



# Arizona Department of Public Safety **DIGEST**

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'Courteous Vigilance'

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## Press conference

An enormous press conference was held March 29 at DPS' Training Building in Phoenix to announce the indictment of 16 defendants in the breakup of one of the largest human smuggling operations in Arizona's history. DPS, through its work with the multi-agency Arizona Financial Crimes Task Force, played a major role in the case. Among those speaking at the press conference were (from left) DPS Director Roger Vanderpool, Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard, and Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon. Other high-profile speakers at the event (not pictured) included Phoenix Vice Mayor Dave Siebert and Phoenix Public Safety Manager Jack Harris.



## DPS helps dismantle one of the largest human smuggling rings in state history

*Large press conference at DPS announcing details of case draws national media attention*

A large-scale press conference was held at DPS' Training Building in Phoenix on March 29 to announce the indictment of 16 defendants in the breakup of one of the largest human smuggling operations in Arizona's history.

The demise of the massive human smuggling operation was the result of a year-long investigation by the Arizona Financial Crimes Task Force, a dynamic entity comprised mostly of personnel from DPS, the Arizona Attorney General's Office, and the Phoenix Police Department.

The complex investigation revealed, through a variety of evidence, that six travel agencies in the Valley provided one-way airline tickets to more than 6,800 undocumented immigrants since August 2005 when Arizona's human smuggling statute took effect.

All of the tickets, worth a total of nearly \$2 million, were for travel from McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas, where im-

migration security was known to be less rigorous than at Sky Harbor Airport in Phoenix.

The defendants include 14 people who were owners, managers or employees of the six travel agencies.

The two others indicted are alleged to have operated a drop house in Phoenix where illegal immigrants stayed before being driven to Las Vegas for their flights. The investigation is ongoing, and additional indictments are possible.

The investigation began in February 2006 when several detectives from DPS and other agencies who were investigating money transfers at a Western Union store were led to a Phoenix house where they found 30 undocumented immigrants, along with airline tickets and travel itineraries.

During the investigation that followed, undercover agents, including several from DPS, posed as coyotes and purchased \$30,000 worth of airline tickets for illegal immigrants from the suspected travel agencies.

All the airline tickets were purchased with cash in Phoenix for one-way travel from McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas.

"As part of Governor Napolitano's secure Arizona initiative, the Arizona Department of Public Safety, while working closely with other agencies, continues to pursue organizations that profit from smuggling whether it's UDA's, drugs or other illegal activities," said DPS Director Roger Vanderpool in response to the case.

Key representatives from the investigating agencies, along with some other city and state officials, were present at the March 29 press conference to discuss details of the case with the media.

The press conference turned out to be one of the largest, most high-profile events held at DPS in several months with dozens of media representatives present.

Featured speakers included DPS Direc-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

From Director  
**Roger L. Vanderpool's**  
*Vantage Point*



During the first week of April, a diverse recruiting team consisting of 12 employees from DPS, a majority of which are assigned to our Human Resources Bureau, traveled to East Lansing, Michigan.

The purpose of the team's trip was simple - to showcase our agency's current employment opportunities, primarily our numerous officer openings, to an area of the country so economically depressed that even highly talented state troopers there are facing layoffs.

By the time the DPS recruiting team's plane set down in the region, 29 Michigan State Police troopers and two civilian employees with the agency had already been notified they would be losing their jobs because of the state's current 13.6 million budget deficit.

Troopers whose jobs remain with the agency face rumors of additional layoffs and have actually been ordered to limit the mileage driven in their state police vehicles to just 75 miles a day.

The dire and almost unthinkable situation in Michigan serves as a wonderful reminder that, as state employees, we must all be mindful of how we spend the public's money and that a thriving economy can always become a depressed economy.

The situation in Michigan should also remind us that, while we face a variety of challenges at DPS, we should all feel extremely lucky to have secure jobs in a growing law enforcement agency filled with opportunity.

While we have no need to limit any type of patrol activity due to rising fuel costs or agency budgetary concerns (I pray we never will), I do encourage all DPS employees to be extra mindful of fuel usage in state vehicles when they can.

You know the state troopers in Michigan, some of whom may be working with you soon, would gladly eliminate taking any unnecessary trips in state vehicles right now if it meant they could have more miles to use in the pursuit of protecting the public through active patrols and enforcement activity.

— **DPS volunteers needed** —  
**Enormous FBI event almost here**

Several years ago, Arizona was selected to host the prestigious 2007 FBI National Academy Associates (FBINAA) Conference.

Well, the enormous conference is almost here and the conference planning committee, which consists of some DPS employees, is in dire need of volunteers to help with various aspects of the quickly approaching event.

It is estimated that 1,200 delegates and family members from throughout the U.S. will attend this event which will be held at the JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort and Spa from July 14th through July 18th.

The event's organizing committee has been preparing for the event for the past three years and will need special help during the conference family night that will be held on July 16th.

If you have an interest in volunteering or assisting with any aspect of the large-scale conference please contact Chuck Wright at DPS extension 2058.

The conference will feature keynote speaker Frank Abagnale who is one of the world's most respected authorities on the subjects of forgery, embezzlement and secure documents.

You might remember the movie "Catch Me If You Can" which was written about Mr. Abagnale's younger days as a con artist.

Other speakers will feature John Giduck, author of "Terror at Beslan: A Russian Tragedy With Lessons For American Schools." Homeland security and contemporary issues in law enforcement will be discussed.

The FBI National Academy is recognized globally among law enforcement agencies and our communities as a premier provider of law enforcement training, education, and information.

The academy was established on July 29, 1935 and is a 10 week course conducted at the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia. The purpose of the academy is to afford appropriate and meaningful education and training to executives and instructors from municipal, county, state and international law enforcement agencies.

From its inception, the FBI National Academy has long been a vital element in the continuing improvement of law enforcement standards, knowledge and cooperation throughout the world.

Over 36,00 students have graduated from the FBI National Academy since 1935. After graduation students are given the opportunity to join the FBI National Academy Associates (FBINAA), today

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

*The Digest* is published monthly by the DPS Community Outreach and Education Program for DPS employees and retirees.

Employees are invited to submit story ideas or stories for publication. Stories or story ideas may be submitted to *The Digest* by mail (mail drop 3350), EMS or Telephone (602-223-2545).

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*The Digest* can be accessed directly from the DPS World Wide Web home page at <http://www.azdps.gov/digest>.

*The Arizona Department of Public Safety  
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## Hopkins overcomes all odds to graduate once again from ALEA

Impaired driver nearly killed him as a rookie DPS officer but he staged a remarkable recovery  
by Kellen Chavez, Digest Staff Writer

More than a year and a half after he was critically injured by an impaired driver in Payson while on a special assignment with a large group of rookie officers from DPS, Charlie Hopkins once again graduated from the Arizona Law Enforcement Academy (ALEA).

It has been a long road towards recovery for Hopkins and he said, "I'm just happy to have that chapter of my life closed and I am ready to start a new one."

"I was all smiles at the graduation," Hopkins said.

Hopkins was one of 11 DPS graduates from this particular ALEA class which graduated on April 13 and he now moves on, for the second time in his career, to DPS' post-academy advanced basic training program.

Hopkins was originally part of DPS' post-academy advanced basic training program in 2005 when all rookie officers from the program were sent to Payson for a few days to help destroy marijuana plants from a seized grove.

While on this special assignment in Payson, Hopkins was taking an evening walk in town after a long day of work when an impaired driver, Reed Hatch, lost control of his vehicle and hit Hopkins while he was walking along a sidewalk.

Hopkins, who was just weeks away from beginning his field training as a DPS officer, was airlifted to Good Samaritan Hospital in Phoenix where his condition was so serious that doctors placed him in a drug-induced coma to stop swelling in his brain.

The coma lasted nearly 50 days and doctors were not even sure if he would ever recognize his wife or infant daughter when he came out of the coma. At the time, doctors feared he could have suffered a severe and crippling brain injury.

His physical injuries included a fractured leg, a fractured right wrist, and three chipped vertebrae. At one point during his coma, Charlie flirted with death.

On Oct. 3, 2005, however, Hopkins awoke from his coma with, to the surprise of his doctors, no sign of significant brain injury.

Hopkins then began his long, successful and inspiring recovery driven by his faith and unshakeable desire to become a DPS officer.

