

# MARYLAND STATE POLICE

# 2012 Annual Report

A STATEWIDE FORCE FOR A SAFE AND SECURE MARYLAND



#### **STATE OF MARYLAND** OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



MARTIN O'MALLEY GOVERNOR

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#### A MESSAGE FROM GOVERNOR MARTIN O'MALLEY

Dear Friends:

We are pleased to present the Maryland State Police 2012 Annual Report.

Working together with our local, state, and federal partners, last year we drove down violent crime, property crime and homicide to 30-year lows. Yet, even one life lost to violence is one too many. It takes collaboration and relentless interaction to make our state safer and there is work still to be done.

The Maryland State Police is an integral part of our efforts to protect our children and families. The statewide jurisdiction, resources, and capabilities of the Maryland State Police troopers and civilian employees enable the Department to focus on cross-jurisdictional and interstate crime, while providing support to local law enforcement.

Maryland is committed to using innovative technology to increase our crime fighting abilities and provide better public safety services. Through the License Plate Reader program, we've been able to recover stolen vehicles and serve open warrants. We're using a multi-state database to reduce property crime. And, as a result of our new 700 MHz interoperable radio system, we're working to ensure that our police officers and first-responders are able to communicate with each other, when they need it most.

The steadfast dedication of the men and women of the Maryland State Police in 2012 resulted in a safer and more secure Maryland. Thank you for your partnership and commitment to our state.

Sincerely,

Governor



MARTIN O'MALLEY GOVERNOR

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COLONEL MARCUS L. BROWN SUPERINTENDENT



#### A MESSAGE FROM COLONEL MARCUS L. BROWN

The Maryland Department of State Police is proud to present the 2012 Annual Report. The report reflects the diversity of the Department's operations to include the Office of the State Fire Marshal and the Vehicle Theft Prevention Council.

The Maryland State Police is uniquely positioned to lead the fight against those elements that most threaten the safety of our citizens including terrorism; violent crime with a focus on gangs, guns, drugs, and fugitives; violence against women and children; and, traffic-related death and injury in all jurisdictions of the state. Patrol, investigative and specialized units, such as the Forensic Sciences Division, Aviation Command, and Licensing Division, provide unique platforms to assist local law enforcement agencies in their efforts.

The Department's leadership role in advancing crime fighting technology will continue. The use of performance measuring or monitoring strategies such as MSPStat will continue to be prioritized. The Maryland State Police will continue to pursue national accreditation. Finally, efforts will continue to recruit, train, and educate a diverse work force highly capable of leading the Maryland State Police in ways that ensure a safe and secure Maryland.

The Department will continue its commitment to excellence, maintain its leadership role in the law enforcement community, and develop a work force of individuals who lead by example. The corner stones of integrity, fairness, and service are the core values that will continue to guide Department personnel in serving and protecting the citizens of Maryland.

Sincerely,

Marcus L. Brown Superintendent

"Maryland's Finest"



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# Maryland State Police

VISION—The Maryland State Police: A Statewide Force for a Safe and Secure Maryland.

MISSION—The mission of the Maryland State Police is to serve the people of Maryland and those who visit our State through purposed policing that protects our citizens, prevents criminal acts and traffic crashes, and provides the highest quality of law enforcement services available anywhere. This is accomplished through a network of local barracks and specialized division working in consultation and cooperation with allied public safety agencies to address issues impacting public safety in Maryland and each jurisdiction through an inter-jurisdictional strategy.

#### GOALS

- Prevent and reduce violent crime in Maryland;
- Protect Maryland from foreign and domestic terrorist threats and secure its critical infrastructure;
- Prevent and reduce fatalities and injuries caused by motor vehicle crashes;
- Work in partnership with and provide support to allied public safety agencies; and,
- Provide for a "world class" workforce equipped with the tools, technology, training, supervision, and leadership to perform their jobs with efficiency and excellence.

VALUES—Troopers will continuously recommit to the Oath of Office as a contract to uphold the Constitution of the United States, accomplish the mission of the Maryland State Police, and serve the people of the state and nation to the best of their ability while supporting our values of:

*Integrity*: Uphold the public trust by being honest and maintaining the highest standards of ethnical and moral character.

*<u>Fairness</u>*: Treat all people with respect and preserve every person's dignity in an unbiased manner.

<u>Service</u>: Provide dedicated and compassionate assistance to all citizens.





## MARYLAND STATE POLICE Working for a Safer Maryland 2012 by the Numbers





#### GETTING ILLEGAL GUNS AND DRUGS OFF THE STREET

Firearms Enforcement Unit 923 Firearms Recovered 138 Arrests Drug Enforcement Division 471 Firearms Recovered 1,489 Arrests

#### **KEEPING FIREARMS OUT OF THE WRONG HANDS**

Licensing Division

5,483 Handgun Carry Applicant Investigations Completed 70,099 Applications Processed Related to the Purchase of Firearms





#### **RECOVERING STOLEN VEHICLES AND PROPERTY**

RAPID (Pawn Database)
\$4.9 Million of Stolen Property Recovered
1,321 Arrests as a Result of RAPID
2,191 Criminal Investigations Closed

Baltimore and Washington Regional Auto Theft Task Forces 1,264 Stolen Vehicles Recovered 545 Arrests

#### PROTECTING THE MOST VULNERABLE

Child Recovery Unit 76 Missing Child Investigations 80 Child Prostitution or Human Trafficking Cases Computer Crimes Unit 111 Child Pornography Investigations 45 On-line Enticement Investigations 103 Assistance to Other Agencies



