

# NEBRASKA STATE PATROL



**2005**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**



**Dave Heineman**  
Governor

# STATE OF NEBRASKA

**NEBRASKA STATE PATROL**  
**Colonel Bryan J. Tuma**  
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September 11, 2006

Dear Citizens of Nebraska:

On behalf of all the members of the Nebraska State Patrol, I am pleased to present the 2005 Annual Report. This report contains information that describes the numerous and varied services we provide to you, the citizens.

Contemporary law enforcement requires skills and knowledge that extend beyond those needed only a few short years ago. In addition to traditional patrol, traffic enforcement, accident, criminal and drug investigations, today's troopers must know how to contend with drug smugglers, criminals who use the Internet to facilitate crime, terrorists and a myriad of other issues. The Nebraska State Patrol makes every effort through training and intelligence to address the traditional and emerging trends in law enforcement.

The support and assistance of the citizens of the state is tremendous and deeply appreciated by all members of the Nebraska State Patrol. We all pledge to remain leaders in the law enforcement community through professional development, innovation and our commitment to you, the citizens we serve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Tuma", written over a horizontal line.

Bryan J. Tuma, Colonel  
Superintendent of Law Enforcement and Public Safety



**AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY**

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# Table of Contents

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Nebraska State Patrol’s 2005 Mission Statement, Goals and Core Values..... | iv |
| <b>Patrol Division</b>   |    |
| • Statewide enforcement statistics .....                                   | 1  |
| • Troop area highlights .....  | 2  |
| • Air Wing statistics and highlights .....                                 | 19 |
| <b>Carrier Enforcement Division</b>  |    |
| • Portable and fixed scale statistics .....                                | 20 |
| • MSCAP Inspection statistics .....  | 21 |
| • Carrier Enforcement Related Drug Interdiction statistics.....            | 21 |
| <b>Investigative Services</b>  |    |
| Alcohol and Tobacco Unit.....  | 22 |
| Auto Fraud Unit .....  | 23 |
| Behavioral Analysis Unit .....   | 24 |
| Cold Case Unit.....  | 24 |
| Crime Laboratory .....   | 25 |
| Criminal Identification Division .....                                     | 26 |
| Intelligence Unit.....   | 27 |
| Internet Crimes against Children Unit .....                                | 28 |
| <b>Administrative Services Division</b>                                    |    |
| Communications .....   | 29 |
| Executive Protection/Capitol Security .....                                | 30 |
| Finance and Accounting .....   | 30 |
| Grants .....   | 31 |
| Homeland Security.....   | 31 |
| Human Resources .....  | 32 |
| Information Technology .....   | 33 |
| Internal Affairs.....  | 34 |
| Early Intervention Program .....   | 35 |
| Legal .....  | 35 |
| Policy and Accreditation .....   | 36 |
| Public Information Office.....   | 36 |
| Supply/Electronic Engineering .....  | 37 |
| <b>2005 Award Summary</b> .....  | 38 |
| <b>2005 Promotions</b> .....   | 40 |
| <b>In Memoriam-Stephen Lewis</b> .....                                     | 42 |



## **Nebraska State Patrol Mission Statement**

The Mission of the Nebraska State Patrol is to exemplify our values by providing the highest quality of law enforcement and service to the citizens. Through innovation and cooperation, we strive to promote and maintain the spirit of teamwork that is the tradition of the Nebraska State Patrol.

## **Nebraska State Patrol Value Statement**

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

## **Nebraska State Patrol Management Philosophy**

The Nebraska State Patrol expects to be a lead agency in addressing issues and concepts confronting Nebraska law enforcement agencies.

As such, Nebraska State Patrol personnel are encouraged to identify issues in their respective communities and actively participate in resolving them.

The agency will focus on initiatives to enhance the leadership qualities of individual employees, and to strengthen the agency's commitment to assist others.

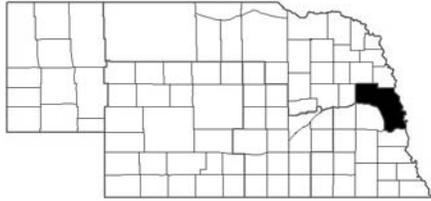
**Pro Bono Publico**  
**“For the Good of the Public”**

## 2005 Statewide Patrol Division Activities

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| <b>Miles Patrolled</b>                                     | 4,415,514    |
| <b>Accidents Investigated</b>                              |              |
| Fatal accidents investigated                               | 66           |
| Persons killed   | 82           |
| Injury accidents investigated                              | 790          |
| Persons injured  | 1,248        |
| Property damage only accidents                             | 2,104        |
| <b>Total Accidents Investigated</b>                        | <b>2,960</b> |
| <b>Hazardous moving violations (speeding not included)</b> |              |
| Violate traffic signal                                     | 1,194        |
| Hit and run  | 26           |
| Motor vehicle homicide                                     | 6            |
| Drive left of center                                       | 1,853        |
| Passing violations   | 1,028        |
| Following too close  | 2,716        |
| Traffic control device violation                           | 2,740        |
| Improper turn  | 944          |
| Failure to signal  | 5,785        |
| Careless driving   | 552          |
| Reckless driving   | 94           |
| Willful reckless driving                                   | 68           |
| <b>Patrol Division Drug Investigations</b>                 |              |
| New investigations   | 1,308        |
| Investigative Services requests                            | 28           |
| Value of drugs seized                                      | \$29,198,017 |

# Troop Area Highlights

## Troop A



**Population:** 664,830  
**Total Square Miles:** 1,598  
**Strength:**  
Patrol Division 42  
Carrier Enforcement 9  
Investigative Services 15



**Troop A Headquarters, Omaha**

Troop A, located in the east-central region of the state, includes the most densely populated areas of Nebraska. The counties of Douglas, Sarpy, Dodge, Washington and northern Cass are home to approximately 664,830 people and spans a 1,598 square mile area.

### Troop A Patrol Division

The Troop A Patrol Division saw significant changes in vehicle traffic patterns and traffic volume in 2005. Roadways continued to be expanded and large events continued to be held at multiple locations. The large Interstate 80 expansion project has moved west and now includes the bridge over the Platte River. Many diverse traffic patterns are still necessary to route a high volume of motorists through this area



**Construction near the Platte River.**  
**Photo courtesy of Hawkins Construction Company.**

Another large project nearing completion is the elevated expressway for West Dodge Road. The westbound lanes of the expressway are completed and will open in late July 2006. This mile long elevated roadway is 40 feet above the current West Dodge Road. The new roadway will enable traffic moving westbound on West Dodge to bypass the 114<sup>th</sup> Street intersection and continue on a new multiple lane roadway to west and north of Fremont. Traffic troopers have already seen a higher volume of traffic as well as a greater incidence of speeding violations.



**West Dodge Road expressway.**  
**Photo courtesy of the Nebraska Department of Roads.**

Construction began in 2005 of the new Traffic Management Center. The Center is an addition of the Troop A Patrol Office, and will house Troop A dispatchers and members of the Nebraska Department of Roads. After scheduled completion in the fall of 2006, the dispatchers will eventually receive radio enhancements with the implementation of Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD). The message signs, roadway sensors, cameras and all intelligent transportation systems software will also be managed from the Center. Once operational, this will allow Troop A staff to be reactive to traffic pattern situations on the congested major roadways in and around Omaha. The goal of Troop A is to have a quick resolution of traffic problems, and a more timely response to issues on the roadways.



**Construction began on the new Traffic Management Center in 2005.**

### **Troop A Investigative Services Division**

The Alcohol/Tobacco Unit provided the Responsible Alcohol Sales Training Program to 591 employees of licensed liquor businesses. The Unit also worked in cooperation with community groups and local law enforcement by conducting 1,006 business alcohol compliance checks. There were 138 applicant background investigations conducted for new liquor license applicants and 38 amendments to licensed businesses. The Unit also investigated 31 complaints of illegal activity. In 2005, there were 250 tobacco compliance checks conducted. An investigation and arrest of an Omaha bar owner passing counterfeit checks revealed one local bank lost more than \$25,000. The subject wrote one check for \$186,000 for the attempted purchase of another bar. The Unit continued to work closely with the Department of Revenue. One investigation led to the discovery of a business owner who failed to report his income and owes more than \$100,000 in back taxes.

The III Counties Organized Response Program System (or III Corp) is a multi agency drug and violent crime task force. This task force is comprised of two Fremont PD officers, one Blair PD officer and one Nebraska State Patrol (NSP) trooper. The officers perform undercover operations and drug investigations in Blair and Fremont, as well as

Dodge, Burt and Cuming counties. More than 1,000 pounds of illegal drugs, worth more than \$2 million, were taken off the streets in 2005 by the III Corp Task Force. Task force investigations resulted in the arrest of 398 individuals, 16 firearms seizures and more than \$33,000 in United States (U.S.) currency. III Corp Task Force continues to work with allied law enforcement agencies to combat violent and drug related offenses.

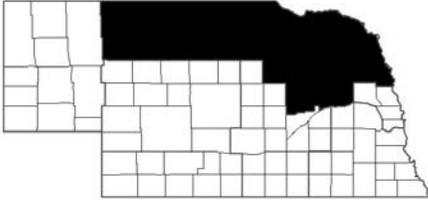
The Criminal Investigation Unit worked 99 felony cases relating to prescription drug fraud. One investigation involved an intricate distribution network in the Omaha area with the diversion of pharmaceutical drugs to street use. This case resulted in the seizure and sale of one home, one Ford Explorer and two Chevrolet Corvettes, which were purchased with drug profits. Two of the major players are already serving Federal Prison sentences with three more having already been indicted.