In late 2006, more than a year after his



### A badge earned twice

Chief Jack Lane (left), who oversees DPS' Highway Patrol Division, stands with Charlie Hopkins (right) moments after Hopkins graduated in April from the Arizona Law Enforcement Academy (ALEA). Hopkins had already graduated from ALEA in 2005 but he decided to go back through the extreme rigors of the institution to prove he still had everything it took to be a top-notch law enforcement officer at DPS after nearly dying at the hands of an impaired driver 20 months ago. His story continues to inspire.

injury, Hopkins passed a number of specialized medical and neurological tests that convinced doctors he was ready to continue pursuing his lifelong dream of being a DPS officer.

However, Hopkins was placed in the difficult, uncomfortable dilemma of deciding what to do next about attending ALEA.

After all, he had already successfully completed the difficult academy and a portion of advanced basic training before he was injured.

To address this, DPS gave him two choices: he could enroll in another ALEA class or he could simply take the police officer certification test administered by the Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board (AZPOST).

Those options were based on the fact that Hopkins had already completed the "real" academy once and was recently given a clean bill of health by doctors.

He opted for option number one.

"I figured I would go back through the real academy to take the liability off of everybody and to show that I'm once again completely capable of being a great officer,"

Hopkins said.

He graduated from ALEA for the second time with flying colors on a "Friday the 13th" which was a true slap in the face to the horrendous luck that almost ended his life and dream career before it really ever started.

Friends and family, including his wife Serena and daughter Leah, watched proudly as Hopkins was sworn in and was given his badge for the second time.

News Channels 5 and 15 were also on hand in the evening to shoot a small story on Hopkins' inspiring graduation.

As this new chapter in Hopkins' life begins he shows deep appreciation for the support that the DPS family has given him in his recovery and achievement of his goals.

He said, "If it wasn't for DPS being such a family-oriented department I don't know where I'd be at the moment.

"I don't even know if I'd have been able to get through the academy again without everyone's support and encouragement."

If all goes well in his current advanced basic training and ensuing field training, Hopkins' lifelong dream of being a highway patrol officer with DPS will be realized.

## Organization makes quilts that help DPS officers comfort victims

by Sgt. Will Duff, DPS Duty Office

Willene Smith, the wife of retired Phoenix Police Detective Walt Smith, has been the chair of the DPS Quilt Charity since its inception.

Willene went to the Quilting Guild meetings in Phoenix shortly after the organization was formed in 1977. She then became the president of the Guild in 1986.

Willene told me that it is rare for a guild to be statewide as the Quilting Guild is. There are currently 2500 members in the Guild and 40 chapters statewide.

Willene is still active with the Guild and will be in Phoenix for the annual quilt show at ASU West March 16 and 17, 2007.

She was the chair of the Strawberry Patchers from 1994 to 1998.

During this time she initiated a program to supply "trauma quilts" to DPS for distribution to young children frightened by their involvement in traffic collisions.

Since Willene Smith began the program, the Strawberry Patchers have delivered 4,182 quilts to DPS for distribution.

Almost every officer at DPS has two of the quilts in their patrol car to help children deal with the trauma of traffic collisions. The lap-size quilts are also used by DPS officers to warm an adult victim at their discretion.

The Strawberry Patchers now have 36 active members. The quilt on display on the first floor of the DPS Headquarters building was made by 9 year old member Faith Anne Hall (in picture).

According to InPayson.com (a local Payson community service) the Strawberry Patchers produce a large bed-size quilt each year as a prize in a raffle to raise money.

The money collected goes towards ma-



### A special quilt

While serving as chair of the Strawberry Patchers from 1994 to 1998, Willene Smith, the president of the Arizona Quilters Guild, initiated a program to supply "trauma quilts" to DPS for distribution to young children frightened by their involvement in traffic collisions. Since Smith began the program, the Strawberry Patchers have delivered 4,182 quilts to DPS for distribution. Most officers have two quilts in their patrol car to help children deal with the sometimes deadly reality of traffic collisions. The quilt on display on the first floor of the DPS Headquarters building in Phoenix was made by 9-year-old member Faith Anne Hall (in picture) and serves to remind agency employees of the "trauma quilt" program and the efforts behind it.

terial used to make the quilts.

However, the Strawberry Quilters also donate funds to local organizations such as the Pine-Strawberry Archeological & Historical Society; the Pine-Strawberry Food Bank; the Pine-Strawberry Firefighter's Association; the Tonto Rim Search and Rescue; Strawberry Elite; Pine-Strawberry Christmas Angel; Isabelle Hunt Memorial Public Li-

brary; Gila County Sheriff's Posse; Sweet Charity and the Salvation Army.

Retired DPS officer Bill Hansen #2055 is Willene's son. Bill is currently working with the FBI, stationed in Quantico, Virginia.

The Department looks forward to growing and continuing its relationship with Willene Smith and the selfless organization she is affiliated with.



### Toy DPS cruiser

During the latter half of 2006, a company called RBI Toys Inc. contacted DPS to see if the agency would be interested in having a 1:18 scale replica of its modern highway patrol cruiser put into mass production and placed on the national toy market. The company said there has been increased demand by toy customers throughout the United States for authentic, agency-specific law enforcement vehicle replicas. DPS granted RBI Toys Inc. permission to reproduce its patrol vehicle and furnished the company with dozens of detailed photographs of one of the agency's modern cruisers. The company has been using the photos to build their replica (sample car above) which they hope to have in production by late May. Future issues of *The Digest* will have further information about the release date of the toy DPS cruiser, which will cost around \$20, and how it can be purchased.

## Summer heat will create several easily avoidable health risks

by Officer Jason Yeager  
DPS Health and Wellness Coordinator

I am sad to be the one to say it but it's true, hotter temperatures are headed our way. As the temperatures rise it will take more of a conscious effort on all of our parts to stay safe and healthy throughout the summer. This month I would like to remind everyone about two things that are paramount during summer months; proper hydration and skin protection.

### Hydration

During an average workout under warm weather conditions our bodies can lose up to two liters of fluid or more. This loss can greatly affect your performance during a workout and can also lead to cramps, heat exhaustion, or even heat stroke. During the summer months in Arizona you can become dehydrated from normal activity throughout the day. If your daily routine includes physical labor or keeps you on your feet and on the move, you can lose just as much fluid as someone who is exercising.

Everyone has probably heard of drinking eight glasses of water a day to stay hydrated. As a rule you should actually be drinking approximately half of your body weight in ounces to keep fluid levels where they need to be. For example a 150 pound individual should consume 75 ounces of water or nearly 9 and ½ glasses. For exercise, you should drink at least two cups of water about two hours prior to a workout, ½ cup every ten to fifteen minutes during a workout and another two cups within 20 minutes after a work out. If you wait until you are thirsty then you are already becoming dehydrated. Exercise effects the body's sense of thirst and you may not notice how much fluid you have lost until it's too late. It is important that you drink water. Be careful to stay away from fluids like coffee, tea, soft drinks, juice, and alcohol which are all dehydrators. Even sports drinks with high amounts of sugar can cause several different side effects. First the sugars cause fluids to shift away from muscles and into the gastrointestinal tract to help with digestion. Secondly sugars may cause a rise in insulin levels which can be followed by a drop in blood sugar, resulting in fatigue.

#### *Signs of Dehydration:*

Thirst, dry lips, dry mouth, fatigue, headache, urine begins to darken in color.

#### *Signs of Heat Cramps:*



### Staying hydrated

Lt. Bob Ticer, who oversees the Community Outreach and Education (CORE) Program at DPS, drinks coffee in the morning but remembers to drink plenty of water throughout the day, especially in the summer. Generally, if you wait until you are thirsty to drink water during the summer months, you are already becoming dehydrated.

Brief but painful involuntary muscle spasms.

#### *Signs of Heat Exhaustion:*

Difficulty breathing, headache, dizziness, chills, nausea, vomiting, and heat cramps.

#### *Signs of Heatstroke:*

Rapid and shallow breathing, rapid heart-beat, unusually low blood pressure, lack of sweating, unconsciousness and physical collapse.

#### *Benefits of being well-hydrated:*

Prevent headaches.

Boost physical and mental endurance.

Helps prevent muscle cramps and prevent achy stiffness in joints.

Increases lung function and may decrease the likelihood of an asthma attack.

### Skin Protection

Skin cancer is also a large concern to us in Arizona because of the amounts of sun exposure that we experience on a daily basis. So far in 2007 alone there have been one million new reported cases of skin cancer and 2000 deaths related to skin cancer in the United States. New cases of skin cancer in Arizona are consistent with the national average but cases in Maricopa, Gila, and Graham County carry the average for the state as a whole.