#### IMPROVING HIGHWAY SAFETY



#### Traffic Enforcement

- 665,176 Citations and Warnings Issued 15,550 Citations for Driving Suspended/ Revoked
  - 7,100 Arrests for Driving Under the Influence

Commercial Vehicle Enforcement 2.1 Million Vehicles Weighed 69,050 Vehicles Inspected 84,625 Citations and Warnings Issued

#### SAVING LIVES

Aviation Command

2,591 Sick and Injured Patients Transported 528 Search and Rescue Missions Conducted





#### SUPPORTING THE STATE POLICE & ALLIED LAW ENFORCEMENT

Office of the State Fire Marshal 965 Fire/Explosive Investigations 342 Criminal Investigations Forensic Sciences Division 19,529 Cases Completed (72 percent from Allied Law Enforcement)

## Maryland Department of State Police 2012 Annual Report

**Patrol Force** - In 2012, the Field Operations Bureau troopers, assigned to a statewide network of barracks, made 463,564 vehicle stops, issuing 302,376 citations, making 6,556 driving under the influence arrests, 4,583 adult criminal arrests, 3,762 drug arrests and recovering 455 firearms.



Gang and Gun Units - In 2012, the Gang Enforcement Unit made 268 onview criminal arrests, served 161 warrants, identified and documented 146 gang members, executed 51 search and seizure warrants, recovered 27 firearms, \$37,000 in drug or crimerelated money, 61.4 lbs. of marijuana, 165 grams of cocaine, and 2.37 lbs. of heroin. The Maryland State Police Firearms Enforcement Section recovered 923 firearms in 2012. This included 337 regulated and 586 non-

regulated firearms. The section increased its arrests by 20 percent with 138 arrests in 2012 compared with 115 in 2011.

<u>Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center (MCAC) Crime Fighting</u> <u>Efforts</u> - In 2012, MCAC implemented four new program areas designed to support the crime fight. Two of the programs focus on capturing and reporting arrests involving gangs and homicides/shootings. These programs endeavor to obtain statewide real-time arrest alerts for crimes related to the three programs and cross-jurisdictional awareness. Of the remaining two programs, one focuses on support to warrant reduction, and the other the

expansion/usage of the statewide license plate reader program. Warrant reduction support began in 2011, flourished in 2012, and will expand in 2013. The program will provide support to existing task forces and agencies with high numbers of violent offenders. In working with the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS), 2013 will bring an added benefit to offender/crime targeting. By accessing



DPSCS's Dashboard system, law enforcement can be proactive by querying violent offenders by crime trends in their area of jurisdiction.

Violence Against Women and Children - During 2012, the Special Projects Division (SPD) coordinated with the Department Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) to explore data driven strategies to aid in the reduction of domestic violence in Maryland. This included the successful implementation of how protective order data is stored by the DPSCS, Information Technology and Communication Division and delivered to the Administrative Office of the Courts, Department of Judicial Information Systems. This procedure allows protective order data to be stored in a database allowing law enforcement to analyze and map data. Also created was an automatic "system cross check" in the Maryland Electronic Telecommunications Enforcement Resource System (METERS) for protective order data vs. handgun permit data. This allows for the immediate notification to the MSP Licensing Division when a person is issued a protective order and that same individual has a valid handgun permit. Also implemented was the Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) system activation by the interim DPSCS database feed. As a result, VINE is now populated as soon as a protective order is issued by the Court, eliminating the need for law enforcement to enter protective orders into METERS. This eliminated the problem of domestic violence victims not being able to register for VINE.

#### MISSION

#### Prevent and Reduce Violent Crime in Maryland

Maryland has the lowest homicide and violent crime numbers in a guarter of a century. Over the last five years, through unprecedented federal, state, and local law enforcement collaboration, Maryland has seen a 12.3 percent reduction in total crimes, a 17.1 percent reduction in violent crime (a reduction of 6,506 violent crimes) and an 11.3 percent reduction in property crime. In addition, there have been significant reductions in murders (down 27.2 percent) with 149 lives saved; robberies (down 28.1 percent); aggravated assaults (down 23.4 percent); and motor vehicle thefts (down 47.4 percent.

The state has also noted additional reductions in breaking and entering (down 4.5 percent) and larceny/thefts (down 9.9 percent). **Cyber Crime: Internet Crimes Against Children** - The Computer Crimes Unit of the Maryland State Police continues to operate and administer the Maryland Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. The MSP Computer Crimes Unit coordinates the investigative efforts of the 30 partners within Maryland and provides liaison support to the 61 task forces located across the country, representing over 3,000



federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies. Troopers focus their efforts on cases to include child exploitation, child pornography, child prostitution, human trafficking, and missing children cases. The Computer Forensics Laboratory is comprised of five MSP sworn forensic investigators, one forensic investigator from the Howard County Police Department, and one contractual civilian forensic investigator, who are specially trained to search for and recover data on various digital storage devices. Lab personnel are highly trained as expert witnesses in the area of digital forensics in support of criminal investigations. Casework comes from the Department and allied agencies throughout the state, with the majority of the laboratory unit's cases involving child pornography or child exploitation.

Warrant Services - Through state and local collaboration, the MSP established a goal to enhance warrant services to swiftly locate and arrest wanted offenders and ensure the number of open warrants was reduced and remained below previous levels. MSP focused on all warrants, regardless of the issuing department or authority. In 2012, MSP continued to participate in the Baltimore Metropolitan Warrant Apprehension Task Force and the Capitol Area Region Fugitive Task Force. These task forces have contributed significantly to reducing crime in Prince George's County and Baltimore City. The Maryland State Apprehension Team is divided into four regional teams: the Baltimore Team, the Greenbelt Team, the Northern Team, and the Salisbury Team. These Maryland State Apprehension Teams are primarily responsible for the apprehension of the most violent offenders in and from Maryland. In 2012, the Maryland State Apprehension Teams' combined efforts had a major impact on violent crime reduction in Maryland as shown by the following arrests: murder-46, attempted murder-33, abduction/kidnapping-two, arson-nine, assault/first degree-107, child abuse-11, child pornography-four, carjacking-10, escape-19, handgun violations-68, manslaughter-six, rape-18, robbery-133, and sex offense-54.