Investigators have coordinated or assisted other law enforcement agencies in 21 death investigations this past year. Sarpy County's Major Crime Investigation Team (MCIT) was activated to investigate the shooting death of a subject who ran over two local officers. This case involved five different investigative agencies and was coordinated by NSP personnel. A Grand Jury found the officers were justified in use of deadly force.

Investigations initiated by the Commercial Interdiction Unit (CIU) impacted investigations within and outside of Nebraska. These investigations resulted in arrests and seizures of both currency and drugs. During 2005, CIU was responsible for the seizure of \$281,000 in U.S. currency, 104 pounds of marijuana, more than seven pounds of cocaine, 22 pounds of methamphetamine and 4.5 pounds of heroin. In addition, CIU seized two liters of PCP, eight gallons of codeine, 300 tablets of ecstasy, and eradicated more than two million marijuana plants within the troop area. These investigations lead to the arrest of more than 50 individuals on both state and federal charges. The CIU was also active in the troop area by presenting 20 drug awareness programs to more than 800 citizens of various businesses, community groups and schools.

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## Troop B



**Population:** 213,929  
**Total Square Miles:** 21,577  
**Strength:**  
Patrol Division 43  
Carrier Enforcement 8  
Investigative Services 14



**Troop B Headquarters, Norfolk**

Troop B is the largest Troop Area and is situated in the north central and northeastern part of the State. The Troop Area covers 23 counties and stretches from the Missouri River on the east to the panhandle. Troop B is also home to three Indian Reservations (Omaha, Winnebago and Santee) and one Indian tribe (Ponca).

### Troop B Patrol Division

On January 15, Trooper Mohr stopped a vehicle for speeding 91 miles per hour on Highway 81. Trooper Mohr received consent to search the vehicle and seized less than an ounce of marijuana and \$2,800 in cash.

On February 27, Trooper Griffiths received a report of identity theft in which a female subject alleged that her identity had been taken and approximately \$8,000 in credit card bills were ran up in her name. An investigation in the States of Nebraska and South Dakota revealed the victim fabricated the whole incident and ran up the charges on her credit card.

On March 3, Trooper Stopak stopped a vehicle for speeding on Highway 81. Trooper Stopak received consent to search the mini-van and located a false compartment in the floor. The compartment contained six packages of methamphetamine that weighed 15 pounds. The suspect was arrested for the possession of methamphetamine with the intent to deliver.

On May 16th, the Troop B Honor Guard provided a ceremonial 21 gun salute at the graveside of fallen Trooper Dan Matejka. Trooper Matejka's graveside was the location for the 2005 Law Enforcement Memorial ceremonies in the Norfolk area. State Senator Mike Flood and Norfolk City Councilman Jim Brenneman were the keynote speakers.

On September 10, Trooper Detlefsen was summoned to the Royal Zoo to aid in the apprehension and capture of four escaped chimpanzees who were terrorizing and vandalizing the zoo, nearby homes and businesses. One of the chimpanzees returned back to its cage while the other three had to be put down due to their aggressive behavior and actions. Trooper Detlefsen was instrumental in saving the life of a local veterinarian by putting down one of these chimpanzees as it charged towards the veterinarian.

On October 21, Troopers Waddle and Goode assisted the Madison County Sheriff's Office with a shots fired call south of Meadow Grove. A farmer confronted two subjects road hunting near his residence. The suspects fled in their vehicle, dragging the farmer. One of the suspects then began to hit the farmer in the head with the butt of a rifle in an attempt to release the farmer from the vehicle. Trooper Waddle later located the vehicle near Tilden and the suspects were placed into custody and charged with second degree assault.

On November 6, Troopers Goode and Hampton, along with Sergeant Rutten, were dispatched to Osmond reference a shooting near Main Street. An altercation at a local bar escalated into a shooting where a male suspect shot another male subject in the leg with a shotgun. The suspect was arrested and charged with first degree assault.

## **Troop B Investigative Services Division**

The Troop B Investigative Services Division responded to 330 new cases in 2005 which resulted in 167 arrests. In addition, Troop B assisted with an additional 233 cases and performed 24 polygraphs.

Personnel assigned to Troop B presented 92 various programs to more than 5,000 people. Investigator Bruce Mitchell worked with Lorraine Erdmann of Crofton to educate citizens about the dangers associated with alcohol abuse and alcohol related crashes. Lorraine lost her 16 year old daughter, Arianna, in April, 2002, as a result of an alcohol related crash. Investigator Mitchell and Lorraine presented 11 programs in 2005 to various community groups.

Lieutenant Morehead attended culturally diversified meetings throughout 2005 with Captain Rice and other Patrol Services personnel. Meetings were held with various groups including the Somalian Community in Norfolk, the Hispanic Community in Madison and numerous meetings with the Omaha and Winnebago Tribes in Thurston County in an effort to discuss topics of direct and mutual interest.

A missing person investigation uncovered information involving a fight between two northeast Nebraska men. The Nebraska State Patrol, assisted by the Coleridge Police

Department, Cedar County Sheriff's Office, Knox County Sheriff's Office, and Verdigre Police Department, located the body of a 29-year-old man from Coleridge in a creek northwest of Creighton. Information was discovered that the victim was involved in an altercation the night of April 10 with a 34-year-old man from Hartington. The man was arrested and lodged in the Cedar County jail and charged with homicide in the first degree. In addition, two search warrants were served and numerous items of evidence were gathered over a geographical area of approximately 80 miles. Utilization of multiple Nebraska State Patrol personnel, along with other numerous law enforcement personnel and concerned citizens from surrounding communities, helped bring closure to the victim's family and a homicide conviction of the suspect.

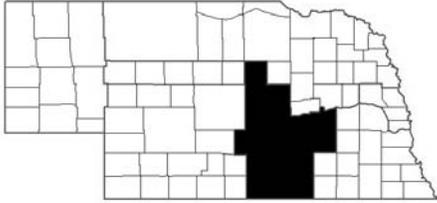
Investigator Kenny, with the Tri-State Drug Task Force, was involved with an investigation resulting in more than \$1.5 million dollars in assets seized spanning throughout the United States and two foreign countries.

The death of a 41-year-old Tekamah man was ruled a suicide from an apparent self inflicted hand made explosive device. The Nebraska State Patrol, Tekamah Police Department and the Burt County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to the scene to gather evidence and conduct the investigation.

On September 20, Investigator Bignell located a marijuana grow operation in the Beemer area. There were 42 marijuana plants found as a result of a search warrant as well as approximately 1,000 pounds of processed marijuana. One subject was arrested, charged and convicted of manufacturing marijuana.

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## Troop C



**Population:** 210,362  
**Total Square Miles:** 9,735  
**Strength:**  
Patrol Division 46  
Carrier Enforcement 2  
Investigative Services 14



**Troop C Headquarters, Grand Island**

Troop C encompasses 17 counties in the southern mid-to-eastern section of the state. It includes the state's third largest city of Grand Island, as well as the cities of Hastings, Kearney, and York.

### Troop C Patrol Division

Drunk driving arrests increased in 2005 by almost 6% compared to 2004. There were 374 motorists arrested by Troop C personnel for Driving While Intoxicated/Driving Under the Influence-Drugs (DWI/DUI-D). A portion of this increase was a result of the utilization of Highway Safety overtime grant funds to assist with the operation of DWI checkpoints and saturation patrols.

On July 16, Troop C personnel assisted the Kearney Police Department with traffic enforcement and crowd control during their annual Cruise Night. This event has grown steadily over the past 20 years. Thousands of people came to Kearney during the evening hours of Saturday night to watch the classic cars and hot rods parade up and down 25<sup>th</sup> Street (Highway 30). People gathered in yards and sidewalks along the street to watch the passing vehicles. Alcohol consumption by the crowd was high. There were numerous violations involving minors, assaults and DWI's. Troop C obtained a Highway Safety overtime grant to allow the assignment of additional personnel to assist with the event.

Troop C's Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) calls for service were slightly lower in 2005 compared to 2004. During 2005, Troop C SWAT was successful with high risk warrant callouts in Fillmore, Valley and Hall Counties. The Troop C SWAT team was called to assist the Buffalo County/Kearney Police Department SWAT team with an armed barricaded subject in Kearney and served clan lab search warrants in Buffalo, Adams and Webster Counties.

## **Troop C Investigative Services Division**

The Criminal Investigation Unit was tasked with investigating a wide array of criminal offenses in 2005, including 12 Attorney General Investigations of government officials.

Investigators looked into two in-custody deaths for Grand Jury presentations in Clay and Buffalo Counties. One was a suicide by a jail inmate and one was a justifiable shooting by a police officer.

Investigators solved a number of thefts from various car lots around the troop area when Sergeant McCoy identified two stolen tailgates, valued at more than \$20,000, for sale on E-bay. The thieves were identified as two men at an auto body repair shop in Kearney. Investigator Clang led another investigation which resulted in the recovery of stolen property, valued at \$45,000, at a Grand Island auto body shop and residence.

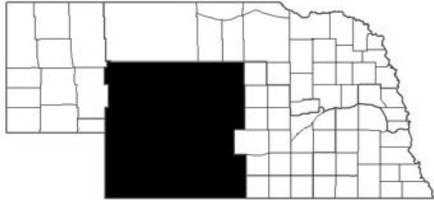
Drug investigators continued to work a methamphetamine and cocaine distribution conspiracy case which resulted in 33 arrests or indictments and 12 convictions. There were also 15 separate pharmaceutical fraud cases cleared.

In December, investigators and Troop C Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) served a clan lab search warrant at a rural residence near Bladen. This led to the arrest of the resident and concluded a three year investigation.

Liquor investigators conducted 39 background investigations for liquor license applicants. In 2005, there were a total of 66 multi-agency Tobacco Compliance checks.