Face, hands, neck, and arms are the most

frequent areas to encounter cancerous tissue. You can reduce your risk of skin cancer by reducing your exposure to sunlight. If you are unable to stay out of the light you can reduce direct exposure by wearing long sleeves, collared shirts, hats and gloves. Understandably this type of clothing is not conducive to high activity and many times we simply can't avoid the sunlight. In these cases you should remember to apply generous amounts of sun-screen or sun-block. A Sun Protection Factor (SPF) rating of at least 30 is recommended most often. Some doctors are recommending application up to 24 hours prior to going into the sun to build up a reservoir in the skin. Not applying enough can cause a higher rating to give a much smaller protection factor. However other doctors mention that excessive use or over application could cause chemical sensitivity. Just be reasonable in your applications and stick to the high risk areas (arms, hands, neck and face).

Enjoy our weather and enjoy the many wonderful outdoor activities that we have available in our beautiful state but remember to do it smart and safe.

Stay Safe, Stay Healthy  
Officer Jason Yeager #6100  
602-223-2319

## New ACTIC "challenge coin" is more than just another collectable

*Coin is a symbol of the terrorism threat we all face and a reminder not to become complacent*

by DPS Detective Bob Gilbert

The Arizona Counter Terrorism Information Center (ACTIC) in Phoenix unveiled its very own challenge coin in April of 2007 thanks to the Associated Highway Patrolmen of Arizona's (AHPA) support. AHPA provided the ACTIC with a loan necessary to purchase the first ever ACTIC challenge coin.

How many of us are familiar with what the ACTIC is and, for that matter, challenge coins and their background?

Challenge coins are a tradition that is still very strong in the military and law enforcement. Challenge coins first surfaced during the World War I era. The practice of carrying a coin designed specifically for a unit was popular with the Army Special Forces. Carrying the coin at all times and presenting it when "challenged" to prove affiliation with that unit resulted in a number of consequences for those who could not produce a coin - the most popular required the soldier to buy a round of drinks. The practice continues to be popular today. Many military members, law enforcement employees, and a variety of others collect these coins.



### ACTIC Challenge Coin

The ACTIC challenge coin, shown above, is available for purchase by contacting DPS Detective Bob Gilbert at 602.644.5847 or Phoenix Police Sgt. David Lundberg at 602.644.5845. Cost is \$10.00 per coin.

While overseeing these details, Sgt. Lundberg noticed that visiting dignitaries and their security forces/staff would hand out their respective organization challenge coin, which they paid for out of their own pockets, as a thank you. ACTIC, at that time, did not have a coin and could not reciprocate. By obtaining its own challenge coin, and distributing it to visiting dignitaries and their staff, the ACTIC takes an opportunity to send the word out about Arizona and its counter terrorism effort.

is guided by the understanding that the key to effectiveness is the development and sharing of information between participants to the fullest extent as is permitted by law or agency policy. The ACTIC is a "fusion" center establishing and maintaining an "all-crimes approach" to terrorism prevention. The ACTIC is a cross-jurisdictional partnership, integrating local, state, and federal law enforcement, as well as first responders, emergency management and, when appropriate, the private sector. More than 200

employees from police and fire departments and federal agencies work at the ACTIC.

These employees work to fulfill the many functions of the ACTIC.

## ACTIC operates under the auspices of DPS and works to coordinate information sharing to address the challenge of combating terrorist activities.

The Arizona Counter Terrorism Information Center (ACTIC), established in September of 2004, operates under the auspices of the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), and works to coordinate information sharing among state and local authorities to address the challenge of combating terrorist activities.

Just one of the many duties performed by the ACTIC is dignitary protection. ACTIC Detectives augment and perform primary protection depending on the visiting dignitary and the amount of staff and security they bring with them. Sgt. David Lundberg, Phoenix Police Department, is assigned to the ACTIC and oversees many of these dignitary protection details.

Additionally, each employee, as well as others in Arizona, can carry or collect the ACTIC challenge coin as a symbol of the terrorism challenge we are facing.

The coin design was drafted by Sgt. David Lundberg with assistance from myself. The coin has the ACTIC logo on one side. The other side of the coin depicts the unity of United States federal, state, county, and local resources toward the protection of the State of Arizona against terrorism.

The mission of the ACTIC is to protect the citizens and critical infrastructures of Arizona against terrorism by enhancing intelligence and domestic preparedness operations for all local, state and federal law enforcement agencies. Mission execution

In addition to dignitary protection mentioned earlier, ACTIC performs strategic and tactical analysis to integrate and distribute counter terrorism intelligence worldwide. ACTIC includes a Hazardous Materials Response Unit, a Criminal Investigations and Research Unit (CIRU), and a Watch Center. The Watch Center is staffed to receive information, reported by other entities and residents, which is then evaluated and investigated or acted on as necessary. The Watch Center also serves as the DPS Emergency Operations Center (EOC) which is activated in times of elevated threats or situations which may need ACTIC resources - such as the recent Tostitos Bowl game. The Geo-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

**Coin ...**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

graphic Information Systems Unit prepares maps for statewide use for public safety activities (i.e. "Jump Start" operation border maps, Phoenix sniper operations). The ACTIC Terrorism Liaison Program includes 100 law enforcement and fire Terrorism Liaison Officers throughout the state who act as ACTIC satellites for on scene intelligence during critical incidents.

Additionally, the ACTIC works to establish and develop points of contact in the community (i.e. airports, hospitals, energy companies, private companies) through its Community Liaison Program. The Computer Forensics Lab located in the ACTIC forensically analyzes digital media storage (i.e. computer, cell phones, thumb drives) for evidence in administrative and criminal investigations statewide. Assigned ACTIC investigators work to collect intelligence information and to investigate criminal activity and cases in a counter terrorism effort.

The trend toward investigating crime problems multi-dimensionally is a feature of intelligence led policing at the ACTIC and relies heavily on the collaboration to access local-federal intelligence. ACTIC works on the basis of operational, inter-jurisdictional cooperation which promotes better problem solving and intelligence sharing, improved officer safety, and a safer community. A wide variety of criminal activity may precede or support a terrorist act, therefore the intelligence and analytical process takes an "all-crimes approach" to terrorism prevention. The many functions of ACTIC are organized to address this "all-crimes" approach.

The ACTIC has played a role in responding to some of the most notorious criminal incidents in the Valley. For example, ACTIC funneled information about suspects into research and analysis databases following the fatal shooting of Phoenix police Officer David Uribe, ACTIC workers responded to the ricin scare in Mesa, and when the fences at Sky Harbor International Airport are crashed, ACTIC agents are among the first to know.

With terrorist groups concentrating on "soft targets" such as buses, trains and nightclubs, everyday people need to be the eyes and ears of law enforcement. Citizens have a vital role in our efforts to keep the state safe. The ACTIC operates 24/7 for citizens to call with information about suspicious persons or circumstances that may be

related to terrorism or criminal activity. All information is evaluated, analyzed and investigated.

Please do not ignore your feelings of uneasiness about a person or circumstances you may encounter. If you observe someone or something unusual or suspicious, take the time to contact police and have the situation checked out. Some characteristics to consider are:

- Persons asking unusual types or quantity of questions about building security or law enforcement in the area
- Persons taking still pictures or video, sometimes discreetly, of buildings, bridges, or other locations from unusual positions, such as from under a bridge;
- Persons asking detailed questions about the schedules of public transportation in the area that goes beyond what is readily available on published schedules
- Persons seen timing the arrival/departure of public transportation
- Persons seen loitering around or photographing non-public areas around reservoirs, water treatment plants, dams, or power plants
- A person or persons watching a building for extended periods of time
- Persons disguised as panhandlers,

street vendors or sweepers not previously seen in the area

- Suspicious vehicles abandoned or parked in unusual places or at unusual times

If you encounter an emergency or life-threatening situation call: 9 - 1 - 1 immediately.

If you have information about a suspicious person or circumstance that may be related to terrorism call (your identity can be kept confidential):

In Arizona: 602-644-5805  
Toll Free: 1-877-272-8329  
E-Mail: ActIC@azdps.gov

We are all "agents" in the challenge of combating terrorism. While you don't need to purchase an ACTIC challenge coin to be an "agent", owning one can serve as a reminder that you are an important part of the ACTIC team.

Even with its 200 plus employees, ACTIC absolutely needs your vigilance in reporting unusual or suspicious activities and addressing the terrorism challenge facing us today.

The ACTIC challenge coin, shown on page 6, is available for purchase by contacting Sgt. David Lundberg at 602.644.5845 or Detective Bob Gilbert at 602.644.5847. Cost is \$10.00 per coin.



