

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

Keith D. Squires
Commissioner



Utah

Department of Public Safety

First In Line for a New Driver License



From left to right: Governor Herbert meets employees at DLD's Fairpark office; Governor addresses the media and completes paperwork for a new license.
Photo credits: Governor's Office

Governor Gary Herbert visited DPS's Driver License Division's Fair Park Office to help introduce DLD's updated driver license and identification cards. The new cards include enhanced security features designed to prevent fraud.

At the media event, Governor Herbert noted, "I am

impressed with the changes made and happy to be one of the first to renew my license. The newly designed license and state ID cards will enhance public safety and improve privacy protection for all Utahns."

[Watch](#) a KSL news story about the new licenses [here](#).

A New Ceremony to Signify Change

On July 28th, Commissioner Squires led the Utah Highway Patrol in its first ever change of command ceremony.

The event was held to honor outgoing Colonel Daniel Fuhr and welcome Colonel Michael Rapich as the new Superintendent of the Utah Highway Patrol.

Lt. Troy Denney took some special photos before the event and Chris Averett from DPS Public Affairs division created a video of the ceremony. [Watch](#) the change of command ceremony video [here](#).

[Watch](#) a KUTV news story about the ceremony and transition [here](#).



Clockwise from above: Colonel Rapich with his parents; Colonel Rapich, Commissioner Squires and Colonel Fuhr; Commissioner Squires presents Colonel Fuhr with a plaque; Colonel Fuhr and Colonel Rapich salute each other during the ceremony.



Public Protection Unit in Cleveland

The City of Cleveland and State of Ohio requested assistance from DPS for the Republican National Convention. Commissioner Squires and Colonel Rapich wanted to support our fellow state police agency and knew that the experience would be invaluable for the DPS Public Protection Unit (PPU). The unit was deployed with the assistance of the DPS' Division of Emergency Management through the Emergency Management Assistance Contract.



Governor Herbert met with the The UHP Public Protection Unit.

In 2014, Commissioner Squires directed the establishment of the DPS Public Protection Unit (PPU). He was concerned with increasing incidences of violent protests around the country. He wanted the state to have a specially equipped and well-trained team that would not overreact to public unrest situations and have the capability of restoring order

with a minimum use of force.

The 34 officer team was assembled and is comprised of UHP troopers and DPS State Bureau of Investigation agents. They received their initial training through a U.S. Department of Homeland Security course in Anniston, Alabama, and continue every month with specialized training through DPS. They have been utilized twice in Utah. First, when crowds became violent after an officer involved shooting of an assault suspect in downtown Salt Lake City and secondly when a group of protesters attempted to push past officers and breach the entrance to a rally for presidential candidate Donald Trump.

The team deployed to Cleveland and through the course of the week, the PPU encountered many different groups of protesters and many challenges. But the well-planned and coordinated efforts of all the law enforcement agencies resulted in an overwhelmingly positive and peaceful outcome. Both Governor Herbert and Utah House Speaker Greg Hughes met with the PPU during the convention. As Major Jess Anderson noted about the convention and the PPU, "A new chapter has been written in 21st century policing given the outcome of this event and our very own troopers and agents are a part of it."

New Car Seat Technicians

Do you know if you can safely fit three car seats in the back seat of a Ford Explorer? Are you sure your children's or grandchildren's car seats are installed correctly? Fortunately, throughout the State of Utah, there are child passenger safety (CPS) technicians who can answer these and any other questions you have about car seats. DPS' Highway Safety Office recently hosted a CPS technician training course in Cedar City and added eleven certified CPS techs to Utah's existing team of techs. The new techs will utilize their skills to help parents and care givers make sure their children ride safely in vehicles. [Click here](#) to find a certified car seat tech near you.

The national Child Passenger Safety Technician

training certifies individuals as CPS techs and is designed for individuals in various professions including nurses, law enforcement, fire and rescue personnel, health educators, child care providers and community members and consists of 32 hours of classroom and hands-on instruction. Certified instructors from Utah deliver the curriculum, which is developed by Safe Kids Worldwide.



CPS techs and trainers before a car seat check point.



UHP Honor Guard Activities

The UHP Honor Guard has been a specialized unit within the patrol for over 20 years. The purpose of the unit is to represent the Utah Highway Patrol at ceremonial functions and exemplify departmental “esprit de corps”.

The Honor Guard provides full honors

at the funerals of troopers (retired and line-of-duty deaths) and other officers as requested. These honors include: 21-gun rifle salute, honorary pallbearers and trumpets for “Taps”. The unit will also provide Casket Sentries (guards which stand watch over the remains of the fallen) in the case of line-of-duty deaths or dignitary funerals.

The UHP Honor Guard is also proud and privileged to have the opportunity to pay homage to the heritage and forebears of the department by providing these honors for retired troopers. It is a distinction rare among law enforcement departments. The presence of the Honor Guard is often requested by the families of the deceased and retired troopers. Many of the retired troopers have been retired for decades. It is a testament to the strength of the Highway Patrol that their families think of time of service as a highlight of their loved ones’ life.

The UHP Honor Guard further provides color guard services at the opening ceremonies to conferences and special events.

The final and most somber function of the Honor



The UHP Honor Guard salutes at a vigil for fallen officers in July.

Guard is to send departmental representatives to the select funerals of law enforcement personnel throughout the country when possible. Typically, approval for Honor Guard representatives for out-of-state funerals is granted only in heinous cases of murder or the intentional

ambush of law enforcement officers. Law enforcement, as a profession, is dangerous. It is not unique in that aspect. Many occupations are hazardous. However, only in law enforcement are men and women routinely murdered as a function of their employment. When this occurs, the loss is felt not only by the families, but by their surrogate families: their departments. The presence of the UHP Honor Guard at such functions reminds the families, the departments and the citizens that despite tragedy, support for them is both resolute and nation-wide.

Following the tragic events in Dallas and Baton Rouge, UHP partnered with Salt Lake City Police Department, Unified Police Department, South Jordan Police Department and Draper City Police Department to hold a vigil at the Utah Law Enforcement Memorial. Commissioner Squires joined the heads of the other law enforcement agencies to remember the law enforcement officers who made the ultimate sacrifice while protecting their communities.

-Sgt. Christian Newlin