



NEWS RELEASE

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FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL PROMOTES CAPTAIN TO LEAD LOCAL TROOP

~ Williams takes command of FHP's Troop D ~

ORLANDO, Fla. – Florida Highway Patrol Director, Col. John Czernis, announced today that Capt. Cindy Williams of Orlando will take the reigns as the new troop commander of Troop D on July 10. As she assumes her new position within the Patrol, Williams will trade in her captain's bars for the gold oak leaf cluster worn by majors, and she will oversee the troop that covers Brevard, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole and Volusia counties. Williams will fill a position vacated upon the promotion of her predecessor, Chief Cyrus Brown, when he became FHP's Central Region Commander.

"Major Williams has spent more than half of her 23-year Patrol career in Troop D. She knows the area and has demonstrated that she is ready for the next step in her career, which requires a great amount of responsibility," said Czernis. "I have full confidence in her abilities to lead the troop in central Florida."

Williams is currently assigned to Troop C in Lakeland, where she has been district commander since November 2006. As district commander, she oversees field operations for Hillsborough and Polk counties. Williams began her career with the Florida Highway Patrol in Orlando, where she spent 15 years after graduating from the 76th recruit class in 1986. Her return to Troop D will be both a homecoming and a milestone, as Williams will be the first woman to command Troop D.

Williams holds an associate degree in criminal justice from Valencia Community College, and is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from the University of Central Florida. She graduated from the 224th session of the FBI National Academy in 2006, and she has spent a great amount of her career in the investigations arena.

In 1990, Williams received the Division Director's award for apprehending 227 motorists for Driving Under the Influence. The Florida Highway Patrol also recognized Williams for her efforts to remove impaired drivers from the roadways by making more than 100 DUI arrests four years in a row.

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles provides highway safety and security through excellence in service, education and enforcement. The Department is leading the way to a safer Florida through the efficient and professional execution of its core mission: the issuance of driver licenses, vehicle tags and titles and operation of the Florida Highway Patrol. To learn more about DHSMV and the services offered, visit www.flhsmv.gov.

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