

COMMUNITY HEROES NIGHT

Payson Lions Football - Friday, September 4, 2026

Honoring the law enforcement officers, first responders and K9 teams who serve our communities every day.



UTAH HIGHWAY PATROL - UTAH COUNTY

22-23

state troopers cover Utah County across six shifts

10-20

calls for service a trooper may respond to per shift

~100

calls a 4-6 trooper crew may handle in 24 hours

~100/day

calls a UHP dispatcher covering Utah County may answer

Service goes far beyond traffic stops. Helping stranded motorists is a significant part of the job. One local trooper estimates 40-50% of his time is spent assisting stranded drivers and that he personally helps about 200 motorists per year.

~200/year

stranded motorists personally helped by one local trooper

800-1,000

estimated vehicle stops per year for one local trooper

1/day

flat tire one trooper changes on an almost-daily basis

26

full-time UHP motorcycles statewide

MEMORABLE ROADWAY HAZARDS

Troopers remove hundreds of hazards each year. One memorable removal included a full-size couch and four toilets.

UHP K9 INTERDICTION TEAM

Working statewide to support road safety and interdiction efforts.

20 working K9 teams statewide	15 drug-detection K9s	5 Capitol bomb-detection K9s	2 former Troopers of the Year on the team
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2026 YEAR-TO-DATE INTERDICTION STATISTICS PROVIDED TO US

86 interdiction loads	63% of interdiction loads reported as Utah-bound	614 lbs methamphetamine seized	303,711 fentanyl pills seized
248 lbs bulk marijuana seized	35 lbs cocaine seized	1.2 lbs heroin seized	45 illegal firearms seized

Additional seizures reported include hallucinogens and 10,862 vape cartridges.

JOINING US FOR COMMUNITY HEROES NIGHT

Sgt. Jeff Blankenagle - Tyler Harris - Hunter Hurley - Marshal Roundy - and their K9 partners

UHP SECTION 14 - JUAB & MILLARD COUNTIES

14 troopers in Section 14	2 sergeants	556 highway miles covered	28,000+ residents served across both counties
10,911 vehicle stops	332 drug arrests	95 impaired drivers removed from the roads	559 crashes investigated
2,138 stranded motorists assisted	41 community education presentations	10 vehicle pursuits safely managed	1+ year one Juab County crew went without a fatal interstate crash

HEROES BEHIND THE BADGE

The numbers tell part of the story. These moments show the people and service behind them.

A LIFE-SAVING RESPONSE

During a 2026 mental-health crisis, UHP and local officers responded to an individual running on the interstate and threatening to jump from an overpass. Officers shut down the freeway, communicated with the individual and were ultimately able to get the person safely off the roadway and connected with help.

LYNN PIERSON AWARD

Lt. Corey Housekeeper recently received the Lynn Pierson Award, recognizing a Utah Highway Patrol member for integrity, outstanding character, community involvement and leadership. The award honors Trooper Lynn Pierson, who lost his life in the line of duty.

TROOPER OF THE YEAR

Corporal Hagan Issacson has previously been recognized as Trooper of the Year.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Troopers also participate in driver-education classes, Juab County's Citizen Academy, parades and other community events - serving not only on the road, but throughout the communities they protect.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

Tonight, Payson Lions Football proudly recognizes the men, women and K9 partners who serve and protect our communities.

Source note: Facts and statistics were provided directly to Payson Football by UHP/first responder contacts. Some numbers are 2026 year-to-date, while others are annual estimates or section-specific statistics.