his head, and stabilized the officer's head and neck to prevent further injury. The driver who caused the crash was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated.

April 2024: Sergeant James Campbell accepted a Lifesaving Award. On May 21, 2023, Sgt. Campbell was on a family vacation in South Carolina when his daughter notified him her boyfriend was having a medical emergency. Sgt. Campbell instructed his daughter to call 911. Moments later, the man stopped breathing, and Sgt. Campbell initiated CPR. He continued chest compressions until paramedics arrived and assumed care, transporting him to the hospital. The man survived the incident.

Troop C Commanders

Captain Kevin W. Malugen	September 1, 2023, to present
Captain Ryan A. Burckhardt	October 1, 2021, to August 1, 2023
Captain Stephen B. Ferrier	October 1, 2017, to October 1, 2021
Captain Norman A. Murphy, Acting	June 1, 2017, to September 30, 2017
Captain Ronald S. Johnson	October 1, 2002, to June 1, 2017
Captain Paul D. Parmenter	October 1, 1997, to September 30, 2002
Captain William K. Seibert	September 1, 1994, to September 30, 1997
Captain Dale E. Buschmann	September 1, 1988, to August 31, 1994
Captain Roy G. Foss	September 1, 1987, to August 31, 1988
Captain John H. Ford	November 1, 1984, to August 31, 1987
Captain Carl J. Hucke Jr.	July 1, 1981, to October 31, 1984
Captain Edward F. Christman	May 14, 1980, to June 30, 1981
Captain John N. Kiriakos	October 1, 1977, to May 14, 1980
Captain Albert F. Closson	June 1, 1973, to September 30, 1977
Captain William A. Dolan	March 1, 1970, to May 31, 1973
Captain Willie S. Barton	October 1, 1961, to February 28, 1970
Captain Chester R. Oliver	March 1, 1954, to September 30, 1961
Captain Lewis B. Howard	October 1, 1946, to February 28, 1954
Lieutenant Clarence E. Potts (Acting)	August 15, 1946, to September 30, 1946
Captain John A. Tandy	August 1, 1945, to August 14, 1946
Captain Jerome F. Shaw	September 22, 1944, to July 31, 1945
Captain Thomas E. Whitecotton	November 9, 1942, to August 31, 1944
Captain Lewis B. Howard	October 1, 1939, to September 22, 1942
Captain Thomas L. Leigh	November 24, 1931, to September 30,1939