**Special Moment**

Arizona Department of Public Safety Chaplain Vernon Harms (left) was chosen for a special task at the state Senate's opening day ceremonies Jan. 8. The first regular session of the 48th Legislature convened at noon with Harms reading a prayer by the late President Gerald Ford from his Jan. 12, 1977 State of the Union Address. Harms was invited to do the reading by Sen. Tim Bee's office. Bee (at right in photo) is the president of the state Senate. Harms has known the senator and his family for many years.

## Beau Johnson retires from DPS after more than 34 years of service

C.R. "Beau" Johnson Jr. retired July 31 after 34 years of service to the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

Johnson began his career with the Department on Aug. 1, 1972 and was stationed in District Three, Houck as a highway patrol officer.

In 1980, Johnson was promoted to sergeant and four years later he was promoted to lieutenant.

While a lieutenant in 1988, Johnson served a six-month assignment as the interim police chief in Eloy.

Johnson was promoted to Captain in 1989 and became the bureau chief of highway patrol in 1996.

From 1997 to 2000, Johnson served as Southern Highway Patrol Commander. In 2000 he became the commander of the Com-

mercial Vehicle Enforcement Bureau.

Johnson was reassigned as Human Resources Commander in 2005, where he finished out his career.

As for awards, Johnson had plenty in his time with the Department. He received a Citation of Merit while working executive security for Governor Castro in 1977. In total, Johnson served the security needs of four governors.

Johnson received a Bachelor's of Science degree from ASU in 1982 and a Masters in Public Administration from ASU in 1991. To further his education, Johnson also attended Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command. At Northwestern he received the Franklin M. Kreml Leadership Award for his outstanding demonstration of integrity and dedication.



**Beau Johnson**

## Ron Lewis retires from DPS after more than 34 years of service

Ronald Lewis retired Sept. 30 after 34 years as a sworn officer with the Department.

Lewis began his career with DPS on Sept. 16, 1972 and was assigned to the highway patrol in Tucson after the academy.

In 1973, Lewis completed training for highway patrol motors and remained in Tucson. Lewis transferred to Phoenix in 1975 but he remained with motors.

After acquiring high proficiency on his motorcycle, Lewis transferred to the Special Enforcement Unit in 1978.

Excluding a brief stint with Special Enforcement Bureau's Reports and Licenses, Lewis spent the majority of his early years at DPS with motors. In 1981, he became a mem-

ber of the DPS Motor Training Staff and stayed there through 1983.

In 1984, after 11 years with motors, Lewis returned to the squad car in the cool weather of Show Low.

Ten years later, he traded in his highway patrol uniform and became a detective with CI in Show Low.

Lewis also earned his fair share of awards during his career.

He was part of several units at DPS that received Director's Unit Citations and he received an Officer of the Year award in 1993.

Lewis was also named Detective of the Year in 1996 and 2003 and received the Northern Narcotics District award for 2004.



**Ron Lewis**

## Bob Eppinger retires from DPS after more than 34 years of service

Officer Robert "Bob" Eppinger retired from DPS on Feb. 28 after more than 34 years of service with the agency.

He began his career with the Department on September 16, 1972, as a Cadet Officer. After graduating from the academy, he was assigned to Globe.

In late 1975, he transferred to the Phoenix area where he served as a top-notch administrator for three commanders.

In addition, he was the Reserve Coordinator and Construction Coordinator while in the Phoenix area.

During his tenure, he received two Director's Unit Citations, an Officer of the Year award and a 1992 Letter of Commenda-

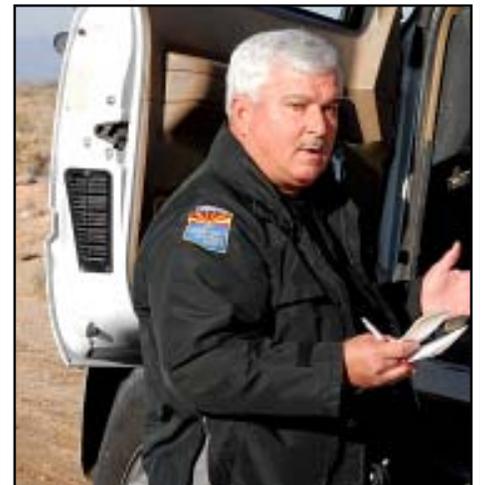
tion for saving the life of a suicidal male.

In late 1988, he transferred to the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Bureau where he spent the last 19 years of his career.

Eppinger's colleagues at DPS said his retirement leaves a void in the Department and especially the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Bureau.

His wealth of knowledge and experience in his field has been invaluable to the public and all who worked with him throughout his career.

In Eppinger's official retirement letter, DPS Director Roger Vanderpool said he will be fondly remembered and missed by all of his coworkers at DPS.



**Bob Eppinger**

## Beverly Fuller retires from DPS after three decades of service

Beverly J. Fuller, one of the most recognizable civilian employees at DPS for the past three decades whose work positively impacted every employee at the agency, retired on Jan. 30.

On February 27, 1977, she was hired by the Department in the classification of Typist II. Prior to her employment with this agency, she had been employed by the State of Arizona for a little over three years.

Her career began with the Department as a Typist and, within two years, she promoted to Administrative Secretary.

She continued in this position for about three years and promoted to Administrative Assistant II.

In 1985, she accepted another promotion within the agency which took her into the Human Resources Department, where she would ultimately complete her tenure.

This promotion was to Personnel Analyst II, where she remained until early 1996 when she promoted to Personnel Analyst III.

After working in various areas of Human Resources including: Sworn Selection, Benefits, Class Compensation, Position Control



**Bev Fuller**

and the Drug Free Workplace program she returned to the Benefits Office in 2002 where she finished her career.

The mental and physical well-being of the Department's employees has been a main focus of Fuller's efforts in Human Resources.

She assisted in developing the Department's Drug Free Workplace program and served as the Program Coordinator for several years. She was instrumental in the formulation of the Department's Peer Support and Critical Incident Stress Management programs.

She was one of the founding employees of the Agency's Family Education Day and a key contributor to the Family Support Group.

While working out of the Benefits Office, the Department's employees had the opportunity to interact with Fuller and rely upon her for many of their Employee Assistance needs.

Fuller was a contributor to Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.) and assisted in bringing the chapter back to the Phoenix area.

It is ironic, Fuller served so many of DPS' employees by working with the Retirement Board and the agency is now wishing her farewell as a retiree herself.

In her official retirement letter, DPS Director Roger Vanderpool said Fuller will be remembered for her friendly and warm-hearted personality.

### More retirement stories to appear in next Digest

Among those who have recently retired from DPS with more than 30 years of service and have yet to be featured in *The Digest* are: Sgt. Johnny Sanchez, Det. Ruben Valente, and Fingerprint Tech Joyce Wharton.

## Dispatchers at DPS celebrate National Telecommunicators Week

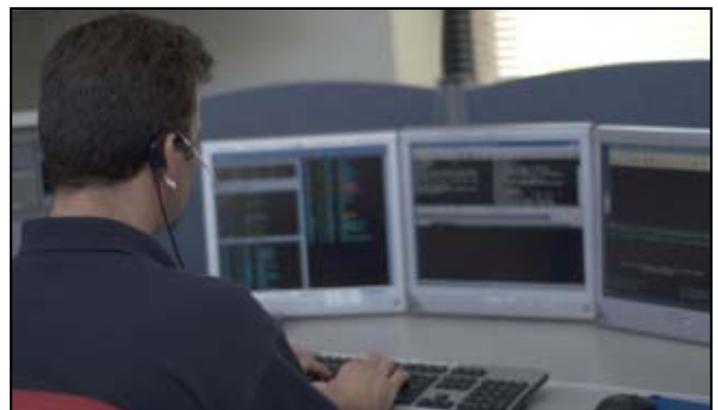
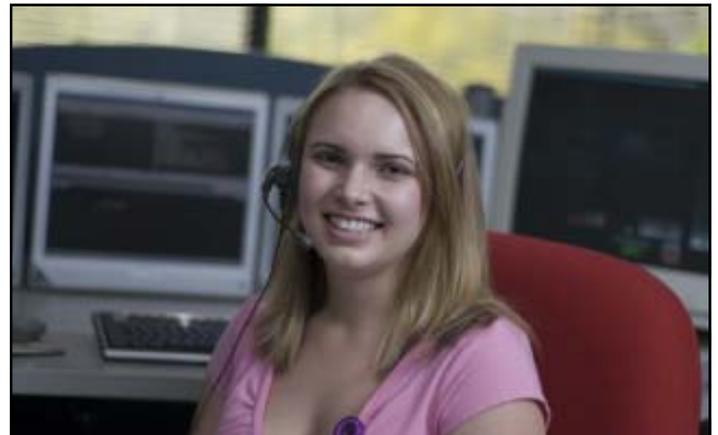
In honor of National Telecommunicators Week, which took place April 8-14, the employees of the Operational Communications Bureau at DPS hosted open houses at both the Tucson and Flagstaff communications centers.

