#### **Local News**



# Captain Vitale Announces The Promotion Of Corporal Jeff L. McCullough

SEPTEMBER 06TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Captain Vitale Announces The Promotion Of Corporal Jeff L. McCullough

Poplar Bluff, Missouri - Captain Jeffrey N. Vitale, commanding officer of Troop E, Poplar Bluff, is pleased to announce the promotion of Corporal Jeff L. McCullough to the rank of sergeant. Sergeant McCullough will be designated the zone supervisor of Zone 4, which serves the citizens of Bollinger, Cape Girardeau and Scott counties.

McCullough joined the Patrol on January 1, 1993, as a member of the 65th Recruit Class.

Upon graduating from the Patrol's Law Enforcement Academy in Jefferson City, he was assigned to Troop E, Zone 10, which serves the citizens of Dunklin County. On August 1, 1998, he was promoted to corporal and designated the assistant zone supervisor of Zone 10.

On June 1, 1999, he transferred to Zone 4.

Sergeant McCullough was born in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, and graduated from Jackson High School in Jackson, Missouri. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice from Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau. Sergeant McCullough is married to Kelly (Rayburn) and they have two children.

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# SCAM ALERT From the Dexter Police Department

SEPTEMBER 02ND 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

# SCAM ALERT From the Dexter Police Department

Dexter, Missouri - From the Dexter Police Department - SCAM ALERT!!

#### ATTENTION AREA BUSINESSES:

This morning, a local, franchised business received a telephone call from a male subject who identified himself as a CEO of the corporation. The male caller stated that he had received information from "the bank" that this local store had taken and deposited \$2500 in counterfeit bills. The "CEO" then advised management that an "emergency deposit" of

\$2500 needed to be made on a prepaid credit card and that an associate would be by to pick it up. The "CEO" stated that if management didn't comply, the US Marshals would show up to investigate and / or make arrests.

Needless to say, the business did NOT comply.

A few things to keep in mind:

- 1. Our local banks are very diligent in watching for and detecting counterfeit money. They call us if they believe they have fake currency; usually before calling the business who made the deposit.
- 2. The US Marshal Service is not the Federal agency that investigates counterfeit money.
- 3. When law enforcement agencies are ready to visit you in reference to an investigation, you know it when they arrive; they usually don't give you much advance notice. In other words, don't let a scammer threaten you with us (law enforcement) into doing something.

If you have a doubt as to the validity of a call from person(s) identifying themselves as law enforcement, please call us anytime at (573) 624-5512.

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# Missouri Activates Blue Alert System

AUGUST 28TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

## Missouri Activates Blue Alert System

Colonel Sandra K. Karsten, superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, announces Missouri's Blue Alert System is now operational. Senate Bill 34, signed by Gov. Eric Greitens on July 6, becomes effective on Monday, August 28, and called for the creation of the Blue Alert System in Missouri.

"Blue Alert is an important program that lets every law enforcement officer in the state of Missouri know that the community supports them and has their back," said Governor Eric Greitens. "Our police officers do dangerous work to protect all of us, and this program will help us ensure that anyone who assaults a law enforcement officer is quickly found and brought to justice."

According to Section 650.520 RSMo., a Blue Alert can be issued in Missouri if the following criteria are met:

- 1. A law enforcement officer is killed or seriously injured in the line of duty; or
- 2. An officer is missing in connection with official duties; or
- 3. There is an imminent and credible threat to kill or seriously injure a law enforcement officer; and
- 4. There is actionable information known about a suspect for a public notification to be helpful to law enforcement; and
- 5. The law enforcement agency involved requests or approves the alert being issued.

Missouri's Blue Alert System is a cooperative effort that includes the Department of Public Safety, Missouri Department of Transportation, State Emergency Management Agency, Missouri State Highway Patrol, broadcasters and state law enforcement agencies to quickly get word out to the general public of an attack on a police officer or an imminent threat.

A Blue Alert will work similar to an AMBER Alert and use the same technology. Using television and radio broadcasts through the Emergency Alert System, text messaging, and

MoDOT message boards, each Blue Alert will provide the public with a description of the offender, the offender's vehicle, and license plate number, as available. Cell phone customers should contact their cellular service provider for information on whether Blue Alert text messages will be made available.

Quickly and widely disseminating this information enlists the public's assistance in identifying and capturing the suspect, and reducing the threat to the general public and law enforcement officers.

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Rules of the Road During the Solar Eclipse

Did You Feel the Earthquake?

# 3.1 Earthquake Rattles Parts of Southeast Missouri

AUGUST 19TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

### 3.1 Earthquake Rattles Parts of Southeast Missouri

Southeast, Missouri - A magnitude 3.1 earthquake rattled parts of southeast Missouri on Friday, Aug. 18.

The quake happened around 9:18 a.m. Friday about six miles northeast of Portageville, Missouri.

It had a depth of about seven miles.

LAST UPDATED ON AUGUST 19TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Missouri Joins Five States to Launch Enforcement Blitz Against Speeding

Did You Feel the Earthquake?

Missouri Joins Five States to Launch Enforcement Blitz Against

Speeding

# Enforcement Blitze Nets Almost 2,000 Speeders

AUGUST 05TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

## Enforcement Blitze Nets Almost 2,000 Speeders

Missouri law enforcement officials issued 1,951 speeding citations as part of a six-state speed enforcement blitz conducted throughout the state from July 21 to July 23.

"Obey the Sign or Pay the Fine" was an intensified effort to crack down on speeding in Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Arkansas and Oklahoma. More than 7,700 speeding tickets were issued in the six states during the three-day enforcement period.

In addition to cracking down on speeding, the effort also resulted in citations for other offenses, such as driving while intoxicated and not wearing seat belts. In Missouri, the results for the "Obey the Sign or Pay the Fine" initiative are as follows:

- 3,728 Total number of traffic citations issued
- 316 Total number of seat belt citations issued
- 1,951 Total number of speed citations issues
- 2,148 Total number of traffic warnings issued
- 54 Total DWI arrests and citations
- 106 Total commercial vehicle citations issued
- 67 Total commercial vehicle warnings issued
- 79 Total drug arrests made
- 213 Felony arrest/other

Law enforcement officials reported 180 crashes in Missouri during the blitz, 33 of which were speed related. In addition, there were seven fatalities on Missouri highways during the three-day speeding crackdown, with one occurring on the routes included in the enforcement effort. Interstates 70, 44, 55, 35 were the primary routes targeted in the

initiative because that's where most of the state's speed-related crashes occur.

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