

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



National and international news outlets featured the story of DPS helicopter pilot Kent Harrison and his remarkable ability to regain control of the helicopter after stray ropes caused failure in one of the main rotor head components last fall. [Click here to watch the national ABC News story.](#)



The DPS helicopter and dive team assisted in Wyoming and along the Wasatch Front in the investigation and apprehension of two kidnapping suspects. The helicopter was also asked to assist in the murder investigation of a UTA employee whose body was located outside Lander, Wyoming. [Watch a Fox13 story about the investigation here.](#)

9th Annual Governor's Public Safety Summit

Nearly 500 participants attended the ninth annual

Governor's Public Safety Summit, which featured presentations on a variety of topics ranging from real world incidents to counter

terrorism efforts and professional development. Lt. Governor Spencer Cox and DPS Deputy Commissioner Nannette Rolfe welcomed the attendees and praised those in the public sector for the important work they do and professionalism with which they perform their duties.

Keynote speakers included John Njord, former UDOT Executive Director, who spoke about building successful partnerships and provided insight into managing complex projects. Tom Gorman from the Colorado Drug Task Force spoke about the cascading impacts that the legalization of marijuana can have on a community. Provo Police Chief John King discussed how the Washington, D.C., sniper case unfolded and how he and his team were finally able to capture the two suspects involved. Closing speaker

Robert Kirby provided humorous stories and encouraged attendees to care for each other out in the field.

The summit also featured many excellent breakout sessions to help attendees learn from other incidents, improve job performance and learn new techniques and new ideas to bring

back to their respective communities.

This year was the first time this conference combined with the Intelligence Liaison Officer conference and had a track specifically for ILOs. This addition helped build new connections among public safety professionals.

The summit received a great deal of support from the National Counter Terrorism Center, which conducted breakout sessions covering efforts to counter violent extremism in the U.S. and ways in which members of the public safety community can work together to prevent terrorism.

The 9th edition of the summit was a great success. Mark your calendars – next year's summit will be held May 16th and 17th at the Davis Convention Center in Layton, Utah.

- Judy Watanabe





DNA and Epidermis Identifications

Two identifications made by the DPS crime lab in May were rather notable.

The biology section used a newly validated DNA software program to assist the Tooele Police Department with an investigative lead that lead to an arrest in a five year old homicide case. The test involved a familial DNA search, which involves comparing DNA from a crime scene to that already contained in a database, and searches for closely related DNA.

“The theory behind it is that 46 percent of inmates have a family member who has also been incarcerated,” said Jay Henry, state crime lab director. The crime lab currently uses familial DNA testing as a last resort and has had the technology for the last year and a half.

The latent print section successfully identified a charred body from a crime scene. The analyst carefully removed the epidermis, fully expecting to have to work with the underlying dermis. Because of her careful technique, the prints were still discernable on the underside of the dermis. This allowed her to enter the recovered fingerprint into the Automated Fingerprint Identification System database and make an identification.



Partially charred epidermis

New Look for CFP Card

The Bureau of Criminal Identification unveiled the new look for its Concealed Firearm Permit in May. The card now features the new DPS logo and other safety features. Both the old look card and new look card will be valid until expiration. BCI notified law enforcement and federal firearms licencees about the changes and announced the changes at a media event. [Watch an ABC4 news story about the new changes here.](#)



A Month of Traffic Safety Messages

May is an especially busy month for the Utah Highway Patrol and the Highway Safety Office. It is motorcycle safety awareness month, the month for the national Click It or Ticket campaign and the start of what traffic safety advocates call the “100 deadliest days of summer” - the period between Memorial Day and Labor Day. The UHP and HSO held media events highlighting each of these traffic safety areas. UHP motor troopers and riders from Hill Air Force base

performed skill demonstrations on the West Valley City driver license test track for the motorcycle safety event. Governor Herbert’s Chief of Staff Justin Harding discussed his family’s crash for the Click it or Ticket kick off. And University of Utah Air Med landed on the quad at DPS headquarters for the 100 deadliest days of summer media event. Click on the pictures below to watch news stories from each event.





In Brief: Info & Images

Commissioner Squires accompanied Governor Herbert to assess damage caused by the high wind event in Davis and Weber Counties. They met with mayors and citizens from cities affected and both were struck by Utahns' willingness to help each other out.



75

MILE PER HOUR WIND GUSTS

recorded during a high wind event in early May. The State Emergency Operations Center activated to level 3 monitoring to support Davis and Weber Counties.

250

DUI OVERTIME SHIFTS

worked by law enforcement agencies throughout the state on the first three weekends of May. The shifts were provided by DPS' Highway Safety Office as part of a pilot project to increase DUI enforcement on non-holiday weekends.



Sgt. Lucas and Trooper Adams provided safety information and skills demonstrations at the Hill Air Force Base Motorcycle Rodeo. Trooper Adams won the slow ride competition.

50

PARTICIPANTS FROM THE UTAH CAMPUS FIRE MARSHALS GROUP

hosted by DPS' Fire Marshal's Office for an annual training event which featured the recent adoption of the 2015 fire codes. The Campus Fire Marshals are primarily employed by school districts and universities to assist with risk management, safety, fire code items and maintenance at their respective campuses.



The Road Respect bicycle safety program hosted rides and community events in Southern and Central Utah. The program is a partnership between DPS and UDOT.



DPS officials met with China's Vice Consul General to discuss tourist safety in Utah.



KSL created a new feature titled "Beyond the Badge" to recognize law enforcement officers. The first edition featured UHP Trooper Justin Hansen. [Watch](#) Commissioner Squires' interview with Amanda Dickson [here](#). The second edition recognized Trooper Youngberg - [watch](#) Colonel Fuhr's interview [here](#).

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STAR WARS DAY

(May the Fourth Be With You). [Watch](#) a short video UHP created for the day to remind drivers to buckle up [here](#).