

# TROOPER TALK

A PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA STATE POLICE ASSOCIATION

SPRING 2021



## A Memo from VSP Colonel Gary T. Settle

*(Reprinted in part with permission after the January 6th riot at the U.S. Capitol)*

On January 6, 2021, our nation's capital experienced a crisis that has never been seen by current generations. What initially began as a peaceful demonstration rapidly deteriorated into a violent attack on the U.S. Capitol building and on the local, state, and federal law enforcement personnel on post for security at the event.

Within two hours of the U.S. Capitol coming under siege, our

Division 7 Tactical Field Force (TFF) and Tactical Team were heading across the 14th Street Bridge into Washington, D.C. The Virginia State Police was one of the first law enforcement agencies to respond to and enter the U.S. Capitol in order to restore order.



Colonel Settle

Once inside the Capitol, our troopers were immediately met with violence. Bats, sticks, metal objects, bottles, rocks, and other items were used to assault the troopers as they

attempted to clear rioters from the West Side of the Capitol. One of our troopers recounted his experience inside the Capitol: "I was then struck on the head by a sledge hammer and then a heavy object that was thrown over top of the shields, which knocked

my helmet off and broke off the mount for my night vision goggles. As I went to put my helmet back on, I saw that an officer next to me was lying on the

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## Appreciation & Recognition of Our Donors

We are especially grateful to the people in Virginia who go the extra mile to support us. It is a privilege to recognize our donors with decals, insignia and a tremendous amount of thanks.

For our spring fundraising campaign, we have our 2021 VSPA window stickers available to anyone who contributes. In addition, all spring 2021 donors will be eligible to win our spring vacation package for two, which includes two nights at the Brierley Hill Bed & Breakfast ([www.brierleyhill.com](http://www.brierleyhill.com)), a romantic country inn in Lexington.

Those who can donate \$50 or more will receive our new VSPA 2021 die-cut medallion. The medallion is cast metal, crafted specifically for us with a strong magnet that adheres to any metal



surface. They are dated for each year and have become collector's items among our supporters. Fifty dollar donors will also receive four window stickers and be entered twice for the vacation. Hundred dollar donors will receive four window stickers, will be entered four times in the vacation drawing and will be recognized in our office in Richmond.

If you have any special requests, or have questions about our mailing, please call our Donor Service Center at 888-239-5323.



## Virginia State Trooper Posts "Thank You" to Man after Impromptu Car Ride



Sgt. Nicely and Mr. Scott

A Virginia State Trooper's Facebook post got a lot of attention after a unique day on the job.

The interaction between a white trooper and a black man is getting a lot of positive attention.

First Sergeant Anthony Nicely took to social media this week when

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# Good Samaritans Help State Trooper Attacked During a Traffic Stop

Virginia State Police said two Good Samaritans saved a state trooper after he was assaulted by a Richmond man during a traffic stop.

VSP trooper M.W. Deus said he observed a vehicle speeding while traveling west on I-64 in Henrico County. He pulled the vehicle over to the right shoulder near the 192 mile marker.

The vehicle was being driven by Jessy Jimenez Remigios, 23, of Richmond.

During the traffic stop, the trooper detected a strong odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle.

Remigios exited the vehicle when asked and took a seat on the guardrail. However, when the trooper returned to his patrol car, Remigios returned to his vehicle to retrieve something from inside and threw it into the woods.

Further investigation later revealed the object thrown by Remigios was a bag containing marijuana.

The trooper observed Remigios throwing the object,

and re-approached him. Remigios then became combative towards the trooper, after which officials said a struggle ensued, where Remigios punched the trooper in the face.

The two eventually ended up on the ground, and Remigios tried to forcibly remove the trooper's firearm.

Two motorists saw the struggle happening and pulled over to the right shoulder. The two then pulled Remigios off of the trooper and held Remigios until Henrico Police and additional state police arrived moments later.

The VSP said trooper Deus was transported to VCU Medical Center for treatment of the facial injuries.

"We are greatly appreciative of the valiant actions put forth by the two men who came to the aid of Trooper Deus," said Captain Ted E. Jones, Virginia State Police Richmond Division commander. "There is no telling how this situation may have ended had these men not arrived when they did and had the suspect taken possession of the trooper's firearm."

Remigios was charged with assault on a law enforcement officer, attempting to disarm a law enforcement officer, obstruction of justice, resisting arrest, possession of marijuana, damage to property and speeding.



Jessy Remigios

## A Memo from VSP Colonel Gary T. Settle

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ground and screaming that he was hurt."

After a hard fought battle, VSP was able to push the rioters back and reestablish security within the Capitol. Multiple officers were injured that day and are still recovering. Tragically, U.S. Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick did not survive his injuries sustained in the attack. A second U.S. Capitol Police Officer took his own life just days later.

**“Your professionalism shows tremendous commitment to our mission, and I am grateful to work with all of you.”**

I could fill this entire memo with all I want to say about how incredibly proud and appreciative I am of every one of our VSP members who responded in the wake of the riot and in the hours and days to follow. Seeing that line of blue-and-grays crossing the Potomac River was a sight of historical proportion. We have received hundreds of phone calls and social media posts thanking VSP for standing strong and going into the danger for the safety and protection of others.

Your professionalism shows tremendous commitment to our mission, and I am grateful to work with all of you. Please accept my sincere appreciation for your bravery and sacrifice.

VSPA SPRING 2021 VACATION DRAWING: Entries will be determined by amount of donation: one entry per household for donations under \$50, two entries per household for donations of \$50 to \$99, and four entries per household for donations of \$100 or more. Only one entry will be drawn. Entries are entered into a random computer selection software program. Winner will be notified after July 22, 2021. VSPA members and their families, VSP employees and their families are ineligible.

## Virginia State Trooper Posts “Thank You” to Man after Impromptu Car Ride

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he stopped on the side of the interstate in Alleghany County to help a man waiting for a ride.

Come to find out, that man's daughter got held up at work and he didn't have a way back to West Virginia.

Nicely drove Darren Scott back home.

Hours later in a Facebook post, Nicely thanked Scott for the fruitful car conversation and looking beyond the police badge to see a man who just wanted to help.

The two were able to reconnect on Facebook.

"I thought about our conversations and really appreciated him for what he taught me in that 30 minute ride about work ethic and family and what you need to do in life and I just kind of wanted to thank him for it after I marinated on it a little bit," said Nicely.

Thousands have responded to the post, hoping to see similar interactions.