



NEWS RELEASE

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

~ FHP reorganizes to put more troopers on highways ~

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. - Florida Highway Patrol Director, Col. John Czernis, promoted Maj. Cyrus Brown to Chief at a ceremony today at FHP's headquarters in Tallahassee. Chief Brown will be the Central Region Commander, overseeing the Florida Highway Patrol's three central Florida troops (C, D and K.), which covers Tampa to Orlando and the Florida Turnpike. Since 2001, Brown has been the commander of Troop D in Orlando, Fla., which covers Brevard, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole and Volusia 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 Brown has a tremendous responsibility as the Central Region Commander, and I have full confidence in his leadership abilities to lead the Patrol's operations in central Florida."

Brown began his career with the Florida Highway Patrol in Pinellas Park after graduating from FHP's 71st Recruit Class in 1984. After promoting up through the ranks to major in 2001, he was the Commander of Troop-C in Tampa, Fla., before transferring to Troop D. Brown will remain in Orlando.

Brown holds a master's degree in public administration from the University of Central Florida. He is a graduate of the 213th Session of the FBI Academy and the 13th Session of the University of Louisville's Southern Police Institute.

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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