Maryland Gun Center Established – At the end of 2012, the MSP finalized plans to open the Maryland Gun Center on January 1, 2013, in an effort to reduce gun crime and assist state and local law enforcement. State Police firearms experts now staff an around-the-clock operation that all police officers in Maryland can call when they make an arrest for a gun violation, or need assistance with an illegal firearms investigation. State Police gun law experts will quickly provide insight and information to ensure each person arrested for a gun violation is charged as accurately and as completely as possible under existing state and federal firearms laws.

Forensic Sciences - In 2012, the Forensic Sciences Division (FSD) focused its efforts on implementing new policy changes required to retain accreditation, movement of the Hagerstown laboratory into its new facility, and maintaining its quality management system. This was accomplished as the Forensic Sciences Division continued to produce high quality forensic analysis of evidence and meet the demands of court dates related to criminal investigations statewide. In 2012, the laboratory received 19,859 cases and completed 19,529 cases, both increases when compared to 2011 with 19,094 cases received and 19,431 cases completed. As seen in the past, approximately three-quarters (72 percent) of the cases received in 2012 were from the allied law enforcement agencies. Overall, the casework backlogs within the disciplines decreased.

#### **STRATEGY**

#### Unbiased Policing

During 2012, the MSP continued its strong commitment to ensure fair and equitable treatment to all citizens. The Department remains determined to develop the best policies based on best practices used throughout law enforcement nationwide.

The MSP has focused on "purposed policing" while maintaining the core values of integrity, fairness, and service. The MSP Recruitment Unit is fully diverse in an effort to fairly represent all of the communities the MSP serves. The MSP has the highest rate of hiring for minority officers, including African-American and female candidates.

The Department stays committed to ensuring best practices are in place to prevent unbiased policing, including but not limited to, in-car cameras, 800hot line numbers allowing motorists to file complaints, training, citizen information brochures and supervisory and management reviews of traffic stop data. **Diversity and Inclusion** - In 2012, the MSP maintained its dedication to the concept of a diverse workforce and command staff by adopting a holistic approach to this issue. The MSP Council of Advisors on Diversity and Inclusion continues to monitor areas such as administration of discipline, assignment to specialized units, career development, and promotions. This Council enables public and private sector leaders to provide advice and consultation on these matters.



<u>Hurricane Sandy</u> - The MSP Mobile Field Force was activated and deployed to the Eastern Shore prior to the arrival of Hurricane Sandy to assist the Ocean City Police Department with evacuation efforts. The Mobile Field Force, augmented by barrack personnel and troopers assigned to specialized divisions, assisted various jurisdictions with the hurricane's aftermath. The Aviation Command responded to calls for service following Sandy that included surge assessment flights for immediate response con-



trol and aerial reconnaissance missions for county and local emergency management storm damage evaluations. Requests for mission services were also performed in Crisfield, Somerset County.

As a result of Hurricane Sandy, 36 Maryland state troopers volunteered to assist New Jersey for more than two weeks. They were deployed to Ocean and Monmouth counties. They convoyed to New Jersey

and provided law enforcement services to assist strained police services in the region due to the extensive damage caused by the hurricane. The troopers' experience included canine tracking/search and rescue, underwater recovery and marine operations, paramedic certification, criminal investigation and special weapons and tactics. The troopers were stationed at Fort Dix in New Jersey during their deployment.

**138<sup>th</sup> Trooper Candidate Class Graduation** - Lt. Governor Brown and Colonel Brown presided over the graduation of the 138<sup>th</sup> Trooper Candidate Class of 82 new troopers. This is one of the largest and most diverse classes ever to graduate in the history of the Maryland State Police.



**Support Local Police Departments** - During 2012, the MSP assisted various local police departments across Maryland. An example of this support includes assistance provided during the G8 Summit held in Frederick County in May. The MSP also supported the Baltimore Police Department (BPD) during the Star Spangled Sailabration, the July 4th Celebration at the Inner Harbor, Artscape, the Baltimore Grand Prix, and the New Year's Eve celebration. In addition, beginning in September 2012, BPD officers and MSP troopers teamed up to patrol high crime areas in Baltimore on weekend evenings in an effort to deter crime. The MSP also supported the Ocean City Police Department, the Crisfield Police Department and other jurisdictions during Hurricane Sandy and other natural disasters in 2012.

#### **STRATEGY**

#### **MSPStat**

In 2012, the MSP continued to use a data-driven operational and managerial accountability system entitled MSPStat (aka Compstat) that was implemented in 2011. MSPStat was patterned after and designed to support Maryland's StateStat process that provides the Department with the capabilities to use modern data-driven crime and collision fighting strategies. The program utilizes resources such as crime mapping and the criminal justice dashboard to provide commanders with accurate and timely intelligence. This intelligence provides greater opportunities for the rapid deployment of troopers, the effective implementation of tactics and stratedies, and the ability for continuous followup and assessment to ensure positive outcomes.