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## Troop D



**Population:** 132,635  
**Total Square Miles:** 20,846  
**Strength:**  
Patrol Division 39  
Carrier Enforcement 23  
Investigative Services 11



**Troop D Headquarters, North Platte**

Troop D covers 23 counties in the southwest portion of the state. It includes the cities of North Platte and McCook. Halsey National Forest and Nebraska's largest recreational area, Lake McConaughy, also lie in Troop D.

### Troop D Patrol Division

On March 11, troopers responded to a crash, near North Platte, on Interstate 80 that occurred during a dust storm. The crash resulted in the death of three people and eight vehicles were totaled. High winds and blowing dirt caused near zero visibility. One semi tractor slowed and was struck from behind by a second semi that began a chain reaction of collisions. A large fire resulted and required the closure of the eastbound lanes on Interstate 80 for several hours. The extensive fire damage to the road surface required fire and rescue personnel to respond from three surrounding fire departments to deal with the fire and harsh conditions.

The Atlanta Nebraska Education Television (NETV) tower was struck on November 24, by a low flying aircraft during foggy conditions. The 1,065 feet tower was knocked to the ground by the force of the impact. The three occupants of the airplane were killed in the crash.



**This is all that remains of the NETV Tower after being hit by an airplane.**

On November 30, the central region of the state was struck by an early season blizzard. The storm forced the closure of Interstate 80 for nearly 48 hours. In addition, many state and local highways remained closed for several days until road crews could get to them.



**Sergeant Kirk Hansel stands in a drift which blocked Highway 92 east of Arnold, Nebraska. These photos were taken three days after the storm struck.**

## **Troop D Investigative Services Division**

During 2005, the Troop D Investigative Services Division initiated 345 new cases that resulted in the arrest of 205 individuals. Investigations ranged from deaths, sexual assaults, child abuse, clandestine methamphetamine laboratories, possession of and distribution of controlled substances and numerous liquor law violations. There were also many other investigations involving violations of the criminal statutes of the State of Nebraska. Investigators also assisted allied law enforcement agencies with numerous investigations initiated by sheriff's and police departments across the region.

The Criminal Investigators initiated five death investigations ranging from very young infants to the discovery of deceased truck drivers along Interstate 80. Investigators also assisted the North Platte Police Department with several homicide investigations.

Criminal Investigators handled a large number of sexual assault investigations during the year, ranging from first degree assaults to statutory sexual contact. Also included was a large number of child abuse investigations involving sexual contact, physical abuse, and neglect issues.

In February, an investigation was conducted concerning an individual obtaining hundreds of thousands of dollars in farm equipment by fraudulent means.

In September, an investigation was conducted concerning a male individual being arrested for fraud involving tens of thousands of dollars in scams from fraudulent activities in several states from across the United States.

The Drug Investigators discovered/found/located seven clandestine methamphetamine labs in 2005. Labs were located in both residences and vehicles. Search warrants were obtained and executed, and those responsible have been prosecuted.

Investigations involving firearms associated with the distribution of controlled substances and in the possession of convicted felons were also investigated.



Drug Investigators continued to work with a task force involving local and federal officers. The emphasis of the task force deals with the manufacture and distribution of methamphetamine in the North Platte area. There were 18 prosecution packets prepared for the United States Attorney's Office which resulted in indictments and arrests.

The Internal Revenue Service and the United States Department of Agriculture was assisted by Drug Investigators to execute a search warrant to seize evidence involving the use of controlled substances.

The Liquor Investigation Unit was involved in a major operation involving violations of liquor statutes, rules and regulations was undertaken with enforcement activities at the Comstock Windmill Festival and Comstock Rock. Investigators worked in a plain clothes status to identify and arrest minors in possession of alcohol and adults procuring alcohol for minors. Arrests were also made in reference to drug violations and assaults.

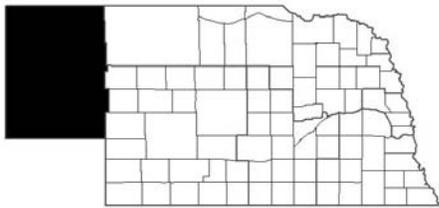
A major investigation was also conducted across the southern tier counties in Troop D regarding the possession of video gambling devices. On August 7, search warrants were executed where 35 video gambling devices and approximately \$3,000 in United States currency were seized. The investigation resulted in the arrest of 12 individuals for possession of the video gambling devices.



**There were 35 video gambling machines seized during an investigation.**

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## Troop E



**Population:** 89,004  
**Total Square Miles:** 14,138  
**Strength:**  
Patrol Division 37  
Carrier Enforcement 4  
Investigative Services 11



**Troop E Headquarters, Scottsbluff**

Troop E is composed of the 11 counties in the “panhandle” region of the state with troop area headquarters in Scottsbluff. This area includes numerous historical sites including Fort Robinson, Chimney Rock, Oregon Trail ruts, and the Mud Springs Pony Express Stagecoach and Telegraph Station. The Chadron National Forest, the Oglala National Grasslands, various wildlife refuges, and dozens of small lakes also make this area unique. The Pine Ridge Indian Reservation continues into this area from South Dakota at the state’s northern border.

## **Troop E Patrol Division**

### **Bank Robberies-**

During 2005 there were three bank robberies that occurred in Troop E. A man with a gun walked into a bank in Lodgepole and robbed the teller. The individual who robbed the bank was later caught in New York.

Another man walked into a bank in Chadron and after robbing the teller, walked away from the bank with the stolen money. The Nebraska State Patrol and Chadron Police Department initiated an investigation where the subject was later found in California.

Two men entered the Sidney Federal Savings and Loan and advised the bank tellers they had a gun and ordered all the money be placed into bags. The tellers complied with the men's request and the men left on foot from the bank. Law enforcement, including Nebraska State Patrol troopers, located and arrested the suspected robbers at a local motel without incident.

### **A Very Long Pursuit-**

On August 5, troopers were called to investigate a reported theft of services from a convenience store in Crawford. While enroute to the convenience store, troopers met the suspected vehicle on Highway 20 driving at a high rate of speed. The suspects did not stop and a pursuit was initiated. The pursuit continued along Highways 20 and 385 at a high rate of speed while the suspects threw large items at the troopers from their vehicle. Several agencies and Nebraska State Patrol Airwing were utilized. Attempts were made to spike the vehicle but the pickup evaded the spikes. The pursuit ended near Oshkosh where three male suspects were taken into custody. It was later discovered that the three suspects had earlier robbed an Alco store in Wyoming.

### **Clowning Around-**

On December 12, Trooper Robby Jackson conducted a traffic stop and became suspicious of the driver and passenger of the vehicle. He asked for and received permission to search the vehicle. Trooper Jackson located ten pounds of marijuana in the vehicle. The driver was later identified as a member of the Professional Rodeo Clowns Association.



**10 pounds of marijuana were seized from the rodeo clown's vehicle.**

## **Troop E Investigative Services Division**

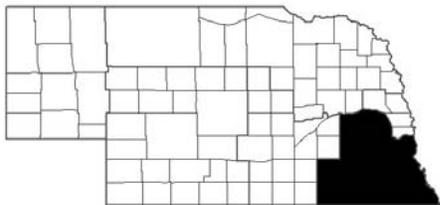
Troop E ISO worked a total of 204 cases and assisted other panhandle agencies on 149 cases, including 33 autopsies. These cases included 94 criminal cases ranging from thefts, sexual assaults, child sexual abuse to death investigations and homicides, 71 drug cases and 29 alcohol or tobacco related cases. All divisions assisted the Sexual Offense Registry (SOR) with 10 investigations into sex offenders failing to register as required by State Statute.

On Tuesday, December 21, 2004, a body was located in the back seat of a burned vehicle in a building in rural Scotts Bluff County. Troop E investigators from all divisions assisted the Scotts Bluff County Sheriff's Office and Scotts Bluff County Attorney with this investigation. From January through November 2005, investigators conducted numerous interviews with the alleged suspect and witnesses. Nebraska State Patrol (NSP) investigators also assisted the Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) and Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) with the arson crime scene work. Investigators were instrumental in locating the key witness. The FBI arrested this person in North Carolina and brought her back to face charges and testify against her boyfriend. The work by these and other investigators culminated in the suspect being found guilty of First Degree Murder.

In November of 2005, investigators from all three divisions assisted the United States Department of Agriculture Office of the Inspector General with the execution of eight search warrants in the counties of Garden, Cheyenne, Lincoln and Scotts Bluff. These warrants were issued regarding individuals fraudulently obtaining millions of dollars of money from farm subsidy programs.

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## Troop H



**Population:** 428,531  
**Total Square Miles:** 8,802  
**Strength:**  
Patrol Division           60  
Carrier Enforcement:   39  
Investigative Services   18



**Troop H Headquarters, Lincoln**

The Headquarters Troop Area is comprised of the 15 southeastern counties in Nebraska bordered by Kansas, Iowa, Missouri, and the Platte River. Troop headquarters is in Lincoln, and is also the home of the State Capitol, Nebraska State Fair and the University of Nebraska Cornhusker football team. The popularity of these events was evident this last fall when troopers worked six sold-out home football games and the State Fair.

### Troop H Patrol Division

During 2005, the Patrol Division in Headquarters Troop Area handled a variety of calls for service on a daily basis. Troopers were active in the effort of accident reduction by being highly visible and issuing enforcement action for those who violated the law.

The Headquarters Patrol Division took some form of enforcement action on 61,984 vehicles and their drivers. Of these, there were 25,081 drivers stopped for a speed violation, 557 alcohol-related arrests that included 292 drivers arrested for Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) and 184 minors cited for Minor in Possession (MIP) of alcohol.

