



News Release

DATE: NOVEMBER 09TH, 2016

TITLE: WHP TROOPERS RETURN FROM NORTH DAKOTA

CITY: STATEWIDE

Narrative:

The six Wyoming Highway Patrol State Troopers that were sent to assist law enforcement in North Dakota in regards to the Dakota Access Pipeline protests have returned home. The six members of the WHP Special Services Squad departed for North Dakota on October 22nd and returned to Wyoming yesterday, November 8th.

The Troopers were sent to North Dakota at the request of North Dakota officials as both states are members of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact. Wyoming Highway Patrol Colonel Kebin Haller stated "Our six Troopers arrived back safely after having assisted North Dakota law enforcement for the past 16 days. Regardless of assignment, our Troopers react as professionals while protecting all people and property including the protection of civil liberties for all. It is good to have our guys back safe and sound."

While assisting North Dakota law enforcement with the protests, the WHP Troopers were under the direction of an assigned WHP Squad Leader who communicated and coordinated with the Morton County North Dakota Sheriff's Office.

WHP Captain Shawn Dickerson, WHP Special Services Squad Co-Commander, stated "Our Troopers displayed excellent self control and professionalism and were not involved in any use of force incidents beyond normal crowd control movements. This was accomplished in spite of our Troopers being on the front lines during some intense moments when individuals were throwing rocks, sticks, wood and anything else they could at the officers."

Two of the six WHP Troopers did receive minor injuries from thrown objects.

All costs (salaries, lodging, per diem) associated with the Wyoming Troopers assisting in North Dakota will be reimbursed by North Dakota. There are no current plans to send any additional WHP Troopers to North Dakota at this time.

END

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