Dispatchers, including those at DPS, have celebrated this week since 1991 when a Congressional and Presidential proclamation declared the second week in April for recognition of the public safety dispatchers and 9-1-1 call takers throughout the United States.

**This past year, employees within DPS' Operational Communications Bureau handled over 500,000 calls for service.**

This past year, employees within DPS' Operational Communications Bureau, which handles all of the agency's dispatching and emergency call taking functions, were responsible for the following: answering over 200,000 9-1-1 calls, handling over 500,000 calls for service, placing over 700,000 administrative calls, and completing over 1 million ACJIS entries and over 11 million radio transmissions.

Because those assigned to DPS' Operational Communications Bureau work behind the scenes and have jobs so critically important to the minute-by-minute safety of the public and the agency's officers, they are often considered the "unsung heroes" of the agency.



## Department has "breakfast" with the Arizona Trucking Association

by Kellen Chavez, Digest Staff Writer

Since her days working with the California Trucking Association, Karen Rasmussen, Arizona Trucking Association (ATA) President and CEO has appreciated the value of healthy working relationships with agencies that enforce commercial vehicle laws and regulations. ATA and the Highway Patrol Division of the Arizona Department of Public Safety communicate closely on issues of commercial truck and bus safety.

"ATA and DPS work closely together in the legislative and regulatory process," Rasmussen said. "We occasionally differ on various legislative measures, but we keep the lines of communication open to address those differences and find solutions."

As part of ongoing efforts to strengthen the industry's safety partnership with DPS, ATA hosted the first ever "Breakfast with DPS," March 13 at the facilities of Cummins Rocky Mountain in Avondale. The informal breakfast, followed by the two-hour dialogue and question and answer session, was the first in what hopefully will become an annual event to encourage dialogue between DPS and trucking companies.

Lts. Ken Barton, Bernard Gazdzik and Del Blunk of DPS' Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Bureau (CVEB) were present, along with three-dozen trucking representatives from companies throughout the state.

Gazdzik explained at the breakfast that, along with commercial vehicle enforcement, another primary focus of DPS' CVEB is the inspections of tow trucks and school buses.

Perhaps the most common and direct way that DPS displays its outreach to the trucking community is through enforcement details. Two such enforcement details, named "Operation Highway Thunder" and "Operation Tossed Salad," were held in March. For the first time ever, DPS invited ATA member companies to observe the inspections. "Highway Thunder," was held Feb. 28 and March 1 in Nogales and "Tossed Salad" was March 14 and 15 in Yuma.

During an inspection, trucks go through a thorough, 17-point inspection that examines everything from the turning axles to the brakes to the truck's lights. In total, DPS officers assigned to the details inspected over 1,000 commercial vehicle trucks. As a result of these inspections, which also included a cooperative effort from numerous



### Observing a commercial vehicle inspection

Arizona Trucking Association (ATA) members and officers from DPS' Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Bureau participate in a commercial vehicle inspection detail in February. ATA members have been invited by DPS to observe such details.

other local, state and federal agencies, 193 trucks were placed out of service along with 160 drivers. Over 300 citations were also issued.

Barton said, "The bottom line is that we're just trying to make the roads as safe as possible."

Rasmussen echoed this sentiment. "The Arizona Trucking Association and Department of Public Safety share a common goal—reducing truck-involved accidents and fatalities," she said.

The Arizona Department of Public Safety does provide numerous other services which show that its willingness to reach out to trucking agencies extends beyond disciplinary inspections. Ursula Miller, DPS Administrative Service Manager, says the outreach of the agency extends through brochures, pamphlets and classes and other efforts. Miller said, "Many officers visit trucking companies to talk about and educate on various regulations."

Sgt. Ron Rodecap, also of CVEB, added that these "safety talks" are provided after a request has been made by a local trucking company.

"We provide officers who go and speak to these companies for an hour and sometimes as long as four hours on the regulations of truck driving," he said.

Miller is even in charge of designing powerpoint presentations to make these demonstrations even more effective. She is also currently working with ADOT on a grant to

produce a pamphlet, which demonstrates the numerous blind spots on large trucks, posted at rest areas around the state in order to make other drivers more aware and the roads safer. Miller added that DPS ran similar advertisements in pre-movie slide shows at local Harkin's Theatres a few years ago.

DPS also partners with ATA at its annual Truck Driving Championship, providing officers to give oral interviews to competing drivers and to judge the pre-trip inspection segment of the competition.

Rasmussen said, "In addition to our annual Truck Driving Championship, DPS also helps judge our Fleet Safety Competition. A new outreach effort—allowing trucking company safety personnel to observe truck enforcement details—is proving extremely popular and useful."

She added that members who have participated in these events say it helps them get a better perspective on what DPS looks for in its on-road inspections, giving the companies information to better manage their driver safety programs.

As the ATA enters its 70<sup>th</sup> year in existence, this working relationship looks to be something to benefit both sides for many more years to come.

Rasmussen said, "We are extremely grateful for Commander Gary Hughes' leadership of the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Bureau and for his and his staff's openness and desire to work with us to promote a safer trucking industry."

## Commander Mike Orose named point man for Super Bowl XLII

DPS Director Roger Vanderpool recently appointed Commander Mike Orose as DPS' lead representative on the Super Bowl Public Safety Planning Group.

In addition, Orose was selected by the Public Safety Steering Committee as the point of contact between the NFL/NFL Host Committee and the lead public safety agencies for Arizona.

Due to the impact of this event on DPS and its personnel, the agency needed to focus planning activities with one key representative.

University of Phoenix Stadium, which holds roughly 73,000 fans, in Glendale will

be the site Super Bowl XLII next February. The NFL also estimates that an additional 50,000 fans will descend upon the valley for the festivities alone.

Arizona last hosted the Super Bowl in 1996.

The Super Bowl is the nation's most watched sporting event with an estimated 40 percent of household televisions tuned in, according to Nielsen Media Research.

With the attention and planning required of this event, all regular days off and vacations will be cancelled for all sworn and key civilian personnel at DPS for the time period of Jan. 26 through Feb. 3.



## Travel agencies ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tor Roger Vanderpool, Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard, Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon, Phoenix Public Safety Manager Jack Harris, and Phoenix Vice Mayor Dave Siebert.

Following the press conference, the details of the case announced at the event quickly ended up in major news outlets across the nation such as the Los Angeles Times and various television news programs.

Charges against the defendants include smuggling human beings for profit, money laundering, participating in or assisting in a criminal syndicate, conspiracy and racketeering. All are felonies.

The six travel agencies are:

- Acapulco Travel and Tour
- Apricus Travel
- Marina Tours
- Mundo Travel
- Planet Travel
- Toronto's Travel

Assisting in the investigation were the Airlines Reporting Corporation (ARC), based in Arlington, Va., and the following airlines: Southwest Airlines, America West/US Airways, United Airlines, Air Tran, American Airlines, Jet Blue Airlines, Delta Airlines, Alaska Airlines, Frontier Airlines, Continental Airlines and Northwest Airlines.

In addition to the DPS personnel assigned to the Arizona Financial Crimes Task Force, which currently includes one sergeant, one civilian asset forfeiture specialist, and six detectives, others from DPS who assisted with the case included GIITEM detectives and members of DPS' computer forensics unit.

These additional DPS personnel assisted at search warrant scenes related to the case.



