

Office of the Governor

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NEWS RELEASE

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GOVERNOR'S WEEKLY RADIO ADDRESS DISCUSSES THE NEW STATE POLICE RECRUITING CAMPAIGN

Gov. Christie Whitman provides a weekly radio message to radio stations throughout the state. Each week, the message focuses on a different concern or event of interest to New Jerseyans.

In this week's address, Governor Whitman talks about the new recruiting efforts developed by the New Jersey State Police to increase its ranks. In its search for bright, energetic men and women who want to join the fight against crime, they are reaching out more aggressively than ever to make sure the Division of State Police attracts Troopers from all communities.

Attached is a text of the message.

The radio message can be accessed by calling the Governor's actuality line at 609-292-3249. It will be available today, beginning at noon, and will run through the weekend.

The address is also available on our website at <http://www.state.nj.us/governor/radio2.html>.

RADIO ADDRESS STATE POLICE RECRUITS

Hello, this is Governor Christie Whitman.

Did you know that General Norman Schwarzkopf's grandfather designed the State Police Badge in 1921 - and its design hasn't changed in almost 80 years?

The three points on this triangular shield stand for "Honor," "Duty" and "Fidelity" - the principles upon which the State Police was founded. Once a badge number is issued to a trooper it belongs to that trooper for life - and is never used again.

The New Jersey State Police has a long and distinguished record of service to our state - one that makes every trooper proud to wear the State Police shield.

Today, we're looking to expand the number of troopers who wear that badge so proudly. In fact, we're looking for scores of

outstanding men - and women - to form the next class of New Jersey State Troopers.

We've started a new billboard campaign to advertise the 120 different exciting careers in the New Jersey State Police - from crime scene investigation to community policing, from aviation to marine law enforcement, from forensics to communications.

Our new recruits will become part of one of the finest, most professional, and most effective police forces in the country, one dedicated to keeping all of us safe. They are on the front lines of our fight against crime.

Speaking of crime, it's not simply a coincidence that crime in New Jersey has dropped to the lowest level in more than 25 years. Yes, we have put tough laws on the books. But the main reason our streets are safer is the work of our law enforcement community.

In our search for bright, energetic men and women who want to join the fight against crime, we are reaching out more aggressively than ever to make sure we attract Troopers from all communities.

It is vitally important for us to attract to the force more women and minorities with the right stuff, and I believe our new ad campaign will encourage a greater number of candidates to apply. If we are truly Many Faces, One Family we must extend our message to every member of our family.

Of course, police work is dangerous. Just last month we lost a municipal police officer, Steven Levy, killed in the line of duty. Law enforcement carries very real risks and requires dedication and mental toughness every day.

On the other hand, I can think of few more noble callings than to serve the public and protect the safety and security of your neighbors and fellow citizens.

So as we begin taking applications for the next class of Troopers, I urge men and women looking for a career in law enforcement in New Jersey to think about becoming part of the State Police force.

We offer a great starting salary, excellent benefits, and continuous training and education in over 120 exciting career opportunities.

To be eligible you must be between 18 and 35 years old, a U.S. citizen, and have a current driver's license. Applicants must also have a college degree or 60 college credits with two years of satisfactory employment or military experience.

If you're interested, here's a number to call - 1-877-NJSP-877. That's 1-877-NJSP-877. Or you can visit the State Police website at www.njsp.org.

We have a great State Police force with remarkable individuals and a top-notch new leader in Superintendent Carson Dunbar. Under his command, and with continued dedication to honor, duty, and fidelity, we intend to make it even better.

Thank you, and have a great week.

