



Iowa State Patrol Division

Colonel Patrick J. Hoye



Colonel Patrick J. Hoye was appointed as the thirteenth Chief of the Iowa State Patrol by Commissioner Eugene T. Meyer of the Iowa Department of Public Safety on December 5, 2007.

Colonel Hoye joined the Iowa State Patrol after graduating from the 10th Department of Public Safety Academy Class. Colonel Hoye served in Cherokee for fourteen years as a Trooper. He was promoted to Sergeant and served in Mount Pleasant for three years before being promoted to District Commander in the Spencer. He received promotion to Captain in 2004 and served as the Assistant to the Field Operations until his promotion to Colonel.

Colonel Hoye's Strategic Goals

- **STRATEGIC GOAL I:** Reduce the number and severity of traffic collisions involving injury and death on Iowa Highways.
- **STRATEGIC GOAL II:** Recruit, develop and retain a quality, diverse workforce.
- **STRATEGIC GOAL III:** To aggressively pursue, apprehend and prosecute those who utilize Iowa highways for criminal activities.
- **STRATEGIC GOAL IV:** To maximize service to the public in need of aid or information and assist other public agencies when needed.
- **STRATEGIC GOAL V:** Enforce traffic laws and other applicable laws in a fair, impartial and courteous manner.

Iowa State Patrol Overview

As Iowa's traffic enforcement agency, the Iowa State Patrol is responsible for providing law enforcement services to rural areas of the state as well as traffic

enforcement and support for metropolitan areas around the state. Troopers patrol Iowa's highways and conduct traffic enforcement for both unincorporated areas and interstate highways. In addition, our personnel provide security and police services throughout the state for many special events including, fairs, festivals, and large sporting events such as the Iowa Speedway, University of Iowa and Iowa State football games.

In addition to the just mentioned, the Iowa State Patrol provides the following services to law enforcement agencies and governmental entities within the state:

- Executive protection services and legislative security
- Technical Collision and Reconstruction Investigation assistance
- Patrol Air Wing enforcement and services
- Vehicle Theft Unit assistance
- State Communications Operations
- Canine Unit support
- Tactical Response teams that include certified Weapons of Mass Destruction personnel
- Safety Education Officers
- Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Programs
- Criminal Interdiction Team

This report will provide you with an overview of many of these operations as well as several outstanding accomplishments that were achieved by members of the Iowa State Patrol during fiscal year 2008.

Iowa State Patrol Organization Structure

In order to accomplish the mission of the Iowa State Patrol and perform the organizational duties and responsibilities, the Division is comprised of two branches, Administrative Operations and Field Operations.

Administration Operations performs a variety of administrative and support services necessary to successfully operate the Division. Existing organizationally within the Administrative Operations are:

Technology— The Iowa State Patrol Technology personnel maintain more than 500 in car and desktop computers and software. During Fiscal Year 2008, installation of all in car computers was completed. Additionally, wireless air cards were



implemented into the system giving Iowa State Patrol personnel access to the Iowa Network 24 hours a day. This enables real time payroll and transmission of reports from patrol vehicles to our administrative offices immediately. (Photograph shows Radio console and computer in an Iowa State Patrol squad car.)

Safety Education Unit—The Iowa State Patrol has 14 troopers assigned to presenting safety programs to the public. The Safety Education Officers meet quarterly to plan events and to share new programs designed to inform and educate on various safety topics.

The Safety Education Officer's also take an active role in setting up informational booths at a number of community and state based events that typically draw large crowds. Safety Education Officers also provide traffic control for the annual RAGBRAI event, which draws more than 16,000 bicyclists from around the country.



Safety programs include:

- Defensive Driving
- Substance Abuse Prevention
- Internet Safety
- High School Drivers Education presentations
- Bullying
- Bicycle Safety
- School Bus Safety
- Stranger Danger
- Seatbelt and Child Restraint Seminars.

Communications—Iowa State Patrol Communications is a network of 6 communication centers and 28 repeater/tower sites throughout Iowa. These centers provide statewide mobile voice communication and dispatch to more than 1,000 state law enforcement officers. There are currently 51 Communication Specialists, 13 Communication Technicians, and 3 Communication Engineers facilitating

operations. During fiscal year 2008, the Iowa State Patrol Communication centers were upgraded with new communication consoles to meet the current and future needs of the Iowa State Patrol.

State Radio Dispatchers provide an important link to local law enforcement agencies, ensuring that the flow of information between all agencies is maintained day in and day out.

Fleet and Supply—Personnel assigned to fleet and supply are responsible for procurement and issuance of all equipment and vehicles utilized by the Iowa State Patrol Division. Major purchases during fiscal year 2008 included 136 rifles, new all season coats for troopers, a new contract with a uniform supply company, and the purchase of 164 new squad cars.