RAPID (Regional Automated Property Information Database) - With the 2009 passage of Maryland's statewide electronic reporting law for the pawn and precious metal industry and the May 2010 law requiring junk/scrap dealers to report the origins of their scrap metal inventory to law enforcement, the RAPID program completed its third full year of operation, with continued increases in stolen property recovered, closed cases and criminals arrested. In 2012, the use of RAPID led to the recovery of \$4,867,732 in stolen property and is associated with the arrests of 1,321 criminal suspects and the successful closing of 2,191 cases. Since enacted in October 2009, RAPID has led to the recovery of \$13,160,593 in stolen property, 2,453 criminal arrests, and the closure of 3,588 criminal investigations throughout Maryland. During 2012, the RAPID Team responded to an invitation from the Regional Information Sharing Systems program (RISS). RISS is a nationwide information sharing and investigative support program that serves thousands of local, state, federal, and tribal law enforcement and public safety agencies in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. RISS officials asked MD RAPID to provide input and expertise as they move forward with attempting to build a national secondhand database. RISS would assist law enforcement by establishing a single place secondhand transactions across the country could be located. One RISS member said about MD RAPID, "Whenever I talk to anyone about pawn shop databases they always point to yours as the 'gold standard.' What you have achieved in Maryland is light-years ahead of most of the rest of the world, but by working through RISS we hope that Pennsylvania can achieve some of the same success."



Western Operations Center Opened The new Maryland State Police Western Operations Center was opened which houses the Hagerstown Barrack, a significantly expanded State Police Forensic Sciences Laboratory for Western Maryland, the State Fire Marshal's Office, allied law enforcement offices, and a large training classroom available to all police departments. The new facility more than doubles the size of the previ-

ous Hagerstown Barrack. In addition to an expanded workspace for barrack personnel, other State Police units are able to have regional offices there. The new building expands the available space for the Western Regional Forensic Sciences Laboratory to more than six times its previous space. The new lab will provide expanded room for drug analysis and the future plan is to expand lab services to include latent fingerprint processing.

<u>New Helicopters</u>- Plans and details were finalized in preparation for the delivery the new AW 139 helicopters in early 2013. The new helicopters contain the latest in avionics and safety equipment, including terrain awareness warning systems, night vision compatibility, cockpit voice and video recorders, radar altimeters, and advanced instrument flight rating capabilities, all rec-



ommended by the Federal Aviation Administration. The new helicopters provide more space in the patient and cargo areas, enabling flight paramedics to have better access to patients and to carry rescue equipment on board all the time.

#### **STRATEGY**

#### Strategic Plan

At the conclusion of 2012, the Maryland State Police attained an important milestone by issuing its first Strategic Plan in the recent past. The plan will serve as the MSP's guide in the crime fight and will enhance our efforts pertaining to datadriven policing supported by MSPStat and the StateStat process. The MSP has identified five goals to drive its Strategic Plan that are aligned with the Governor's strategic goals. Each goal is supported by a series of strategies with a focus on interstate highways and major roadways, gangs and other interjurisdictional criminal enterprises, and support to local law enforcement agencies.

<u>Vehicle Theft Prevention Council</u> - During 2012, Maryland's Vehicle Theft Prevention Council and the Vehicle Theft Prevention Fund continued its leadership role to assist in the prevention and deterrence of vehicle theft and related crimes. Since the Council's inception in 1994, vehicle theft in Maryland has decreased 58 percent in total numbers. To address and adapt to emerging trends, the Vehicle Theft Prevention Council reorganized in 2012 by add-



ing a deputy director with internationally recognized credentials in vehicle theft investigation. The Council continues to support established statewide strategies and support community based law enforcement, prevention and education programs, while developing capabilities to provide actionable, relevant and useful intelligence to identify and investigate members of professional vehicle theft organizations and supporting statewide enforcement initiatives intended to remove opportunities for the professional vehicle theft organizations to exploit dated beliefs and efforts of law enforcement. With more than 94



percent of vehicle thefts occurring in the urban counties, relationships have been developed to link data efforts already underway to a statewide hub for the purpose of linking events and suspects operating in multiple jurisdictions. In an effort to ensure the capture of complete and accurate data, the Council's director and deputy director have directed educational resources to not only the most populated jurisdictions, but rural areas as well. From police chiefs to new recruits, community service officers to crime prevention personnel, training and informational briefings on emerging vehicle theft trends and the operations of professional vehicle theft organizations are being conducted to ensure the signs of emerging vehicle theft methods can be identified, are understood and addressed at the onset.

Office of the State Fire Marshal: Record Low Fire Deaths Recorded - During 2012, there were 44 fatal fires investigated by or reported to the Office of the State Fire Marshal that resulted in 53 fire related deaths in 12 Maryland counties and Baltimore City, a historic record low. These totals represent a 21 percent decline from the 67 fire related deaths resulting from 56 fatal fires recorded in 2011 and is 12 percent below the previous record low of 60 fire deaths recorded in 2006 and 2008.





<u>Accreditation</u> - The MSP created the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) Section on July 1, 2012, to pursue national law enforcement accreditation. Within the first six months, the Accreditation Section completely revised all policies related to personnel and issued the Personnel Manual, one of four manuals being developed. Additionally the section will simultaneously pursue training academy and communications accreditation.

THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE MARYLAND STATE POLICE HAVE A WIDE RANGE OF DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES. THE FOLLOWING SECTION PROVIDES A FEW EXAMPLES OF THE EVERYDAY WORK PERFORMED BY MARYLAND'S FINEST.

<u>Homicide Investigations</u> – In 2012, the **MSP Homicide Unit** investigated or assisted other law enforcement agencies in 32 murder investigations. In one of the most notable cases for the year, a Baltimore man was convicted of the murder of a teenager who had disappeared while visiting relatives in Baltimore City. When her body was discovered months later in the Susquehanna River, the MSP Homicide Unit became involved in the investigation. MSP investigators, working with Baltimore PD Homicide, had an integral role in the apprehension.

