

Our mission is working together as ONE DPS to provide a safe and secure Utah.

Keith D. Squires  
Commissioner



Utah

# Department of Public Safety

## DPS in the News



Commissioner Squires and Utah's U.S. Attorney John Huber discussed Utah's heroin and prescription pain pill epidemic at a news conference before National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day. [Click here to read a Deseret News article.](#)



KUTV featured a story on the Utah Highway Patrol's special training to detect sex trafficking on Utah's road ways. [Click here to watch the story.](#)

Commissioner Squires discussed the latest trends in cyber crime with KSL news radio. [Click here to listen to the interview.](#)



From L-R: Kris Hamlet, Judy Watanabe, Wade Mathews, Logan Sisam, Governor Gary Herbert; Ken Kraudy, Maralin Hoff, James Ray, Jeff Johnson, Jona Whitesides

## A Decade of Preparation Education

Be Ready Utah celebrated a big birthday this year: April 6, 2016, marked the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the successful emergency preparedness outreach campaign. To help mark and celebrate this historic milestone, Gary R. Herbert, Governor of the State of Utah, declared April 4 – 8, 2016, as Be Ready Utah Week.

While serving as lieutenant governor, Governor Gary R. Herbert created the Be Ready Utah public outreach campaign. He was inspired by the devastating floods in Southern Utah and the even greater disaster caused by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. He was looking for a way to help Utahns be better prepared for emergencies and disasters.

Over the years with the Be Ready Utah program, the Utah Department of Public Safety's Division of Emergency Management has educated and encouraged Utah residents to "Make a Plan, Get a Kit, Be Informed and Get Involved."

The Be Ready Utah staff continues to reach thousands of people across the state every year through hundreds of emergency preparedness presentations and fairs, BeReadyUtah.gov, social media, the Great Utah ShakeOut drill, and through informative emergency preparedness booklets, brochures and other education tools.

DEM looks forward to many more years of encouraging Utahns to Be Ready.

- Wade Mathews



## Awarded for Excellence: UHP Peer Support Group

To receive the Governor’s Award for Heroism, an individual or team must have demonstrated extraordinary courage, resourcefulness and self-sacrifice or performed an act of service that exhibited exemplary character and reflected a deep concern for the safety and well-being of others.

In April, Sergeant Brent Shelby, Sergeant Robert Wilkinson and Trooper Aaron Colvin, founding members of the Utah Highway Patrol Peer Support Group, received the Governor’s Award for Heroism for the personal



L-R: Sgt. Brent Shelby, Trooper Aaron Colvin, Lt. Governor Spencer Cox, Sgt. Rob Wilkinson, Commissioner Squires

initiative and selfless commitment they have displayed in the development of the Peer Support Group. The rapidly-growing effort has been in existence for approximately one year and has already become an essential element in the UHP initiative to support officer wellness within the organization. Its goal is to provide immediate and sustained assistance to troopers in the UHP experiencing emotional distress and crisis

resulting from the demands and impacts of today’s law enforcement profession.

## Gathering For a Goal of Zero

As part of its efforts to eliminate traffic deaths in Utah, the Department of Public Safety’s Highway Safety Office partnered with the Utah Department of Transportation to hold the 2016 Zero Fatalities Safety Summit. More than 400 safety leaders and advocates met to share experiences, opportunities and successes in improving traffic safety in Utah’s communities. This year the theme of the Summit was “Let’s Share The Road To Zero” and featured 23 workshops and three general sessions. In addition, three pre-conference opportunities were held and included training on crash

reporting, highway safety grants and child passenger safety issues.



Commissioner Squires presented St. George Police Department with the Commissioner’s Award for Excellence in Traffic Safety.

## Operation Wellspring Highlighted at National Conference

Agents from the State Bureau of Investigation attended the 2016 National Cyber Crime Conference hosted by the Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office.

In the keynote presentation, James C. Trainor, Jr., Assistant Director of the FBI’s Cyber Division, mentioned the importance of working with state and local law enforcement. He promoted Operation Wellspring which combines investigators from the

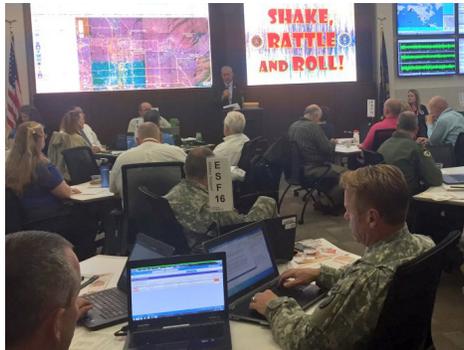
Utah Department of Public Safety with the FBI Salt Lake City Division’s Cyber Squad. Operation Wellspring focuses on cyber crimes that are reported to IC3.gov that have a nexus to Utah and it was expanded to several other FBI field offices after the pilot program was successful in Salt Lake City.

Read [an article](#) Commissioner Squires wrote about Operation Wellspring [here](#).



## In Brief: Info & Images

Pictures from Trooper Talbot in Duchesne County showed the results of a rock slide on US 191 just south of the Indian Canyon summit. No injuries, just a blocked lane.



As he addressed the team gathered at the state EOC, Commissioner Squires asked "Did you do everything you could to survive this?"



# 987,000

**PARTICIPANTS IN THE GREAT UTAH SHAKE-OUT**

This is the largest number of participants to date and more can still register throughout the year.

# 43

**PERCENT CHANCE OF A MAGNITUDE 6.75+ earthquake in Utah over the next 50 years.** The information came from a [comprehensive study](#) and underscored the importance of preparing for an earthquake. Its release proved especially timely given the ShakeOut was happening two days later.

# 50,000

**MARIJUANA SEEDS**

found during a traffic stop in Cedar City by the UHP. The vehicle also contained 50 vials of cannabidiol oils.

# 1

**REFERENCE TO CHEETOS**

made by UHP Sgt. Donovan Lucas in a series of videos about safe motorcycle riding in spring. Check out the series: [Post-Winter Wake Up for Your Motorcycle](#), [Weather & Road Condition Awareness](#) and [Physical Conditioning](#).

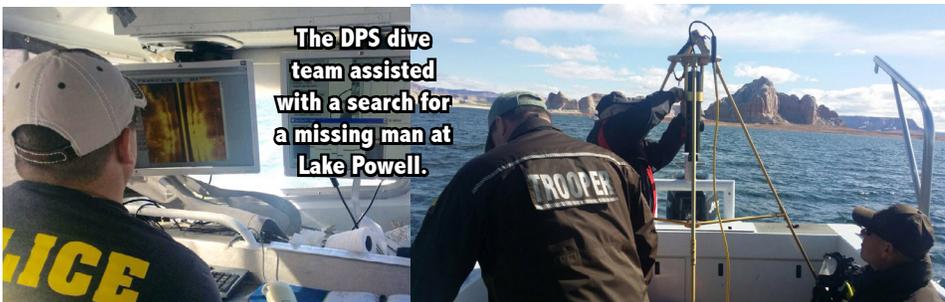
# 6

**NEW TROOPERS SWORN IN**

at the end of April. Watch a [short video](#) from the ceremony [here](#).



Jona Whitesides and Wade Mathews look on as Commissioner Squires cuts the Be Ready Utah 10th anniversary cake.



The DPS dive team assisted with a search for a missing man at Lake Powell.