In addition, several other responsibilities are handled through Administrative Operations:



- Preparing, monitoring and accounting for the Department's annual budget.
- Conducting research into innovative law enforcement techniques and products.
- Coordinating the Department's CALEA accreditation and grant management programs.
- Overseeing and maintaining the Iowa State Patrol's vertical infrastructure which include office equipment, specialty vehicles, district facilities and communication centers with major upgrades occurring in fiscal year 2008 at the following sites:
 - ◆ Remote Communication Tower Sites received state-of-the-art repeater huts.
 - ◆ Major maintenance at the District 2 office in Osceola.
 - ◆ Expansion of the District 3 office in Council Bluffs.
 - ◆ Construction of a new District 8 office in Mason City.

Field Operations—is the largest branch of the Iowa State Patrol and is responsible for providing necessary enforcement programs and support services to the citizens of Iowa. In addition, it provides coordination of special events and response to disaster emergencies across the state.

The Iowa State Patrol Field Operation is comprised of 16 district offices regionally located in the state. In fiscal year 2008, there were 394 sworn officers, 60 civilian support personnel and 64 communication employees in the division.

Fiscal Year 2008 Enforcement Quick Facts

- Iowa State Troopers are responsible for providing enforcement coverage for over 112,000 miles of paved roadways in Iowa.
- Troopers had contact with over 1,100 motorists each day.
- 82,750 traffic citations were issued for speed violations.
- 1,879 intoxicated drivers were arrested, a 12% increase from fiscal year 2007.
- 21,920 seatbelt citations were issued, a 10% increase from fiscal year 2007.
- 24,994 motorists were provided with roadside assistance, a 9% increase from fiscal year 2007.
- Iowa has seen a 10% reduction in fatal collisions over fiscal year 2007.

As evidenced by the statistics above, Iowa State Troopers had an outstanding year of enforcement, surpassing 2007 levels of productivity in most major areas. Speed violations, seatbelt violations, and alcohol violations continue to be the primary focus of our enforcement officers. With the advent of electronic data collection on

accident causation, Iowa State Patrol resources can be more efficiently directed towards specific problem areas with the objective of preventing traffic collisions through enforcement. Photograph shows a trooper operating a LIDAR along Iowa interstate.



Vehicle Theft Unit—Troopers assigned to the Iowa State Patrol Vehicle Theft Unit conducted an undercover operation in Western Iowa that resulted in the recovery of approximately 1.4 million dollars worth of stolen property. Iowa State Patrol Trooper and the Federal Bureau of Investigation opened a storefront called “*Chicago Imports*” in Council Bluffs. The goal was to create a location where undercover law enforcement officers could survey and document the sale of stolen property, specifically vehicles.

The project dubbed “Operation Tow Truck” allowed officers to make 84 transactions, some of which included the sale and purchase of multiple items — 62 vehicles, 22 guns, 30 construction items, 6 motorcycles, 4 jet skis, 2 boats and various illegal drugs. The items had been reported stolen from Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota and Texas during incidents that spanned from March 2006 to December 2007.

Twenty-six (26) people were charged as a direct consequence of their interaction with *Chicago Imports* and the undercover officers who staffed the store. Federal charges levied against 18 people in both Nebraska and Iowa are for interstate transportation of stolen property, interstate transportation of a stolen motor vehicle, receipt or sale of a stolen motor vehicle, distribution of a controlled substance, possession of stolen property, felon in possession of a firearm and sale and possession of stolen firearms.

Trooper Tim Cowles, a 29-year veteran of the Iowa State Patrol and member of the Vehicle Theft Unit was selected as the American Society for Industrial Security (ASIS) “Peace Officer of the Year” for his extensive involvement in the undercover operation. In addition, the International Association of Chiefs of Police selected Trooper Cowles for the “Vehicle Theft Award of Merit” award in the state category for his extensive involvement in this program.

Iowa State Patrol Criminal Interdiction Team—Although criminal interdiction has traditionally been a part of the Iowa State Patrol’s daily operation, a Criminal

Interdiction Team comprised of Iowa State Troopers who have distinguished themselves as experts in this area was organized in early 2008. The focus of the team is detecting and intercepting criminal activity on Iowa's interstates. Members of this team have received specialized training to assist them in the detection of motorists who are involved in criminal activities. In addition, the Iowa State Patrol Canine Unit has been heavily involved with the teams operation and has proven to be a valuable asset in detecting illegal narcotics. The team has also worked closely with Federal and State Narcotics officials and has posted very impressive statistics since its inception.



700 pounds of Marijuana found hidden in a semi trailer (May 2008).