Bath Salt Problem – The MSP continues to combat bath salts and other synthetic drugs. Bath salts, which are sold over the Internet and in various retail locations under multiple names, are being used as drugs that can be inhaled, ingested, smoked or injected. The bath salts have effects similar to amphetamines and cocaine, but are often packaged with the warning "not for human consumption."



During 2012, **Cumberland Barrack "C"** responded to a significant problem Allegany County was having with bath salts. As a result of a four-month investigation into two businesses selling the product, search and seizure warrants were executed on the businesses and two suspects were arrested.

<u>Human Trafficking and Crimes Against Children</u> – Amidst rising state and national concerns regarding human trafficking and child exploitation, the MSP worked throughout 2012 to combat these heinous crimes as documented in these few examples.

- The Child Recovery Unit (CRU) was instrumental in the recovery of a 16-year old juvenile abducted in Michigan and being exploited for prostitution in a brothel ring operating in Prince George's County. The federal Homeland Security Investigations contacted the CRU and advised the juvenile was in Prince George's County. The CRU identified the juvenile's location and assisted in the building entry and recovery of the child
- In 2012, the **Polygraph Unit** conducted post-conviction examinations of 344 sex offenders. During one examination, a 31-year old sex offender previously convicted of raping a 12-year old girl, admitted to engaging in sexual intercourse with a 15-year old girl since his release from prison. An expedited parole retake warrant was issued and the offender was immediately arrested following the polygraph examination.
- In August of 2012, **Easton Barrack "I"** investigators executed a search warrant and initiated a child sexual abuse investigation in Trappe. The investigation revealed that over a 20-year period, the suspect had sexually abused six children. The suspect was subsequently arrested and charged with six felony counts of sexual abuse of a minor.

#### **STRATEGY**

#### Combatting Gangs

Throughout Maryland, drugs, and violent crime continue to be associated with gangs. With gang affiliation on the rise in Maryland, the Gang Enforcement Unit (GEU) has been tasked with identifying, infiltrating, and dismantling these criminal gangs. During the second week of April 2012, Northern Region Gang Enforcement Unit investigators conducted the North East Criminal Initiative in and around the town of North East in Cecil County, Maryland. Investigators identified an increase in gang criminal activity involving members of the Bloods, DMI, and Juggalos criminal street gangs. GEU investigators worked closely with members of the Maryland State Police North East Barrack, Cecil County Drug Task Force and allied agencies. During the four-day operation, investigators made 27 arrests, served three search and seizure warrants, conducted 84 field interviews, contacted 18 criminal gang members and identified eight new gang members. Troopers seized \$6,860 in drug money and one vehicle that was used to transport drugs. Additionally, GEU investigators seized two firearms from a Dead Man Incorporated criminal gang member and seized felony amounts of marijuana, Xanax, Methadone, Morphine and Oxycodone.

Motor Carrier Safety – MSP continued its efforts during 2012 to ensure that commercial vehicles utilizing Maryland's roadways are properly equipped, maintained and operated safely in accordance with federal and state laws. In May of 2012, the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division and allied Maryland law enforcement agencies conducted a truck safety initiative, directing hundreds of tractor-trailers,



tankers and flatbeds off the Capital Beltway for safety inspection in a parking lot at FedEx Field. More than 112 troopers, civilian inspectors and police cadets were part of the operation at the Redskins' stadium, while on surrounding roads other officers patrolled to identify truckers who attempted to evade the checkpoint. Inspectors checked for defective equipment, falsified logbook entries, unsafe cargo and drugs. Inspectors examined 420 vehicles. Of those, 87 were placed out-of-service for major safety defects. Twelve drivers were placed out-of-service for being unqualified to operate commercial vehicles. Police issued 177 traffic citations and 264 warnings for commercial vehicle related violations.

Crime Prevention - The MSP promotes crime prevention strategies de-



signed to keep Maryland's citizens safe from crime. **McHenry Barrack** "W" troopers made great strides by focusing on crime prevention methods carried out through daily town patrols in communities that do not have their own police department. A concept developed in previous years and continued in 2012, the Town Patrol Program outlined a strategy where shift supervisors were to guarantee a minimum of eight hours in each community every month. In addition to their normal duties, troopers

spent a total of 904 hours in community policing patrols in 10 different communities.

<u>Vehicle Safety Inspection Program</u> - The MSP is responsible, by law, for Maryland's Vehicle Safety Inspection Program and licenses approximately 1,600 inspection stations throughout the state. The **Automotive Safety Enforcement Division (ASED)** initiated an investigation in March 2012, of a state inspection station believed to be issuing inspection certificates without conducting proper inspections. After two days of video recording the station, a check of station inspection records were examined and compared to the video recordings. It was determined multiple vehicles received State

inspection certificates without being properly inspected. Several of the vehicles were located and interviews with the owners confirmed that they were not inspected as indicated by both state inspectors at the station. This resulted in the immediate suspensions of the station's inspection license and both inspectors' ability to conduct inspections.



#### **STRATEGY**

#### Preventing Illegal Gun Sales

As law enforcement officials statewide work together to prevent the illegal sale of firearms, troopers assigned to the Firearms Enforcement Unit continued to work in conjunction with our uniformed troopers to accomplish this goal. One noteworthy case in 2012 began with a barrack investigation of a regulated firearm used in a non-fatal shooting, resulting in the seizure of 120 firearms that included seven machine guns. The firearm was traced to a 70 year old male who had over 200 firearms randomly placed throughout his home in open view, who told investigators he was unaware a firearm was missing. The investigation revealed that the gun owner had been selling firearms illegally for 30 years.