Uniform Crime Index (UCI) cases were generated for many offenses that involved a misdemeanor or a felony. These cases were reported to the federal government to assist them in preparing crime reports for the nation. In 2005, the Headquarters Patrol Division

generated a total of 547 UCI cases through proactive and reactive approaches. There were 233 drug-related cases that included 399 individual drug charges.

## **Air Wing**

During 2005, the Air Wing assisted in many individual rescues. These included flood water victims, missing children and a missing hunter. The hunter was caught in a snow storm in western Nebraska and had not been heard from for two days. Air Wing was called in to assist in a search for the man. The hunter's truck and Global Positioning System (GPS) were located, and approximately two miles away, a deer with the hunters tag was located. The pilots coordinated rescue units to the missing hunter where he was later transferred to a local hospital for recovery.

The Air Wing moved forward in 2005 with technology to better assist law enforcement. A downlink system was installed in an airplane and another will be installed in the helicopter in early 2006. This technology allows Air Wing to download aerial photos to a handheld receiver utilized by officers on the ground. The system also has a fixed receiver in the Mobile Command Post which will receive the signal from 20 miles away. The handhelds themselves receive the signal from approximately two to five miles away. The downlink system has been used for Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) and Investigative Services missions.



**This is an example of a video downlink from an airplane to the ground.**

Nebraska State Patrol aircraft are used for official state business and the completion of public safety and public welfare missions. In 2005, the Air Wing performed the following functions:

## Air Wing Division Activities

### Flight Hours

|                           |        |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Transportation            | 256    |
| Criminal/Drug Enforcement | 120 .5 |
| Traffic Enforcement       | 455 .5 |
| Searching                 | 197    |

### Aerial Enforcement Contacts

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Summons                  | 1,936 |
| Violations               | 933   |
| Warnings                 | 2,503 |
| Assisting Other Agencies | 5,372 |

## 2005 Statewide Carrier Enforcement Division Activities

The Carrier Enforcement Division's primary function is the enforcement of state and federal laws as they relate to motor carriers. In 2005, troopers assigned to the Carrier Enforcement Division performed the following functions.

### Scale Operations

|                                  |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Trucks weighed – portable scales | 21,448    |
| Citations issued                 | 15,113    |
| Trucks weighed – permanent       | 1,196,977 |
| Citations issued                 | 14,308    |
| Total trucks weighed             | 1,218,425 |
| Total citations issued           | 29,421    |
| Violation cards issued           | 9,733     |
| Warnings issued                  | 7,639     |
| Field Interview contacts         | 228       |
| Intelligence report contacts     | 4         |
| Total non-citation contacts      | 7,871     |
| Total Scale Operations Contacts  | 37,292    |

## MCSAP Activity

### Inspections performed

|                                     |        |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| Hazardous materials                 | 1,092  |
| Level 1 inspections                 | 7,312  |
| Level 2 inspections                 | 3,465  |
| Level 3 inspections                 | 17,006 |
| Level 4 inspections                 | 30     |
| Level 5 inspections                 | 217    |
| CVE traffic enforcement inspections | 2,899  |
| Total inspections performed         | 28,030 |
| Drivers placed out of service       | 3,265  |
| Vehicles placed out of service      | 4,075  |

### Drug Interdiction Investigations

|                       |              |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| New investigations    | 79           |
| Value of drugs seized | \$620,517.20 |

### Carrier Enforcement Division Highlights



Carrier Enforcement Headquarters, Lincoln

During 2005, the Carrier Enforcement Division continued its Informational Outreach Program by holding Town Hall meetings in 13 communities across the state. These meetings provided specific information about Nebraska's requirements for commercial vehicles to 513 attendees. Including the Town Hall meetings, Carrier Enforcement conducted 95 educational programs statewide for the transportation industry and the Nebraska Trucking Association with more than 8,922 people in attendance.

Metropolitan Aggressive Preventive Selectives (MAPS) were conducted by Carrier Enforcement in the larger communities across the state. The MAPS team participated in 23 selectives and performed 1,055 surprise vehicle inspections on commercial vehicles that normally do not travel outside of the cities or pass through the weigh stations. These inspections resulted in 467 vehicle out-of-service violations for an out-of-service rate of

44%. Fines assessed for the violations discovered during these MAPS selectives totaled \$96,725.

In association with the Nebraska Trucking Association's Safety Council, the Carrier Enforcement Division continued its "Driver of the Month" awards for commercial drivers. At each monthly meeting of the Safety Council, the Carrier Enforcement Division presented commemorative plaques on the behalf of the Nebraska State Patrol to selected professional drivers in recognition of their accident-free safe driving accomplishments.

The Carrier Enforcement Division has six Weigh-In-Motion systems installed at three of our permanent scale locations; Waverly I-80, North Platte I-80, and the Nebraska City Highway 2 Expressway scales. This new technology allowed Carrier Enforcement to pre-screen 4,740,096 trucks for possible weight violations during 2005.

The development of the Electronic Citation system continued during 2005. Carrier Enforcement currently has E-Citation capability at the Waverly, North Platte, Nebraska City, Fremont and Hebron scales. The system has also been deployed in all the portable scale units in District 2. These areas are now electronically submitting their citation data to the Patrol's Summons, Violation and Warning (SVW) database in Lincoln. Future development of the system will eventually allow the citation data to also be submitted electronically to the courts.

## **2005 Statewide Investigative Services Division Activities**

### **Alcohol/Tobacco Enforcement**

The Alcohol/Tobacco Enforcement Unit of the Nebraska State Patrol (NSP) has served as the primary enforcement arm for the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission since 1986. The main responsibility is to enforce all provisions of the Nebraska Liquor Control Act which is designed to regulate, license or prohibit the manufacture, distribution, sale, and traffic of alcoholic liquor. Background investigations are conducted on liquor license applicants to ensure that all the statutory requirements for holding a liquor license in Nebraska are met. Enforcement personnel may inspect any premises where alcoholic liquor is manufactured, distributed or sold. NSP also works closely with local law enforcement agencies to provide reports of violations. In addition to the alcohol enforcement, the officers actively enforce the tobacco laws of the state. Both alcohol and tobacco enforcement involves the use of cooperating underage individuals to perform compliance checks. These checks require the underage individuals to be monitored while attempting to purchase alcohol or tobacco.

The NSP conducted compliance checks in cooperation with Health and Human Services. In 2005, the number of businesses that sold tobacco to minors decreased by 16% from

2004. Of the businesses checked in 2005, 10.7% sold tobacco to minors. This statistic falls within the goal set by the federal government for the sales of tobacco to minors in Nebraska. A detailed report on tobacco compliance checks may be found on the Health and Human Services website at <http://www.hhs.state.ne.us/sua/synar.htm>.

Approximately 1,500 alcohol compliance checks were conducted by NSP officers in cooperation with local law enforcement agencies and local alcohol access coalitions. The state average for businesses that sold alcohol to minors was 11%. Locations whose employees requested identification from the underage cooperating individuals, had a compliance rate of more than 98%.

Investigators assigned to the Alcohol/Tobacco Enforcement Unit also conducted more than 66 training programs to more than 2,200 individuals regarding alcohol and tobacco laws. Liquor license applications reviewed or investigated in 2005 totaled 470, with 172 manager applications and 87 additions or changes to license premises. There were 747 retail premise inspections completed that resulted in 322 warnings issued for violations.

The Unit also worked alcohol selective enforcements activities at outdoor concert events, rodeos, local celebrations and festivals.

## **Auto Fraud**

The Auto Fraud Unit investigated 61 new cases during 2005. These cases involved odometer fraud, title fraud, forgery, altering vehicle identification numbers, vehicle and equipment thefts, and vehicle dealer violations that resulted in the arrest of 16 individuals. The Unit continued to see an increase in the area of fraudulent internet transactions and continues to work with other state agencies, along with federal agencies, to develop new techniques in combating these crimes. One of the major cases investigated by the Unit involved the theft of a semi trailer, construction equipment and lawn mowers, totaling \$54,000. This case involved several suspects from Nebraska and Illinois.

During 2005, Unit personnel processed 897 out of state inspection certificates that included certificates from Nebraska citizens and registered importers. This was a dramatic decrease in inspections from 2004 when the Division processed 4,980 certificates. The decrease was a result in the lack of importer transactions due to the decrease in the Canadian exchange rate.

The Unit continued to be the primary investigative resource for the local police departments and sheriff offices across the state. The Unit worked closely with the special investigative units of several major insurance companies, interstate law enforcement and federal agencies. The Auto Fraud Unit conducted nine vehicle inspection training sessions across the state in 2005 with 195 attendees.

## **Behavioral Analysis Unit Threat Assessment**

The Behavioral Analysis Unit saw an increase in the submission of threat assessment cases. This increase is due to heightened concern and better reporting, post September 11, 2001, of concerning cases and individuals which merit scrutiny. Due to this greater number of cases, the Behavior Analyst worked with the Executive Protection Division to provide training for Capitol Security and Executive Protection staff in the field of international and domestic threat assessment. This alliance and efforts of several divisions will provide a unified effort in the fight against terrorism and government disruption.

### **Photo Lab**

The Behavioral Analysis Unit coordinates the operations of the Photo Lab. The Photo Lab has been looking to the future and is preparing for increased digital photography work. The Lab has already seen an increase in digital photography work and a decrease of 35mm (negatives) photography. This trend is expected to continue as technology moves toward digital photography and 35mm cameras are replaced with digital cameras.

### **Crime Analysis**

The Behavioral Analysis Staff Assistant was reclassification to a Crime Analyst and invited to attend violent crime analysis training with the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (ViCAP). Through information received from this training session, an upgrade began for the ViCAP Program that will allow more case information to be compiled. In the near future, we anticipate having the ViCAP database accessible through the World Wide Web. This will allow all cases entered from around the country to be searched, analyzed and compared in real time. A new version of the Violent Crime Linkage Analysis System (ViCLAS) is expected and will provide improved program functionality.