### Recognized for giving

DPS Lt. Mark Remsey (right) accepts a recognition plaque from the President and CEO of Special Olympics of Arizona during a ceremony on Feb. 27 in Phoenix. Remsey was given the plaque for his 20 years of dedicated service to The Arizona Law Enforcement Torch Run which has long been one of the biggest annual fundraisers for Special Olympics of Arizona. Speaking of Special Olympics, a variety of fundraising events, including tip-a-cops, golf tournaments, and the annual Special Olympics Barbecue at DPS' headquarters building, are set to kick off or have already taken place as part of this agency's annual fundraising drive for the charitable organization. Last year, DPS employees raised some \$64,000 for Special Olympics through such events making the agency the top law enforcement fundraiser for Special Olympics in Arizona. The actual Arizona Law Enforcement Torch Run itself begins in late April at six starting points throughout the state. For more information on the Torch Run and the Special Olympics Organization, please go to [www.arizonatorchrun.com](http://www.arizonatorchrun.com)

## Four DPS employees promoted at February and April ceremonies

Promotional ceremonies were held for two DPS employees on Feb. 20. Craig Seifert was promoted to Computer Programmer Analyst, and Victor McCraw was promoted to lieutenant. Additional promotions were handed out on April 2. Debra James was promoted to Intelligence Research Specialist and Renee Larson was promoted to Administrative Services Officer

### Debra James, Badge No. 5096

Debra James began her career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on July 8, 1995 as a receptionist for the Knutson Station. In Feb. 1996, she was promoted to office assistant where she performed all front-office duties including data entry of accident and offense reports for all Metro DPS Officers. After five years she promoted to evidence custodian on Jan. 6, 2001 for the Property and Evidence Unit. In this capacity, she received, secured and maintained property and evidence from DPS officers and outside agencies. She worked with the DPS Crime Lab ensuring that evidence was properly distributed to the appropriate criminalists. James is now being promoted to Intelligence Research Specialist for the Rocky Mountain Information Network.

James was born and raised in Phoenix. She has two children, Jennifer, 20, and Jeff, 17. She received her Associates of Arts degree in General Studies from Glendale Community College.

### Renee Larson, Badge No. 3902

Renee Larson began her career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on Oct. 12, 1986 as a clerk typist for the Criminal Intelligence Research Unit. She was promoted to secretary for the Facilities Maintenance Division in Jan. 1988 and secretary II for the Intelligence Division in Jan. 1992. She remained with the Intelligence Division until June 1994 when she left the Department for the birth of her son. In July 1998, she returned as a temporary employee, but was hired on full-time in October as a secretary for the Operational Communications Bureau. In Feb. 2001, her job title was reclassified to Administrative Secretary. Larson is now being promoted to Administrative Services Officer for the Public Safety Communications Commission (PSCC).

Larson received the Director's Unit Citation award twice, while with the Facilities Maintenance Division and the Operational Communications Bureau. She served on the



**Debra James**



**Renee Larson**



**Victor McCraw**



**Craig Seifert**

Office Professionals Committee in 2000 and 2002. In 2001, she was certified as an ADOT Van Instructor.

Larson was born and raised in Flagstaff. She has a son, Keith, who is 12 years old. She also has an Associates degree in Paralegal Studies from the Arizona Institute of Paralegal Studies.

### Victor McCraw, Badge No. 3781

Victor McCraw began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on Jan. 31, 1986 as a cadet officer. After graduating from the academy, he was assigned to Parker. As a Highway Patrol Officer he had assignments in Wenden/Salome and Tonopah. He was also a Health and Wellness Coordinator for the Training Section and a part-time Special Operations Unit (SWAT) Crisis Negotiator and Tactical Medic. On Feb. 8, 1997, he was promoted to sergeant. In this capacity, he has served as a Highway Patrol Squad Sergeant, Operational Training Sergeant, Advanced Basic Training Sergeant, Administrative Sergeant, Basic Training Sergeant and Aviation Bureau Operations Sergeant. McCraw is now being promoted to Lieutenant for Metro West.

McCraw was certified as a National Registered Emergency Paramedic in 1996. In 2002, he was awarded the Agency Support Division Training Bureau Supervisor of the Year. He received two Director's Unit Citations, in 2004 as a Phlebotomist and in 2005 as an Honor Guard Member. He has represented DPS as a member of the Department of Health Services State Trauma Advisory Board and Emergency Medical Committees. He also instructs on the subjects of First Aid and Cultural Awareness at ALEA and Glendale Community College.

McCraw was born and raised in Tacoma, Washington.

### Craig Seifert, Badge No. 6226

Craig Seifert began his career with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on March 29, 2003 as an administrative assis-

tant for the Applicant Clearance Card Team. In May 2005, he transferred to the Logistics Bureau where he served as the capital inventory coordinator. While in this unit he assisted with the 2005 annual equipment inventory. He returned to the Applicant Clearance Card Team in Aug. 2005. He is now being promoted to Computer Programmer Analyst for the Information Technology Bureau.

Seifert was born and raised in Iowa. He has been married to his wife, Joan, for 14 years. They have four grown children. He graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1978 and spent 17 years on active duty. In 2002, he graduated from Devry.

### Additional Promotions

Christine Key was also promoted but was unable to attend the February event. Key was promoted to ACJIS Comp Spec/Instructor. Anna Baum and Roy Fetter were also unable to attend the April promotional ceremony. Baum was promoted to Sr. Police Communications Dispatcher and Fetter to Facilities Maintenance Technician.

## Canine officers from DPS place high in competition

The Desert Dog Police K9 Trials were held in Scottsdale April 14th & 15th.

Fifty nine canine officers from 18 different agencies competed in a variety of scenarios for top honors. Five canine teams from DPS competed and received the following awards. *Explosives Detection*: 3rd Place - DPS Lt. Angel Leos and K9 Vero. 5th Place - DPS Officer Cleave Odegard and K9 Blaser. *Narcotics Detection*: 5th Place - DPS Officer Doug Torres and K9 Alex. *Tactical Obedience*: 1st Place - DPS Officer Scott Armstrong and K9 Dino. 3rd Place - DPS Officer Brian Greene and K9 Rebel. *Top Agency Detection*: 5th Place - AZ. DPS. *Top Agency Patrol*: 6th Place - AZ. DPS. *Top Overall Team*: 4th Place - DPS Officer Doug Torres and K9 Alex.

## Metro East Reserve Officer, Jim Wood, runs marathon in Antarctica

by Kellen Chavez, Digest Staff Writer

DPS Reserve Officer Jim Wood, a four-year veteran of the Department, took up mountain climbing in 2001 and has not shied from a challenge as his passion for the sport has grown.

The 48-year-old Metro East highway patrol officer has reached the summit of Alaska's Mt. McKinley, the highest peak in the United States, and this past winter sought to climb Mt. Vinson, which is Antarctica's tallest mountain.

Having flown into Antarctica on a Russian cargo jet in mid-December, Wood's expedition was forced to wait out harsh weather conditions before they could attempt to conquer Mt. Vinson.

In this down time, however, a completely different challenge peaked Wood's interest.

He said, "While stuck in Patriot Hills base camp we heard a marathon was being run in the area. We asked if we could join, since we had nothing better to do."

This race was actually the third annual Antarctic Ice Marathon which is run a few hundred miles from the South Pole at the foot of the Ellsworth Mountains.



### Duel Monsters

Jim Wood (left photo with arms raised) crosses the finish line after completing the 26-mile run. The jog served as a warm-up to Wood's actual reason for going to Antarctica, which was to scale the peak of Mt. Vinson (Right).



Wood said, "We literally showed up for a meeting at 4 p.m. and were on a starting line by 5 p.m."

Wood has run marathons before, he ran the P.F. Chang's Marathon 3 or 4 years ago, and is married to an avid marathon runner. Neither prepared him for running the same distance at 3,000 feet altitude with wind chills averaging -20 degrees Celsius.

He said, "The surface was like running on loose beach sand. I wouldn't say we ran

it so much as we kept with an intense, fast walk."

Fourteen people ran the race in the blistering cold. Nine finished with Wood placing eighth.

Days later, Wood did attempt to summit Mt. Vinson as well, but injury at high camp kept him from reaching the summit.

When asked if he would ever try again he said, "Would I, yes. Will I, is a different story."

## Every DPS employee can help the agency's e-mail system run better

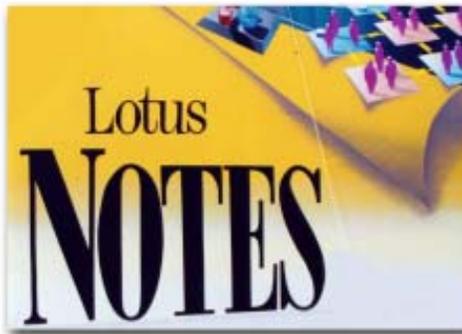
by Sloane Burwell

DPS Lotus Notes Administrator

E-mail is one of the most used applications in any workplace, and for DPS, it's no different. Our Lotus Notes environment is growing every day. For example, did you know that in a typical day at DPS, we will send and receive approximately 15,000 pieces of e-mail. On a give day, DPS will receive an average of 3,700 pieces of mail that originate from outside sources. Of those e-mails bound for DPS, an average of 79% of them are blocked as spam! Believe it or not, there are quite a few things we can all do to help our mail system reduce the amount of spam we receive, and keep Lotus Notes running as smoothly as possible.