School Safety and Liaisons—In 2012, Princess Anne Barrack "X," assisted by the Somerset County School Board of Education, developed and implemented the "Safe School Project." The project examined the safety plan at all county schools and put a heavy emphasis on major events such as "active shooters." Safety and evacuation plans were all rewritten and have become standardized within the county. **Prince Frederick Barrack "U**"



provides a trooper who serves as the Calvert County School Liaison Officer. The position is highly respected within the school sys-



tem and throughout the county. During 2012, the sergeant assigned to this position arrested 43 juveniles, six of whom were charged with drug violations. He also completed 42 criminal investigative reports. As part of Read Across Maryland, Colonel Marcus L. Brown joined students at a local elementary school and shared a story with them.

Apprehension of the Most Violent Fugitives through Priority Warrant Services – As the Department continued to work to reduce the number of open warrants statewide, the Maryland State Apprehension Team (MSAT) focused its efforts on the most violent offenders in Maryland. On April 3, 2012, the Circuit Court for Baltimore City issued a violation of probation warrant for an individual who was placed on the Mayor's Top Ten Domestic Violence Offender List. On April 13, 2012, the warrant was forwarded to MSAT-Baltimore for service. An extensive investigation was initiated into the suspect's background to include family, friends, current and prior employers. On the following days, MSAT responded to the area of the suspect's known residence and conducted surveillance with negative results. Troopers assigned to MSAT-Baltimore conducted numerous interviews, learning that the suspect was aware of the warrant and was attempting to avoid capture. Investigators were able to obtain a possible address for the suspect in the Abingdon area of Harford County. Task Force members responded to the address and observed the suspect inside a residence and made entry through an open front door. The fugitive was placed into custody without incident and transported to Central Booking Intake Facility for processing and warrant service.

Inter-Jurisdictional Crime and Fugitives – With its statewide authority, the MSP is uniquely positioned to lead Maryland in the fight against multi-jurisdictional and cross-jurisdictional crime. We have often heard that "crime knows no boundaries" yet law enforcement in Maryland police within boundaries. The MSP recognizes this missing link and is uniquely qualified with statewide authority to impact crime in Maryland on a much larger scale. Criminals utilize local police boundaries to their benefit to avoid detection and to further their criminal enterprise. The MSP is always prepared to use their statewide authority to take these advantages away. The following two cases are an example of the MSP's success in this area.

In April 2012, the Baltimore County Police Department initiated an investigation regarding a home invasion with a handgun. Police quickly developed two suspects in the crime. One had a lengthy criminal record and several open warrants ranging from handgun violations to numerous traffic charges. The fugitive was wanted by the Warren County Sheriff's Office in Ohio and in Maryland, being publicized in the Frederick News Post, as "Frederick's Most Wanted." The Maryland State Apprehension Team (MSAT) received information that the fugitive was hiding inside of an apartment in Frederick, Maryland. MSP Gang Unit, MSAT Baltimore, along with members of Capital Area Region Fugitive Task Force (CARFTF) arrived approximately one hour later. Task Force members arrested the fugitive in the residence. During the search of the residence, troopers found a 9mm rifle, approximately 100 rounds of ammunition, one magazine filled with .380 auto rounds, approximately 30 small baggies of cocaine packaged for distribution, one bottle of PCP, marijuana and ecstasy, a digital scale, and "Bloods" gang related material. The fugitive was convicted in the Circuit

Court for Frederick County on numerous drug and firearms violations in October 2012 and, because of his repeat offender status, was given an 85-year prison sentence.

From January through March of 2012, the Regional Auto Theft Team (R.A.T.T.) initiated an in-depth multi-jurisdictional investigation pertaining to the thefts of multiple vehicles. Investigation revealed that the suspect unlawfully removed three tow trucks, two from Pennsylvania and one from New Jersey. The suspect utilized the stolen tow trucks to steal vehicles in numerous Maryland counties/cities, usually from repair shops, after hours, while unattended on parking lots. While operating the stolen tow truck, with the stolen vehicle in tow, the suspect would pick up one of many co-defendants throughout Baltimore. The pair would go to local scrap yards, where they would complete the paperwork in the co-defendant's name to sell the vehicle to the scrap yard. The suspect kept the bulk of the payout (\$400 to \$1000 depending on the weight of the scrapped vehicle) and usually gave the codefendant \$50. The suspect was linked to 16 stolen vehicles, 13 of which were scrapped. The total value of the stolen vehicles was approximately \$120,000. At the conclusion of the investigation, the suspect was indicted in Baltimore City on 101 counts of theft, motor vehicle theft, and related charges. At trial, the accused was found guilty on five counts of felony theft, one count of motor vehicle theft, and one count of unauthorized use resulting in a prison sentence of eight years, with five vears of supervised probation upon release.

<u>Crash Prevention & Reduction</u> – A critical responsibility of the MSP is to reduce the number of motor vehicle collisions, associated deaths and injuries within Maryland. One of the strategies utilized in this effort was employed by North East Barrack "F" troopers who focus on reducing accidents by conducting high-visibility enforcement initiatives and routine patrol traffic enforcement to reduce speed and aggressive driving. The first **North East Barrack "F" Special Enforcement Team (NESET)** was created in 2012 that allows a proactive approach to crime and crash reduction. This team is consistently deployed to areas where they are needed most and can address community concerns based on crime/crash problems and concerns

relayed to the barrack commander by community members and/or organization to professionally investigate fatal crashes and to vigorously prosecute them when warranted and appropriate. Another strategy utilized by members of the MSP is to professionally investigate motor vehicle crashes and vigorously prosecute violators when warranted and appropriate. Examples of troopers' work follows.