The ViCLAS and ViCAP case report forms have been made available electronically to all troop area lieutenants for reporting violent crimes to be entered into the databases. Both databases have grown approximately 25% and include valuable offender information. This will expand our ability to search for linked incidents and possible suspects.

## **Cold Case/Major Case Unit**

In 2005, the Cold Case Unit was rewarded a grant from the National Institute of Justice. The \$226,098 grant, entitled "Solving Cold Cases with DNA", provides for agency overtime, consultant fees and DNA testing costs over a two year period. The goals of the grant are to increase the number of cold cases analyzed for DNA evidence from 0 to 30 with 80% producing a DNA profile and to solve seven violent crime cold cases. The majority of the grant will be used for the testing of DNA evidence at the University of Nebraska/Human Identification Laboratory in Omaha. With the advancement in DNA

testing, evidence that was previously deemed unsuitable is now tested using new techniques.

Alicia Clements was hired to serve as the consultant for the grant. Her responsibility is to review the original case files, determine what evidence is available and present the cases for consideration for further investigation and testing to the DNA/Cold Case Advisory Board. This board includes Sergeant Robert Frank and Carmella Strong of the Nebraska State Patrol Crime Lab, and a representative from the Nebraska Attorney General's Office or the respective County Attorney's Office. In addition, a training program entitled "Using DNA to Solve Cold Cases" is being developed that includes information on how current DNA technology can be used to solve cold cases, evidence handling and legal issues involved in cold cases.

Currently, the Unit is already testing five Nebraska State Patrol unsolved homicides ranging from 1969 to 1999. In the future, this service will also be offered to local enforcement agencies.

## **Crime Laboratory**

### **North Platte:**

- In January, 2005, the Satellite Crime Lab moved to a new location and merged with the Satellite Latent Fingerprint Lab.
- During 2005, the Satellite Crime Lab acquired a new analyst, Amber Peterson. Amber completed her training and was analyzing cases by the end of September.

### **Lincoln- Physical Sciences:**

- Kent Weber was hired as a second firearm's examiner. Kent was accepted into the ATF's National Firearm's Examiner Academy (NFEA) and began an intensive one-year firearms training program. The completion of the NFEA will be a major step towards completion of his two year apprenticeship program.
- A full time Staff Assistant II position was added to the lab. Connie Bohaty was hired to work as a National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN) technician.
- The Latent Print Lab was moved to the Crime Lab in January 2005. The Latent Print Section is now integrated both administratively and physically into the Crime Lab System at Lincoln and North Platte.

### **Biology Section:**

- Jason Linder laterally transferred from the North Platte Satellite Laboratory into the Biology section in Lincoln. Jason recently completed his Serology training

and mock court and has started to perform serological screening on casework evidence.

- In 2005, funding was released for two grants to help build our capacity and reduce our backlog and turn-around time. The DNA Capacity Enhancement grant provides funding for the purchase of new instrumentation and the validation of new procedures. The Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction grant provided funding for outsourcing of cases and for overtime to be used for casework. The analysts have devoted several hours of overtime and several cases have been outsourced to the University of Nebraska Medical Center Human DNA Identification Laboratory with this grant.

## **Criminal Identification Division (CID)**

Upgrading the State Patrol Criminal History (PCH) Database has been the focus of 2005 technology efforts. The transition of PCH from the mainframe to a sequel environment platform provides for expanded functionality for years to come. Linking criminal justice agencies and real time events with the click of a mouse is a mere first step in immediate access to criminal information for Nebraska law enforcement

The Nebraska Legislature passed LB 111, effective September 4, 2005, which created the Nebraska Missing Persons Information Clearinghouse. The Nebraska State Patrol will serve as a central repository for information on missing persons to include missing children. The information is collected and disseminated to assist law enforcement agencies, public and private organizations and the citizens of Nebraska in locating missing persons. The Nebraska Missing Persons Information Clearinghouse can be reached at 402-479-4986 in the Lincoln Metro area or toll free 1-877-441 LOST (1-877-441-5678) outside the Lincoln metro area.

During 2005, CID processed 4,053 missing persons cases. There were 681 persons recovered while 3,040 of the total cases cancelled.

## **Criminal Records and Identification**

|  | <b>Totals</b> |
|--|---------------|
| Adult assigned State Identification Numbers            | 291,822       |
| Criminal records processed by AFIS                     | 62,840        |
| Criminal history background requests processed:        |               |
| Name based State of Nebraska background checks         | 63,911        |
| Fingerprint based applicant national background checks | 15,790        |

|                                    |       |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| Applicants:                        |       |
| Bar Commission                     | 279   |
| Civil                              | 7     |
| Controlled Substance-Prescriptions | 185   |
| Disability                         | 2,970 |
| Explosives                         | 36    |
| Fire Fighters                      | 18    |
| Gaming                             | 196   |
| Grain Dealership                   | 29    |
| Housing                            | 281   |
| Liquor                             | 1,286 |
| Private Investigators              | 30    |
| Racing                             | 383   |
| Real Estate                        | 1,303 |
| Teachers                           | 1,093 |
| Foster Parents                     | 4,135 |
| Adoption                           | 1,259 |

Firearms Criminal History Records Checks:

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| NICS submissions directly to FBI generated in Nebraska | 48,174 |
| Nebraska law enforcement generated NCIS submissions    | 17,793 |
| State Patrol generated NCIS submissions                | 625    |
| Applications approved                                  | 500    |
| Applications denied                                    | 125    |

### **Intelligence/Crime Analysis Division-I/CAD**

The Intelligence/Crime Analysis Division (I/CAD) continued in 2005 to facilitate, collect, evaluate, and disseminate intelligence information to combat crimes committed in Nebraska and across the country. I/CAD initiated new projects to be used in conjunction with existing resources in order to provide strategic and tactical intelligence information to law enforcement officials statewide.

The following is a summary of I/CAD activity for 2005.

## DIVISIONS

712 cases

| TYPES                  | Drug | Criminal | Alcohol/Tob.<br>(A/T) | Auto<br>Fraud<br>(A/F) | Traffic | Carrier |
|------------------------|------|----------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------|---------|
| Attorney General       | 2    | 22       | 0                     | 0                      | 0       | 0       |
| Private Investigations | 2    | 27       | 3                     | 0                      | 2       | 0       |
| Case Investigations    | 582  | 964      | 208                   | 48                     | 1961    | 128     |
| Investigative Services | 302  | 583      | 113                   | 28                     | 1104    | 159     |
| Liquor Applications    | 1    | 0        | 362                   | 0                      | 0       | 0       |
| Liquor Administration  | 0    | 0        | 68                    | 0                      | 3       | 0       |
| Polygraphs             | 28   | 216      | 0                     | 0                      | 0       | 1       |

The Crime Analysts received training on the initial and advanced i2 Analyst Notebook during 2005. This training assisted staff who worked with an information system technical support analyst to get the current Master Name Index (MNI) database off Lotus Notes and into i2 database. With this grant, we purchased the software and licenses for I/CAD staff to utilize the i2 database. This will also enhance the ability of the analysts to utilize the i2 Analyst Notebook.

During 2005, I/CAD continued to be an integral part of the Nebraska Law Enforcement Intelligence Network (NeLEIN) in serving as the Central Coordinating Agency (CCA) of submitted intelligence information from its members. A member of I/CAD staff facilitates as secretary on the Executive Board along with several investigators that serve as coordinator, regional coordinators, training, and constitution bylaw chairs. In 2005, the board met on a quarterly basis. NeLEIN facilitated a two-week training school in the intelligence gathering and conducted a three-day fall training conference. Since the inception of NeLEIN, a total of 501 officers across the State of Nebraska, representing all law enforcement agencies, have been trained with 356 remaining in active status. Of these active officers, 101 are Nebraska State Patrol (NSP) officers.

Friends, relatives, fellow NSP and state employees joined the staff of I/CAD and CID in an open house at a new facility in downtown Lincoln at 233 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street. Punch, cookies, tours, and a slide presentation were some of the various activities. Two employees were also recognized for their years of service with NSP. Jan Auten completed her 30 years in June, and Sheri King completed her 25 years in September.

## Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC)

As a result of the Online Enticement Statute passed by the Legislature in 2004, investigators successfully tried and convicted online enticement cases in Douglas and Sarpy Counties during 2005.

In February, the Internet Crimes Against Children Unit (ICAC) sponsored the Protecting Children Online for Prosecutors course in Omaha. This class provided legal training for 40 prosecutors from Nebraska and Iowa.

The Metro Area Online Working Group, created by ICAC, is comprised of officers from Douglas, Cass and Sarpy County Sheriff’s Offices, Bellevue, LaVista and Papillion Police Departments and the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation. ICAC personnel and attorneys from the Attorney General’s Office provided two days of online and legal training for officers. The class provided initial training to officers to conduct online investigations. During the class, a case was generated and a suspect was arrested for online enticement. In addition, ICAC provided six undercover laptops to the working group for online investigations.

In a combined effort, ICAC assisted the Nebraska and New York Attorney General’s Offices in a successful compromise with Yahoo. The effort was to eliminate user created chat rooms and to better monitor their systems to assist law enforcement in locating online predators. As a result, Yahoo will be providing a law enforcement training course in Nebraska in the fall of 2006.

The ICAC/Computer Crimes Laboratory was moved from the State Crime Lab to State Headquarters in November, 2005. The move provided the lab with additional space and better working conditions for the processing of digital evidence.

## **Administrative Services Division**

### **Communication Division**

The Communications Division is responsible for radio, telephone, teletype, and automated data communications statewide.