- \$2.1 million dollars worth of marijuana
- \$63,000 dollars worth of B.C. Bud
- \$444,000 dollars worth of methamphetamine
- \$6.2 million dollars worth of cocaine

Tactical Response Teams—The Iowa State Patrol maintains four Tactical Teams, regionally located. Members of the Tactical Units receive monthly-specialized training dealing with high risk and often unpredictable situations as they occur in Iowa communities. These situations can include the following:

- Armed barricade suspects

- Hostage situations
- High risk warrant service
- Clandestine Methamphetamine Labs
- Civil Disturbances
- Riot Control
- Dignitary Protection
- Searches for fugitives or lost individuals
- Weapons of mass destruction response

Iowa State Patrol Tactical Teams have taken a leadership role in providing training to all members of the Department of Public Safety and other interested law enforcement agencies pertaining to critical incident response to active shooter events.



Early in 2008, the Iowa State Patrol in cooperation with the other Divisions within the Iowa Department of Public Safety contacted each college and university in Iowa to offer our support and resources to assist their respective administrations with response plans designed to manage campus violence. The response and feedback received from College Administrators was very positive. Members of the Department continue to work with College Security Directors around the state to ensure we're prepared to manage these dangerous events.

Technical Collision Investigation Unit—of the Iowa State Patrol continues to hold a leadership role in the are of Collision Investigation. Although Iowa State Troopers account for only 6% of the total number of sworn peace officers in Iowa, the Iowa State Patrol investigated 38% of the fatal collisions that occurred in 2007.

Each member of the Investigation Unit has received certification as Technical Collision Investigators with 15 members of the unit holding advanced certification as Collision Reconstructionists.

NATURAL DISASTERS HIT IOWA HARD



The Iowa State Patrol has always taken pride in the fact that our personnel are available to respond in great numbers anywhere in Iowa and remain there to assist for prolonged periods during times of crisis. There have been numerous occasions throughout the Patrol's history where our personnel have been called upon to go above and beyond their normal duties in responding to critical events. The year 2008 will always be remembered as a year in

which several large-scale disasters occurred in the State of Iowa, each requiring a large contingency of Iowa State Troopers to respond.

On Memorial Day, 2008, Butler County and the Community of Parkersburg, Iowa was hit with a devastating F-5 Tornado that claimed the lives of seven individuals and injured seventy more. The Iowa State Patrol was on-site immediately and in the days that followed, partnered with local Emergency Management. The Patrol provided 24 hour security for the community from May 25 through June 5, 2008. Nearly 250 shifts



of duty and 578 hours of overtime were invested in the recovery process.

On June 10, 2008, widespread flooding occurred across northern portions of the State of Iowa. The State Emergency Operations Center in Des Moines was activated. Iowa State Troopers began to respond to numerous road closures, community evacuations, and other emergency response calls related to the wide spread flooding. All training and scheduled events in the Iowa State Patrol were cancelled so the Divisions full resources could be directed towards managing the flood crisis.

For the next two weeks, troopers from every corner of the state were called upon to

respond to communities that had been devastated by flood waters. Iowa State Patrol personnel once again maintained 24-hour security in many neighborhoods, protecting the property interests of those who had been evacuated from their communities and homes. Their assignment was a difficult one as tension ran high but the professionalism of members of the Patrol was critical in the recovery process.



On June 12, 2008, a tornado ripped through a Boy Scout Camp in Blencoe, Iowa, killing four young boy scouts and injuring forty-eight more. This incident caught worldwide attention as stunned Iowans mourned the loss of these scouts. Although this incident was on a much smaller scale than the flooding occurring throughout the state, the Iowa State Patrol and its resources were there to assist.



SUMMARY OF FISCAL YEAR 2008

The contents of this report reflect the on-going commitment of the Iowa State Patrol and its members to provide the highest standards of law enforcement capabilities to the citizens of Iowa.

- Iowa State Troopers patrolled an average of 35,927 miles of Iowa roadway each day in fiscal year 2008.
- Iowa State Patrol traffic enforcement programs continue to focus on targeting drivers who are responsible for violations that are the cause of traffic collisions and carnage on our roadways. Our troopers, on average, took traffic enforcement action every 3 minutes in an effort to keep our roadways safe.

- Our Criminal Interdiction Team and Patrol Officers, on average, were able to remove \$23,900 dollars worth of narcotics each day from Iowa roadways.

As we reflect on the challenges and successes of fiscal year 2008, we also move forward into the future with optimism and determination. The Iowa State Patrol will continue to strive for excellence as one of Iowa's top law enforcement agencies with the expressed goal of preserving the hard-earned trust and confidence of the citizens of this great state.