- A collision occurred on Maryland Route 75 in November 2012 involving a commercial vehicle and a Ford F-450. The impact resulted in the death of two occupants in the Ford F-450. As a direct result of a thorough investigation of the collision by the **MSP Crash Team**, the driver of the commercial vehicle was arrested and charged with numerous crimes to include criminally negligent homicide.
- In March 2011, a vehicle struck a pedestrian along Maryland Route 6 in La Plata. The vehicle fled the scene leaving behind few clues and no witnesses. La Plata Barrack "H" troopers worked diligently on this investigation for over a year and were able to obtain charging documents for the suspect. The case was brought to trial in August 2012, and the accused was convicted.

#### **STRATEGY**

#### First Responders for Medical Emergencies

Law enforcement officers are often called upon to be the first to respond to a medical emergency. This is true for MSP troopers who respond to these type of calls hundreds of times each year. An example of this responsibility occurred when a Centerville Barrack "S' trooper responded to an emergency communications dispatch of a sudden death of a 20-yearold female. The trooper entered the residence with his medical bag to find a female lying on the floor unconscious and unresponsive. The patient's mother was leaning over her as the trooper assessed the patient and found that she was not breathing nor did she have a pulse. Being the only emergency personnel on scene, the trooper immediately began performing CPR until the paramedics arrived. The female was revived and breathed on her own prior to being transported to a hospital. The paramedics on scene credited the trooper with saving the woman's life.

<u>Criminal Investigations & Arrests</u> – MSP criminal investigators and members of the patrol force are responsible for hundreds of successful investigations and prosecutions on an annual basis. Several examples of this fine work follow.

- A trooper from **Salisbury Barrack** "E" began investigating numerous burglaries throughout Wicomico County in 2012. Through investigation, the trooper obtained information that led to the identification of five suspects and a multitude of stolen items. It was learned that the suspects physically trained with weapons used during the burglaries. As a result of search and seizure warrants being executed, a total of 20 firearms were recovered.
- Glen Burnie Barrack "P" troopers investigated a theft-from-auto that occurred at an Annapolis Park & Ride lot. Investigation determined that musical instruments and amplifiers valued at over \$2,300 were stolen from a vehicle parked at that location. Troopers promptly entered information about this stolen musical equipment into the National Crime Information Center (NCIC). Days later, investigators were contacted by a member of the Regional Automated Property Identification Database (RAPID) program who advised there was a hit on the stolen items and an individual had pawned the stolen items at a pawnshop in Bladensburg. Investigators quickly recovered the stolen items and obtained an arrest warrant charging the suspect with felony theft and related charges.
- Troopers from the Leonardtown Barrack "T" responded to a robbery in progress at a Charlotte Hall gas station and upon arrival, they were advised that the suspect was still in the store. The first trooper arriving on the scene located the suspect in the store and was able to detain him until additional troopers could arrive to place the suspect into custody.
- A Golden Ring Barrack "R" trooper was flagged down by a passing motorist (later identified as an off duty police officer) while patrolling in high crime communities. The officer advised that he heard several gunshots coming from a nearby town home community. The trooper proceeded to the intersection of the entrance to the town home community where he was met by a Baltimore County Police unit, which was also responding to the area after several citizens reported hearing gunfire in the area. Once inside the town home community, a witness approached his patrol vehicle and gave a suspect vehicle description, stating it may still be in the area. The trooper canvassed the area and observed the suspect vehicle and initiated a felony traffic stop. The suspect was detained and found to have bloodstains on his white t-shirt. The suspect was then positively identified by the witness as the person involved in the stabbing and shooting.
- A corporal assigned to the Waterloo Barrack "A", on July 26, 2012, observed a pedestrian walking on the shoulder of I-95 and confronted him. During the encounter, a loaded handgun was found in the man's waistband. Further investigation revealed the suspect had abandoned a stolen vehicle less than one-half mile from the location where he was found. The suspect was charged accordingly and the vehicle was returned to the owner without damage.



**STRATEGY** 

#### Child Advocacy Center

The MSP continues to support child advocacy centers across Maryland. One example is the **Bel Air Barrack** partnership with the Harford County Child Advocacy Center where one trooper is assigned. Agencies involved in the center include the Harford County Sheriff's Office, the Department of Social Services, and the Harford County State's Attorney's Office. During 2012, the trooper assigned to the Child Advocacy Center investigated 60 cases that included child sexual abuses, sexual assaults, and physical abuse cases.

LPR (License Plate Reader) Program - The MSP continues its leadership role in utilizing LPRs, as a valuable crime-fighting tool. This technology allows a trooper to patrol his/her area of responsibility and capture the images of vehicles encountered, either parked or moving. LPRs are also mounted at fixed locations throughout Maryland and provide for 24/7 monitoring. The LPR technology automates a process that in the past was conducted manually. With large numbers of agencies embracing this technology, Maryland embarked on a plan to network LPR data collected from these various agencies to one central server, housed at the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center (MCAC). LPR data housed on the central server is maintained for a period of one year and is made available to all law enforcement agencies, provided that the data search requested is related to a criminal investigation or relevant to the safety of officers and citizens. As of December 31, 2012 there were 371 LPRs deployed statewide from 60 different law enforcement agencies and 262 LPR units networked to the MCAC central server from 44 different law enforcement agencies. The following are but two of the many examples of the program's success in Maryland's crime fight.