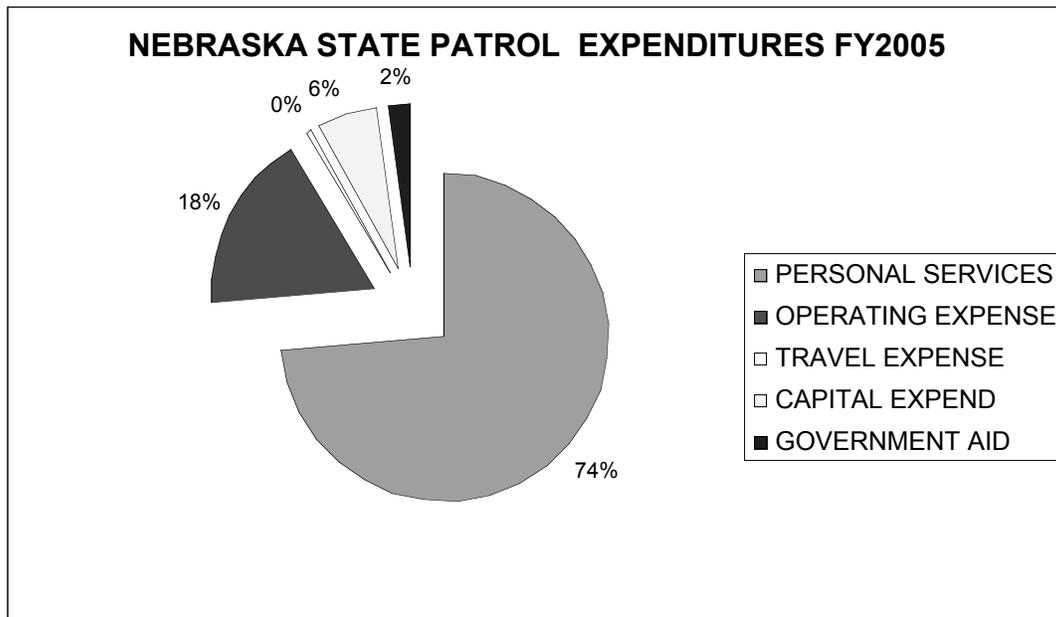
| <b>Activity</b>  | <b>Totals</b> |
|--|---------------|
| Total teletype messages for all Nebraska law enforcement agencies              | 60,749,523    |
| Average teletype messages for a day from all Nebraska law enforcement agencies | 166,437       |
| <br><b>NSP troop areas:</b>  |               |
| Total Messages sent  | 21,133,012    |
| Total Messages received  | 39,616,511    |
| NSP Messages sent  | 587,661       |
| NSP Messages received  | 2,345,156     |
| Number of positive identifications (Hits) – NCIC                               | 1,424         |
| Number of positive identifications (Hits) – NCIS                               | 1,509         |
| Incident Reports received  | 40,614        |
| Number of Emergency Highway Help calls received                                | 8,720         |

## Executive Protection/State Capitol Security Division

The Executive Protection/State Capitol Security Division continued the integration of Capitol Security into the State Patrol for the enhancement of security capabilities and proficiency. Capitol Security implemented a Communication Specialist certification program, conducted training on Nebraska State Patrol's investigative and intelligence reports, and received training on threat assessment. Additionally, personnel attended Threat Assessment training in Arlington, VA, a leadership course, and Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) training. The State Capitol Security's computer network was merged with the Nebraska State Patrol's computer network and it is planned to incorporate Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs) for parking enforcement. Standard Operating Procedures were revised, finalized and approved for implementation.

The Executive Protection Detail was involved in extensive travel throughout the State of Nebraska, some travel within the United States and limited international travel providing security for the Governor. Additionally, the Executive Protection Detail was busy with the duties of providing security the Legislature, Supreme Court and Court of Appeals. Threat assessments and threat management programs were utilized extensively to enhance the security of state officials, personnel and property. Security Awareness seminars were conducted with State Capitol occupants. Executive Protection Detail personnel attended a Dignitary Protection course and participated in the National Governor's Security Association's (NGSA) training committee.

## Finance and Accounting



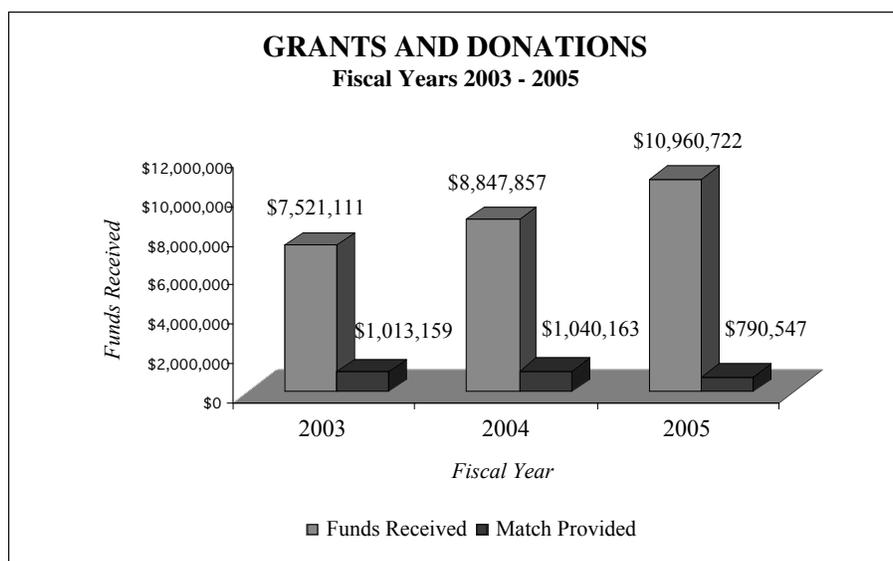
## Grants

During fiscal year 2005, the Nebraska State Patrol received more than \$10 million in grants - an all-time high. For each \$1 paid in matching funds, the agency received \$13.86 in grants and donations. Eighty-four grant projects funded 73.6 full-time positions during the fiscal year. The majority of grant projects focused on

- homeland security – with an emphasis on interoperable communications,
- traffic and commercial motor vehicle safety,
- crime lab improvements – especially enhancement of DNA analysis capabilities, and
- methamphetamine-related crimes in the state.

Federal funds provided equipment, training and personnel in each of these areas.

A comparison of funds received in the past three years follows:



Significant cuts in Congressional funding are forcing the Nebraska State Patrol to examine operations to ensure enforcement efforts remain strong, even with reduced financial support. The Grants Division assists federal, state and local officials in monitoring issues and identifying alternate approaches to funding.

## Homeland Security

The State of Nebraska has been active in homeland security issues since 1999. The Governor's Homeland Security Policy Group was formed to oversee the program with the Lieutenant Governor serving as the chairperson. Operating under the Policy Group are the State Planning, Exercising and Training Teams. Each team has a specific purpose to better the state's response to terrorism. The Nebraska State Patrol actively participates on each of these teams. A close working relationship has developed between state, local, county and federal agencies. All agencies involved in homeland security and natural

emergency response in Nebraska meet, train and exercise together on a regular basis creating open lines of communication.

During any emergency or event, the Nebraska State Patrol has the primary responsibility for the protection of life and property. Those duties include but are not limited to coordinating requests for law enforcement assistance, assessing law enforcement and security requirements, coordinating resources, assisting in developing strategies, tracking resources and providing support for transportation issues. The Nebraska State Patrol is prepared to respond to any event and coordinate with the necessary agencies. All emergency personnel have been trained in the federal National Incident Management System (NIMS).

A statewide functional exercise was held in November, 2005, with the Health and Human Services System (HHSS) as the lead agency. The exercise consisted of a terrorist deployment of a biological agent resulting in the request, coordination and apportionment for the Strategic National Stockpile. In March, 2006, a statewide, full-scale exercise was held for the distribution of the stockpile. In both exercises, the Nebraska State Patrol provided security when requested, transportation of samples to be tested, transportation of medical equipment as needed and intelligence information. It was necessary to work closely with the US Marshall, FBI, National Guard, county sheriffs and police departments to coordinate the necessary security and sharing of intelligence.



**Lieutenant Judy Bailey works with Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) staff at the state emergency operations center (SEOC) during an exercise.**

## **Human Resources**

Human Resources is responsible for the administration of promotion and selection processes as well as agency compliance with Personnel Rules and Regulations, Labor Contracts, and Federal and State Employment Laws (FMLA, FLSA, USERRA).

Other responsibilities of Human Resources include administration of agency human resources policy, liaison with DAS regarding classification and compensation system,

sworn and civilian recruitment/selection, collective bargaining, and grievance administration. In addition, Human Resources staff serves as a resource to agency supervisors regarding performance appraisals and performance improvement plans.

## **2005 Highlights**

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Applications Processed - Sworn Candidates | 235 |
| Sworn Applicants Interviewed              | 117 |
| Sworn Candidates Hired                    | 35  |
| Sworn Candidates Graduated                | 28  |
| Civilian Applications Processed           | 912 |
| Civilians Hired                           | 31  |
| Vacancies Posted/Advertised               | 80  |
| Promotions                                | 23  |
| Transfers                                 | 70  |
| Resignations                              | 34  |
| Retirements                               | 19  |
| Classification Job Audits                 | 13  |
| New Positions Created                     | 10  |
| Grievances                                | 8   |

## **Intern Program**

The Nebraska State Patrol (NSP) has partnered with the University of Nebraska, Doane, Wesleyan, Chadron and Peru colleges for the last 15 years. Each year NSP hires an Intern Coordinator who solicits interested students from the various colleges and universities. The Intern Coordinator is a paid position and the student interns work for NSP in various capacities for credit hours. This program has worked out quite well over the years and resulted in at least a dozen or more interns joining the sworn ranks of NSP. For 2005/2006, 20 interns were placed in various NSP divisions. The interns volunteered a total of 243.6 hours which was more than what was required. The 20 interns received 2,851 credit hours from these sessions.