1. Never open an attachment from someone you don't recognize. This is one way that a computer virus is spread. If you don't know the person, delete the e-mail.

2. Keep Lotus Notes for work e-mail, not personal mail. If you send one personal e-mail to 5 people, there are now 6 copies on the server (including one in your sent mail). This means that DPS has to pay to store your personal e-mail as long as it exists on the



server.

3. If you have to send an e-mail to "Public", please make sure its sent before 7:00 AM or after 5:00 PM. When messages are sent to public, it takes a lot of effort for the server to send to every DPS employee at the same time. If the mail gets sent during the day, every user experiences a slow down in Lotus Notes. Please be courteous of your coworkers when you send mail to "Public."

4. If you have to send an e-mail to all DPS employees, please do not include an attachment. Please contact Computer Operations at extension 2421, and they can help you send the attachment as a linked mes-

sage. This will keep Lotus Notes available during the day. When messages with attachments are sent to every user at DPS, it can crash the server. At the very least, it makes e-mail unavailable while it sends to everyone.

*The author of this piece, Sloane Burwell, will be contributing articles to The Digest every other month which will address issues with DPS' e-mail system and how the system's performance can be optimized with the help of agency employees.*

### FBI event ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

numbering more than 17,000 law enforcement professionals who have played a significant role in developing a higher level of competency, cooperation and integrity within the law enforcement community.

The upcoming conference is the annual gathering of those who have graduated from the FBI National Academy and then joined the FBINAA. Again, if you have an interest in volunteering please contact Chuck Wright at X2058.



## Letters

### Dear Director Vanderpool:

I am writing to inform you of the most wonderful officer in your force, DPS Officer Bill Wohlenhaus. He was faced with the most difficult task of taking care of my horse, Frisco, whom had been struck by a car while we were in Ohio. Officer Wohlenhaus' actions were unwaveringly professional and kind.

On Dec. 20, 2006, around 9:30 p.m., I received a call from Officer Wohlenhaus informing me that not only had my horse been hit but had to be euthanized. I can't say my behavior was nearly as mature as the way Officer Wohlenhaus handled the situation. I cried, accused him of a cruel joke and was pretty ungracious when it was obviously a very difficult task he had to perform. Unfortunately, and to Officer Wohlenhaus, simultaneously to his call we were literally watching my brother pass away; in fact, he died the next afternoon.

Once I calmed down and collected myself, I placed a few calls and found people to help get Frisco home to be buried. I called Officer Wohlenhaus with the information and he arranged to have Frisco moved. As I understand it, Frisco had to be shot.

The decision to do so was done very quickly since his back leg had almost been severed. I appreciate that Frisco didn't suffer for long. I have also found out from several sources that Wohlenhaus stayed with Frisco's body until he could be transported. Again it is a comfort to me that his body wasn't just left by the road to be gawked at, or perhaps damaged more by animals.

I am forever in Officer Wohlenhaus' debt. He said he was just doing his job but I feel he went beyond the call of duty. Officer Wohlenhaus is obviously a man of integrity and cares deeply about doing his job well. He is an exemplary officer.

**Dede Havens**  
Phoenix, AZ

### Dear Director Vanderpool:

On Jan. 14, 2007, my husband Bob and I were hiking toward Douglas Springs in the Rincon Mountains east of Tucson. This is a steep, rocky trail accessed only by foot or

on horseback. After hiking over 5 miles, Bob's boot toe hit a rock and in attempting to right himself, he tore the gastric muscle in his right calf. He could put no weight on his right leg and thus could not walk back down the mountain. We phoned "911" and were assured that help was on the way. In approximately half an hour we heard the rotor blades of a helicopter. As I waved our reflective space blanket, they spotted us and safely landed on a hilltop nearby.

We met DPS Pilot Will Morris, who did an awesome job of landing, and we also met DPS Officer/Paramedic Troy Hayes. Both these young men were outstanding in their assistance to us.

Troy actually carried Bob on his back to the helicopter. They then air lifted both of us back to our vehicle at the end of Speedway, the start of the trail to Douglas Springs. Troy informed us that our rescue was courtesy of the AZDPS, Air Rescue Division.

We want you to know that we are extremely grateful for this rescue. Furthermore, we are truly impressed with the quality of employees Troy Hayes and Will Morris. They are a stellar example of kindness, efficiency and courtesy.

**Bob and Judy Bolt**  
Phoenix, AZ

## DPS Officer Scott Tyman getting ready to pedal 200 miles in honor of fallen officer

For the past two years, DPS Officer Scott Tyman has participated in the Police Unity Tour which is a national bicycle ride where law-enforcement representatives participate to honor officers who have died in the line of duty. This year will be no different.

Tyman, who is currently assigned to the Arizona Law Enforcement Academy as a recruit training officer, is one of 15 Arizona officers who will make this year's 200-plus mile journey from Portsmouth, Virginia to Washington D.C.

Tyman will ride in honor of Gilbert Police Officer Rob Targosz who was killed in the line of duty on April 30, 2006.

Tyman said, "I am the only Arizona Department of Public Safety officer to participate in this event and I take great pride

### Dear Director Vanderpool:

Please accept my compliments to your department in general, and DPS Officer Ross Read #6682, in particular. I have always had a positive impression of the Department and its reputation for professionalism and now my impression has been reinforced by the conduct of Officer Read.

On Jan. 30, 2007, Officer Read pulled me over and issued me a citation for unsafe lane change. He was absolutely right to do so. I was wrong and my driving at the time was inconsiderate to say the least (I hope uncharacteristically inconsiderate).

Officer Read could not have been more courteous and professional. He pointed out the deficiencies in my driving in a manner that encouraged me to improve. His approach to the situation motivated me from a positive, rather than negative, perspective.

I regret having earned the citation, but I was fortunate enough to learn from the experience – and for that I am grateful to Officer Read.

Please extend my gratitude to Officer Read and his commanding officer. You have my compliments for running a first-class operation.

**Jeffrey G. Pollitt**  
Phoenix, AZ

in representing my agency."

The event, which departs on May 9, requires that Tyman raise \$1,500 dollars.

The 18-year veteran officer with DPS is seeking donations from the DPS family and time is quickly running out.

Donations made to the Police Unity Tour are fully tax deductible, tax I.D. #22-3530541, and can be made by going to [www.socalput.com](http://www.socalput.com) and selecting the, "Donate to a rider" icon. Tyman is listed there.

The website facilitates PayPal, or, donations may be sent to:

Police Unity Tour  
21143 Hawthorne Boulevard, #293  
Torrance, CA 90503

Money raised from this event goes towards the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund.



**Scott Tyman**

## Inside DPS

### 30 Years of Service

Bee, James A., 2044, Officer  
 Fulkerson, Robert H., 2094, Criminalist IV  
 Gallagher, Kenneth T., 2056, Officer  
 Grommon, Richard F., 2061, Officer  
 Isaacson, Dennis M., 2065, Sergeant II  
 Johnson, Claud W., 2066, Sergeant II  
 Johnson, David W., 2035, Operations Assistant  
 Kenyon, Lawrence L., 2068, Sergeant II  
 Lockhart, Michael L., 1333, Lieutenant  
 McFarland, John A., 2074, Investigator/Auditor  
 Myers, David W., 745, Lieutenant  
 Nelson, Kenneth A., 2078, Officer  
 Pferdeort, Steve R., 2080, Sergeant II  
 Spencer, Jerry L., 2090, Lieutenant  
 Wade Jr., Jimmie L., 2047, Officer  
 Wright, David H., 2050, Sergeant II  
 Young, Wayne A., 2083, Operations Assistant

### 25 Years of Service

Valenzuela, Frank G., 3148, Officer

### 20 Years of Service

Temporado, Nancy L., 3928, Admin. Secretary

### New Employees

Adams, Kathleen M., 6909, Police Dispatcher  
 Auer, Benjamin T., 6889, Cadet Officer  
 Ayala, Monique A., 6890, Cadet Officer  
 Aye, James A., 6887, Officer  
 Ayon, Fernando, 6905, Officer  
 Blaszak, Joseph E., 6891, Cadet Officer  
 Brown, Randy S., 6892, Cadet Officer  
 Cadden, Rebecca M., 6910, Criminal Records Specialist  
 Crowley, Randy J., 6906, Officer  
 Davenport, Roy R., 6917, Operations Assistant  
 Delgado, Fernando, 6893, Cadet Officer  
 Gear, Richard D., 6907, Officer  
 Givens Jr., John E., 6885, Auto/Motorcycle Tech.  
 Grant, Jeremy M., 6894, Cadet Officer  
 Guerra, Kimberly J., 6919, Criminalist I  
 Hawkins, Michael H., 6895, Cadet Officer  
 Hernandez, Margie, 6915, Criminal Records Specialist