- A Golden Ring Barrack "R" trooper was operating a mobile LPR unit on Interstate 695 in Anne Arundel County when he received an alarm for suspended tags. Following the stop of the vehicle, a strong odor of marijuana was detected inside the motor vehicle. It was also learned that the operator's driver's license was suspended for child support. A probable cause search was conducted and revealed two large bags of marijuana in the center console with a weight of 220 grams. Also, between the driver's seat and the center console was a loaded semi-automatic pistol. The driver did not have authorization to carry a loaded firearm and he was on probation.
- A trooper from JFK Highway Barrack "M" was patrolling Interstate 95 in Harford County, operating a vehicle equipped with an LPR, when he received an alarm for stolen registration plate. The barrack was contacted and verified the registration plate was entered into NCIC as stolen on 4/4/2012. The vehicle was stopped and contact was made with the female driver. A check of the driver revealed that her Florida driver's license was suspended 12 times. It also revealed she had three outstanding fugitive warrants in Florida. Florida authorities extradited the suspect back to their state.

**<u>Criminal and Terrorist Interdiction</u>** – Maryland highways are often used to transport and smuggle illegal drugs and contraband monies. Intelligence indicates that certain proceeds from the sale of untaxed cigarettes have been used to fund terrorist activities. MSP focuses on these types of crimes on our state's highways as evidenced in the following examples of successful cases.

 A JFK Highway Barrack "M" trooper conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for speeding. The operator was identified by her NC driver's license. A host of criminal indicators were observed and a K-9 was requested. The K-9 handler conducted a free air sniff of the vehicle during the normal busi-

ness of the traffic stop resulting in a positive alert to the odor of narcotics. A hand search of the vehicle revealed a bag in the cargo area of the vehicle of 70 bundles containing 50 packs per bundle of wrapped brown powder, identified as heroin. During the traffic stop, the driver advised she was coming from New Brunswick, NJ and going to NC. The packaging of the heroin is indicative of the sale and distribution of controlled dangerous substances. The driver was arrested and over 1,186 grams of heroin was seized.



#### **STRATEGY**

#### Criminal and Terrorist Interdiction

In March of 2012, a trooper assigned to the Pro-Active Criminal Enforcement (PACE) Team conducted a traffic stop on a 2005 Toyota Sienna for speeding on Interstate 95 in Cecil County, Maryland. During the traffic stop, the trooper detected numerous indicators of criminal activity and observed a large quantity of cigarettes. A probable cause search of the vehicle was conducted. The search confirmed that the large amount of cigarettes did not display a Maryland tax identification stamp. The operator of the vehicle was subsequently arrested and turned over to the Maryland Comptroller's Office. It is believed the cigarettes were being transported from Virginia to New York for sale on the black market. A total count of the cigarettes was 12,510 packs or 1,251 cartons. These cigarettes have an estimated street value of \$74,809.80 with a tax loss to Maryland of \$25.020.

THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE MARYLAND STATE POLICE SUPPORT THEIR COMMUNITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS. THE FOLLOWING PROVIDES A GLIMPSE OF THEIR EFFORTS.

<u>Special Olympics Maryland</u> - The men and women of the Maryland State Police have actively supported Special Olympics Maryland.

 During 2012, this included coordination of the Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge for Special Olympics for the 16<sup>th</sup> year. More than 14,300 people participated and were part of the more than 22,000 people who attended the event at Sandy Point State Park in January. More than \$2.5 million were raised to support Special Olympics Maryland. The 138<sup>th</sup> Trooper Candidate Class alone raised more than \$22,000 to

support the Plunge in just 10 days during





their first weeks of training in the Academy.

• MSP joined the Natural Resources Police to coordinate the 14<sup>th</sup> annual **Deep Creek Dunk** in February 2012. Almost 1,000 people jumped into Deep Creek Lake and raised \$165,000 for Special Olympics Maryland.

• Troopers and civilian employees participated in t-shirt sales and the statewide **Law Enforcement Torch Run** for Special Olympics. They also supported Special Olympics events sponsored by other police departments throughout the year, including "Cops On Rooftops", road races and golf tournaments.

#### **Holiday Season**

- Golden Ring Barrack "R" hosted its fifth "Shop With a Cop" event in Baltimore County. More than 50 troopers and cadets teamed up with 50 children for shopping at Wal-Mart, breakfast, and a tour of the barrack.
- Members of the **North East Barrack "F"** held its first "Shop With a Cop" event for children and helped them buy the presents they wished for from a local Wal-Mart before treating them to lunch.
- Troopers from Leonardtown Barrack "T" teamed up with local law enforcement and helped more than 100 children participate in "Shop with a Cop" in St. Mary's County.



- Prince Frederick Barrack "U" troopers worked with allied police departments and helped more than 60 kids have a happy holiday.
- Troopers in Prince George's County and local police coordinated "Operation Santa With a Badge."
- **Princess Anne Barrack** "X" employees held a holiday community festival attended by more than 500 citizens in a high crime area of Somerset County.



• Members of **Easton Barrack "I"** coordinated their "Bears That Care" campaign, which has helped needy families on the Eastern Shore for more than 14 years.

• MSP employees across Maryland collected toys for the **WMAR TV Annual Toy Drive** and then helped deliver the toys in time for the holidays to children at the Ronald McDonald House, Kennedy Krieger Institute, and Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore.

• Current and retired members from the Carroll County area and **Westminster Barrack** "G" coordinated their Christmas for Kids that included dinner and gifts for more than 100 kids and their families, sponsored by Maryland Troopers Association Lodge 20.









### *92 Years of Service to Maryland and Its Citizens*