## **Information Technology**

The Nebraska State Patrol (NSP) Information Technology Division enjoyed continued success in 2005. In addition to ensuring a system wide up-time of 96.7%, the Division accomplished the following:

- Worked cooperatively with the NSP Patrol Division, NSP Carrier Enforcement Division and Nebraska Crime Commission for extended deployment of the Traffic Accident and Citation System (TraCs) pilot to all scale houses on Interstate 80. All citations written at the four major scales sites were written electronically.
- Initiated the Patrol Criminal History (PCH) Redesign and Relocation project that involved redesigning the current Nebraska criminal history application on internal

- NSP systems and migrated the application from its existing location with the State Division of Information Management Services onto the new system at NSP.
- Human Resources and Accounting Cash Fund systems were migrated off their legacy platforms and on to the NSP Intranet web portal.
  - A statewide Gang Intelligence Database was integrated into the Nebraska Law Enforcement Intelligence System (NeLEIS).
  - Numerous line consolidation projects were completed successfully. These consisted of network designs that consolidated disparate networks on single data lines resulting in cost savings for the state.
  - Deployment of a replacement fingerprint matching subsystem in the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) network.
  - Construction of a new data center at NSP Headquarters was completed and migration of the core NSP Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) and Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) systems was initiated.
  - Co-location of Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) system administrators and NSP Enterprise Network administrators in order to facilitate and foster communications.
  - Major upgrades to core systems on the NSP Enterprise Network included a centrally managed Anti-Virus solution, Operating System and Application deployment, patching and management system, Internet Usage Monitoring and remote asset auditing.
  - Deployment of a hardware data cloning system allowing rapid deployment of new PC and server hardware.
  - Deployment of a new Internal Affairs case management system.
  - In addition, the Division deployed:
    - ❖ 54 new laptops
    - ❖ 24 new PC's
    - ❖ 59 replacement PC's
    - ❖ 2 new servers
    - ❖ 3 replacement servers
    - ❖ 13 new printers
    - ❖ 8 replacement printers
    - ❖ 2 new projectors
    - ❖ 3 new scanners
    - ❖ 1 replacement scanner
    - ❖ 3 new broadband routers
    - ❖ 9 new switches

## **Internal Affairs**

The Internal Affairs Division is responsible for ensuring the agency and its employees maintain the professional standards the citizens of this state have come to expect from the Nebraska State Patrol. The primary purpose of the Internal Affairs Division is to investigate allegations of employee misconduct. These allegations can be from citizens complaints received from outside the agency or from internal sources. It is also

responsible for reviewing all incidents of use of force, firearm discharges, and unit accidents involving our officers. The total of all incidents reviewed or handled by the Internal Affairs Division exceeded 480 incidents in 2005. This was a 2% increase over 2004.

Internal Affairs investigations are strictly confidential, limiting the amount of information that can be made available for a public report. During 2005, 67 internal affairs investigations were conducted. This is a 4% decline in the number of investigations conducted the previous year. The Internal Affairs Division continues ensure professionalism and integrity is a priority in this agency.

## **Early Intervention Program**

The Early Intervention Program seeks to identify employees who may require intervention to provide them a better opportunity to meet the agency's goals, its mission, and their own professional goals. The Early Intervention Program identifies performance and behavioral deficiencies as soon as they develop so that agency resources can be directed toward them if warranted.

The Early Intervention Program was established in 2004 marking 2005 as the first full year of the program. Since it is new there is little historical data to consider and to make a comparison. During 2005, the Early Intervention Committee was convened on two occasions. One for a sworn trooper and the other a civilian employee. The trooper has since resigned while the civilian employee is currently employed. In both cases, formal intervention by the committee was not recommended. Since the committee was convened on only two occasions, it was difficult to identify trends or specific areas of concern.

## **Legal**

An Attorney in the Legal Division is assigned as a Hearing Officer and conducted 171 hearings on sex offender classification appeals, carrier enforcement compliance audit appeals and explosive permit denial appeals. Approximately one third of those cases required the appearance of another attorney in the Division to represent the interests of the State of Nebraska. The Legal Division also handled 27 Tort or Miscellaneous claims against the State, settled 77 unit accident claims with insurance companies or individuals, and processed 114 workers' compensation claims. The Division took over the responsibility for handling subpoenas and public record requests and has assisted other members of the agency with major procurement issues. Other issues that are handled by this Division include contracts, leases, rules and regulations, arbitration hearings, coordination with the Attorney General's Office on civil suits involving the agency, employment issues, and training for officers in legal matters. During the year, the Legal Division also moved to different offices, a formidable task considering the quantity of books and files involved.

## **Policy and Accreditation**

The Policy/Accreditation Unit is responsible for policy and procedures development, revision and publishing, and ensuring the Agency remains in compliance with all applicable CALEA Accreditation Standards.

During 2005, personnel managed the revision of 120 policies, 87 forms and updated all 439 Accreditation Standards compliance files. Additional duties include publishing the 2005-2006 Policy and Procedures Manual and the Agency's 2004 Annual Report.

## **Public Information Office**

The Public Information Office is responsible for media relations, the Nebraska State Patrol (NSP) web site, the coordination of news conferences, speech writing, the NSP Informer (quarterly internal newsletter), the production of NSP training and safety videos, and public service announcements.

In 2005, Public Information Coordinator Deb Collins wrote and distributed 179 news releases, presented basic media training to recruits and advanced media training to first line supervisors, coordinated 10 news conferences, responded to hundreds of web mail messages, wrote some 100 speeches and talking points (for the Colonel, other command staff and the Governor), wrote several articles for various publications and spoke at a variety of conferences on media relations and law enforcement.

Audio/Video Analyst, AV Specialist Mike Meyer, assisted approximately 37 agencies, including NSP, on 96 cases for video or audio forensic analysis/clarification. Mike served as editor of the NSP Informer newsletter, and assisted with public information duties. He traveled back and forth to the NSP Training Academy in Grand Island as he worked with the 50<sup>th</sup> recruit class taping activities to be including in a graduation video. He also worked with both the Nebraska Broadcasters and the Nebraska Department of Roads on a series of public service announcements for both radio and television. Deb and Mike continued to collaborate on video projects. In 2005, they wrote, shot, produced and edited a safety video which pointed out the dangers of rollover accidents and encouraged Nebraskans to buckle-up.

## **Supply/Electronic Engineering**

The mission of the Supply Division is to provide and direct the purchasing, issuing, and inventory of equipment and supplies for the agency. The mission of the Electronic Engineering Division is to provide two-way radio communication and also repair of electronic and radio equipment for the agency.

- 121 new units issued.
- Provided surveillance equipment and installations for the Nebraska Law Enforcement Intelligent Network.
- Instructed at the annual NeLEIN training.
- Utilized the troop area repair day to provide 576 unit equipment repairs.
- Completed installation at the Elgin and Giltner radio base stations. Moved the Ogallala repeater from the Keith County tower to the Department of Roads site.
- Installed mobile data terminals in each troop area for testing.
- Assigned Supply/Electronic Engineering personnel to the mobile command post when it was utilized on assignment.
- Expanded the installation of quarter cages with weapon locks.
- Acquired and supplied all items for the 50<sup>th</sup> recruit training camp.
- Constructed mini mobile command posts for Troop B and D.
- Processed 2,694 purchase orders.
- Re-opened Troop D and E Radio Maintenance Shop.
- Restructured to include Purchasing Division.
- Started inventory on items donated to agency.
- Revamped system of general purpose and Investigative Service unit registrations.

## **2005 Awards**

### **Nebraska State Patrol Special Awards**

A total of 243 awards were presented to Nebraska State Patrol personnel and private citizens during fiscal year 2005.

#### **Meritorious Service Award**

This award is bestowed on an employee for an act of heroism calling for an outstanding degree of dedication and devotion above and beyond professional duty, and may include the protection of life or intervention under instances of personal risk.

**2005 recipients:**

Trooper James Bills

Trooper Kurt Frazey

Trooper Drew Ferguson

#### **Superintendent's Group Citation Award**

Presented to a group of employees for outstanding achievement which greatly exceeds the normal demands of the department and which was performed in a manner above and beyond professional duty. This award exemplifies our motto of "Pro Bono Publico".

**2005 recipients:**

Captain Jim Parish

Lieutenant Judy Bailey

Lieutenant Todd Kinghorn

Lieutenant Norbert Liebig

Lieutenant Russ Stanczyk

Lieutenant Mark Stokey

Sergeant Buck Boje

Sergeant Lonnie Connelly

Sergeant Andrew Duis

Sergeant Kevin Knorr

Sergeant Mark Larson

Sergeant Robert Veal

Investigative Sergeant Bryan Jones

Investigative Sergeant Tom Reinhart

Investigator Richard Aldag IV

Investigator Tim Arney

Investigator Brian Edins

Investigator Gary Eng

Investigator Shane Flynn

Investigator Todd Wiley

Trooper Andy Allen

Trooper J.L. Allen

Trooper Shane Belgum

Trooper Jeffrey Crymble

Trooper Drew Ferguson

Trooper Daniel Fiala

Trooper Kurt Frazey

Trooper Dain Hicks

Trooper Korey Johnson

Trooper Michael Korte

Trooper Greg Miller

Trooper Brad Moeller

Trooper Carolyn O'Brien

Trooper David Pohl

Trooper Benjamin Pomajzl

Trooper Jeffrey Roby

Trooper Daniel Thompson

Trooper Kevin Whetstine

Troop A Personnel

Communications Specialist Pamela Tierney

## Superintendent's Distinguished Service Award

This award recognizes personnel based on demonstrated excellence in work performance that may include actions in a particular event, or circumstance, that indicates a high degree of professional integrity, concern for the mission of the NSP, demonstrated diligence and perseverance, and/or accomplishment that reflects credit to an employee or group of employees and the NSP.

