



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
APRIL 8, 2009

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FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL PROMOTES LOCAL TROOP COMMANDER TO LEAD NORTH FLORIDA OPERATIONS

~ *FHP reorganizes to put more troopers on highways* ~

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. - Florida Highway Patrol Director Col. John Czernis promoted Maj. Grady Carrick to Chief at a ceremony today at the Patrol's headquarters in Tallahassee. Chief Carrick will be the Northern Region Commander, overseeing the Florida Highway Patrol's four northern troops (A, B, G and H), which covers Florida from Pensacola to Jacksonville. For the past 11 years, Carrick has been the commander of Troop G in Jacksonville, which covers Nassau, Duval, Clay, St. Johns, Flagler, Putnam, Baker, Bradford and Union counties.

The promotion is part of a recent Florida Highway Patrol reorganization, which emphasizes accountability, responsibility and the unity of command. The Patrol's new structure maximizes resources and gives troopers the ability to perform their duties more effectively and efficiently. The *Florida Highway Patrol 2009 Reorganization* is available online at www.flhsmv.gov/fhp.

"We are reassigning staff so that we have fewer administrators at headquarters and more troopers on the road. We have been able to accomplish this while also recognizing a cost savings," said Czernis. "Chief Carrick has a tremendous responsibility as the Northern Region Commander, and I have full confidence in his leadership abilities to lead the Patrol's operations in north Florida."

Carrick began his career with the Florida Highway Patrol in Miami in 1982 after graduating from FHP's 65th Recruit Class. After promoting up through the ranks to major, he led operations in Miami as the Commander of Troop-E for five years. In 1997, he transferred to Jacksonville to head Troop G. Carrick will remain in Jacksonville.

Carrick graduated from Bishop Kinney High School in Jacksonville and holds a master's degree in public administration from Florida International University and a master's degree in civil engineering from the University of Florida. He is a graduate of the 172nd Session of the FBI Academy.

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles is charged with the mission of *providing highway safety and security through excellence in service, education and enforcement*. The Department is leading the way to a *Safer Florida* by way of three major components: driver licenses, vehicle tags and titles and the Florida Highway Patrol. To learn more about DHSMV and the services offered, visit www.flhsmv.gov.

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