Hiepler, Karla J., 6884, Fixed Wing Pilot I

Hochstetter, Robert T., 6918, Facilities Maintenance Technician

Hranac, Rochelle A., 6925, Associate Criminalist

Jeffrey, Orion J., 6896, Cadet Officer

Knowlton, George C., 6886, Roadside Motorist Assistant

Long, Samuel B., 6897, Cadet Officer

McGuffin, Stuart R., 6922, State Service Trainee

McKee, Lucy A., 6920, Associate Criminalist

Orfe, Paul E., 6916, AZ Post Standards Comp Specialist

Peden, Neal, 6908, Officer

Pham, Yang, 6921, Associate Criminalist

Politico, Jeffrey M., 6898, Cadet Officer

Press, Kathleen A., 6926, Associate Criminalist

Reissner, Brandy, 6911, Administrative Secretary

Rush, Charles A., 6914, Rotary Wing Pilot I

Sova, Jason P., 6924, Associate Criminalist

Terrazas, Alberto C., 6912, Officer

Trujillo, Andrew J., 6923, Computer Programmer Analyst

Vargo, Timothy W., 6901, Cadet Officer

Vasquez, Anton J., 6913, Officer

Verdugo, Daniel O., 6902, Cadet Officer

Villone, Joshua R., 6903, Cadet Officer

West, Christopher J., 6888, Officer

Westbrook, Nicholas R., 6904, Cadet Officer

### Departures

Dobrowolski, Edward M., 6623, Officer  
 Ford, Kimberly K., 6524, Public Safety Call-Taker  
 Golding, Jason L., 6866, Cadet Officer  
 Jacobs, Steven M., 5818, Police Communications Dispatcher  
 Kuzia, Eugene C., 6184, Officer  
 Maxam, William M., 6835, Cadet Officer  
 McNeese, Marsha K., 4889, Administrative Assistant  
 Ramnauth, Barney J., 6899, Cadet Officer  
 Shelley, Kristen R., 5063, Operations Assistant  
 Taber, Trent B., 6900, Cadet Officer  
 Villone, Joshua R., 6903, Cadet Officer  
 Whaley, Robin, 6741, Criminal Records Specialist

### Retirements

Eppinger, Robert J., 1145, Officer

Eyring, Michael B., 1962, Criminalist IV

Fuller, Beverly J., 2026, Human Resources Analyst

Lukacs, Maria, 2448, Senior Police Communications Dispatcher

Lopez, Joseph A., 1934, Officer

McHugh, William R., 4057, Criminal Intelligence Analyst

Ruiz, Charles V., 1267, Officer

Seekins, David L., 3580, Officer

### Births

District 9 officer Stirling Shupe and his wife, Ani, welcomed another baby boy into their family on Feb. 11. Stirling Aden arrived weighing 7 lbs. 8 oz.

Officer Kawika Stant and his wife, Jessica, gave birth to a baby boy on Feb. 11 at 7:50 a.m. William Nakanelua entered the world weighing 7 lbs. 11 oz. and measured 21 in. long.

Criminalist Joey Fimbres and wife, Christine, celebrated the birth of their new daughter on March 27. Isabel joins big brother, Michael, in the Fimbres family. Michael was also born on March 27.

Officer Ricky Alvarado welcomed his first child into the world on April 1 at 5:30 a.m. Payton Marishol weighed 8 lbs. 6 oz.

Pilot Andy Dobis and wife, Brenda, gave birth to a baby boy, Connor, on April 10. Connor weighed 7 lbs. 4 oz. and was 20 in. long.

Officer Bryce Davis and his wife welcomed a baby girl into the world on the evening of April 4. Arydona Davis weighed 7 lbs. 15 oz. and was 20 1/2 in. long.

Chris and Missy Horstman gave birth to daughter, Lilly Marie, at 11:46 a.m. on April 10. She weighed 6 lbs. 11oz. and was 19 in. long. Lilly joins three older brothers in the Horstman family.

Officer Robert Phillips #6284 (Metro East) and wife Melissa welcomed a new addition to their family. Dylan Robert Phillips was born April 18 at 0553 hours at Banner Desert Hospital. Dylan weighed 6 lbs.15 oz. and was 19 in. long.

### Deaths

The mother of District One Officer Pat Eagan, passed away on Feb. 7.

Motor Officer C. Stubblefield's father passed away on the morning of Feb. 16.

Former DPS Aircraft Mechanic, Alan Bradley, passed away on Feb. 23. Alan had served most recently in the Pinal County Sheriff's Office as a deputy.

DPS retired Officer Richard Sloss passed away on Feb. 24.

Christopher Dunn, the son of Officer Chris Dunn, died March 3.

Retired DPS Captain Charles Scott passed away on the morning of March 22.

District 7 Motor Officer Paul Mudd's son, Paul Francis Mudd, passed away on March 29. He was 22 years old.

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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## Down the Highways

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**March 1967**

Gov. Jack Williams signed legislation March 15 that officially authorizes the Arizona Highway Patrol to provide the state's chief executive with transportation, security and protection for himself and his family.

The patrol provided such service for 20 years without legislative authority.

The practice started in the mid 1940's when Gov. Sidney P. Osborn was stricken with MS and became so weak he could not drive his car or get in and out without help.

Former Patrolman Jack Hirsch lived next door and started driving him, eventually becoming a full-time attendant.

The practice continued with subsequent governors.

**April 1972**

DPS Director James J. Hegarty warned the state Senate-House conference committee by letter that a proposed law allowing 18-year-olds to drink beer and wine, but no hard liquor, would be so difficult to enforce there probably would be no real enforcement at all, The Phoenix Gazette reported April 14.

**March 1977**

Office space shortage problems endured by DPS employees working in Tucson began to disappear March 18 with the move into a new headquarters building.

The building was purchased by the Department from the Kolar Corp., which used it as a combination office-warehouse for an airplane parts supply operation. Prior to the move into the 29,000-square-foot structure, DPS personnel worked out of a double-wide

mobile home on Ajo Way.

**April 1982**

A 14-year-old Peach Springs girl, driving a stolen car, crashed into three cars and led police on a 50-mile chase that ended in Kingman, April 28.

Three officers, one from DPS, were injured when the stolen vehicle crashed into their patrol cars.

Among those injured was DPS Officer Don Goodmiller. The other two officers were from different agencies. All were treated and released from an area hospital.

**March 1987**

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) presented certificates of appreciation to six DPS officers and two departmental secretaries for exemplary performance.

Receiving certificates during the March 9 ceremony in Phoenix were Officers Terry Burke, Adam Kurgan, David Wright, Daniel Kelly, Gilbert Duthie and Tom Reynolds; Sgt. Doug Stine; and secretaries Rosela Najjar and Dee Domikaitis.

**April 1992**

Kingman DPS Highway Patrol Officer Sharon Butler and her canine, Tessa, participated in a record seizure of 133 Kilograms (292.6 pounds) of cocaine during an I-40 traffic stop near Kingman.

The April 18 bust resulted in the arrest of two suspects, the seizure of the cocaine and a 1989 Volkswagen van with Florida license plates.

Phoenix DEA agents said cocaine cur-

rently was wholesaling for up to \$20,000 per kilogram, which would put the value of Butler's seizure around \$2.5 million.

**March 1997**

Acting on information developed by DPS Highway Patrol Officer Dan Palmer and Debbie Klein, officers from Phoenix Narcotics Investigations Unit and Highway Patrol District 5 executed a search warrant on an East Phoenix residence Feb. 26.

DPS Sgt. Manny Flores said that officers confiscated two pounds of cocaine, several forged documents, a laptop computer, a .22-caliber handgun, a stolen .44-caliber magnum handgun, five cellular phones, four vehicles and \$127 in U.S. currency.

Officers arrested four suspects and charged them with narcotics violations and fraudulent schemes.

**April 1997**

After receiving a tip, officers assigned to the Metro Area Narcotics Trafficking Interdiction Squad (MANTIS) descended on a residence in remote western Pima County April 17. Upon arrival at the residence, DPS Lt. Bernie Gazdzik said officers detected a strong odor of marijuana.

During the ensuing search of a nearby barn, Gazdzik said officers found 1,445 pounds of marijuana buried underneath some hay and plywood. Value of the marijuana was estimated at more than \$800,000.

Officers seized a 1988 Chevrolet pickup truck and two semi-automatic pistols along with various packing materials. One suspect was arrested, Gazdzik said.