### 2005 recipients:

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Sergeant Timothy Earhart                 | Trooper Daniel Scarrow                   |
| Sergeant Jay Petersen                    | Trooper Ronald Tighe                     |
| Investigator Stephen Lewis (Sworn Death) | Communication Specialist Michaela Wachal |
| Investigator Thomas Meola                | Crime Analyst Sheri King                 |
| Investigator David Speigel               | Fingerprint Examiner Steve Burke         |
| Trooper Jeffrey Barnes                   | Forensic Lab Manager Vic Sterup          |
| Trooper Alan Eberle                      | Forensic Scientist Jaci Durr             |
| Trooper Eric Kauffman                    | Forensic Scientist Jason Linder          |
| Trooper Justin Petersen                  | Staff Assistant I Sarah Scheer           |

The following were also recognized with Distinguished Services Awards upon their retirement in 2005:

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Colonel Tom Nesbitt (Retired Sworn)        | Sergeant Allan Walton (Retired Sworn)                               |
| Lt. Colonel Robert Thorson (Retired Sworn) | Investigator Ronald Dick (Retired Sworn)                            |
| Major Don Blausey (Retired Sworn)          | Investigator Joseph D. Harris (Retired Sworn)                       |
| Captain Lloyd Hansen (Retired Sworn)       | Trooper Frank Bohac (Retired Sworn)                                 |
| Captain Mike Jones (Retired Sworn)         | Trooper Terry Fuehrer (Retired Sworn)                               |
| Captain Lloyd Peters (Retired Sworn)       | Trooper Darrell Miller (Retired Sworn)                              |
| Captain Fred Ruiz (Retired Sworn)          | Trooper Lynn Naber (Retired Sworn)                                  |
| Lieutenant Richard McKain (Retired Sworn)  | Barbara Wentink (Retired Civilian-Criminal Identification Division) |
| Sergeant Jimmy Burns (Retired Sworn)       |   |
| Sergeant Neil Miles (Retired Sworn)        |   |

## Life Saver Award

This award recognizes employees who initiate effort to preserve and protect life above and beyond their professional duty.

### 2005 recipients:

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Sergeant Kevin Ryan            | Officer Candidate Sean Wilson              |
| Trooper Brian Detlefsen        | Communications Specialist Craig Schoneberg |
| Trooper Christopher Richardson |  |
| Trooper Jeremy Strack          |  |

## **Seat Belt Survivor Award**

This award is used to recognize citizens who have survived an automobile accident in which they might have otherwise been seriously injured or killed had it not been for the proper use of their automobile safety restraints. The recipient shall not have been responsible for the cause of the accident in any way.

### **2005 recipients:**

|                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Audray Denny    | Mike McFall     |
| Brenna Denny    | Alex Morsett    |
| Jared Denny     | Vanessa Ruppert |
| Roxanne Denny   | Eugene Ward     |
| Jacob Ludermann |                 |

## **Public Service Award**

This award is presented to citizens who demonstrate significant accomplishments with regard to public service.

### **2005 recipients:**

|            |              |
|------------|--------------|
| Andy Doerr | Keith Strahm |
|------------|--------------|

## **Superintendent's Volunteer Recognition Award**

This award is used to recognize the valuable contributions of citizen volunteers to the overall mission of the Nebraska State Patrol.

### **2005 recipients:**

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| Robert Johnson | Robin Weddle |
|----------------|--------------|

## **2005 Manager of the Year**

|                            |             |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| Lieutenant Greg Vandenberg | Chris Price |
|----------------------------|-------------|

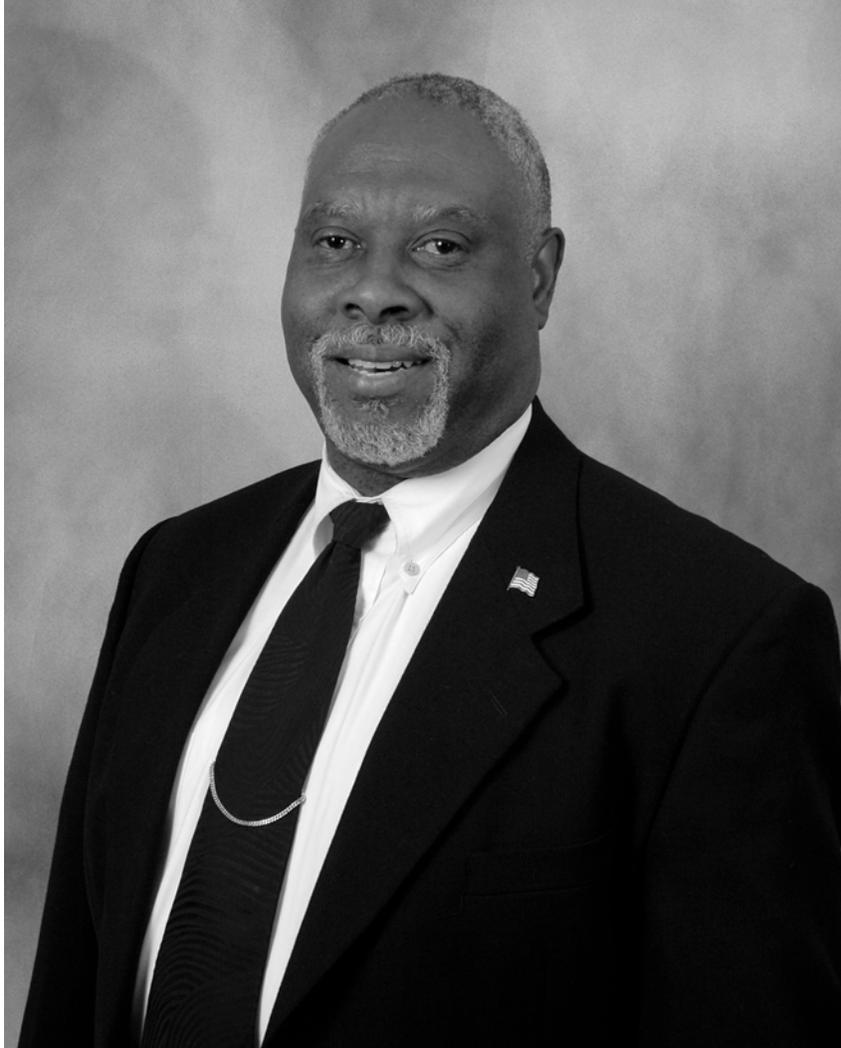
## **2005 Employee of the Year**

|                     |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Trooper Randy Bybee | Georgia Regas |
|---------------------|---------------|

## 2005 Promotions

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Kolb, Chris         | Lieutenant to Captain Patrol Division, Grand Island                      |
| Ayres, Steven       | Lieutenant to Captain Patrol Division, Lincoln                           |
| Caradori, Sean      | Trooper to Sergeant Patrol Division, Lincoln                             |
| Denton, Martin      | Trooper to Sergeant Patrol Division, Holdrege                            |
| Duis, Andrew        | Trooper to Sergeant Patrol Division, Columbus                            |
| Faiferlick, Jessica | Records Technician to Research Analyst I, Lincoln                        |
| Fisher, Darrell     | Captain to Lieutenant Colonel, Lincoln                                   |
| Jacobsen, Lee       | Trooper to Sergeant Patrol Division, Sidney                              |
| Kinghorn, Todd      | Sergeant to Lieutenant Internal Affairs, Lincoln                         |
| Konfrst, Brenda     | Sergeant to Lieutenant Patrol Division, Omaha                            |
| Kraai, Jon          | Sergeant to Lieutenant Patrol Division, Grand Island                     |
| Kugler, Kelly       | Security Guard to Communication Specialist, Lincoln                      |
| Loveless, Craig     | Investigator to Sergeant Training Academy, Grand Island                  |
| Meister Donald      | Investigator to Sergeant Investigative Services, Norfolk                 |
| Peters, Pam         | Personnel Assistant to Personnel Officer, Lincoln                        |
| Petersen, Jay       | Trooper to Sergeant Patrol Division, Lincoln                             |
| Price, Chris        | Admin II to Admin III CID/Intel, Lincoln                                 |
| Ringland, Tami      | Personnel Officer to Crime Analyst, Lincoln                              |
| Rutten, Scott       | Trooper to Sergeant Patrol Division, Norfolk                             |
| Sankey, David       | Captain to Major, Lincoln  |
| Schwarten, Thomas   | Lieutenant to Captain Patrol Division, Omaha                             |
| Shepherd, Shelly    | Communication Specialist Supervisor to Crime Analyst, Lincoln            |
| Staman, Tina        | Communication Specialist to Communication Specialist Supervisor, Lincoln |
| Stokey, Mark        | Sergeant to Lieutenant Police Service Dog Division, North Platte         |
| Tuma, Bryan         | Major to Colonel, Lincoln  |
| Weber, Kent         | Crime Analyst to Criminalist, Lincoln                                    |
| Wilczynski, Jeffery | Investigator to Sergeant Patrol Division, Grand Island                   |

## **In Memoriam**



**Investigator Stephen Lewis**

**May 17, 1949 – April 23, 2005**

Stephen Lewis (Lewie) joined the Nebraska State Patrol in April, 1977. Lewie worked in the Traffic and Drug Divisions and Sex Offender Registry. At one point in his career he was also a member of the Federal Task Force. Lewie spent his entire 28 years of service to the Nebraska State Patrol stationed in Omaha.

Lewie passed away unexpectedly on April 23, 2005 from a heart attack. He was 55 years old.