



Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission Bureau of Law Enforcement



2017 Annual Report

Fentanyl

Waterways Conservation Officer (WCO) Anthony Beers was patrolling the Cowanshannock Creek Access, Armstrong County, when he observed a vehicle parked in the lower lot. He determined that the occupants were not engaged in either fishing or boating activities. While interacting with the driver, WCO Beers observed that the driver's behavior seemed abnormal. Due to the driver's erratic behavior and repeatedly ignoring instructions from WCO Beers to keep his hands out of his pockets, WCO Beers completed a simple search of the driver. While conducting the search, he discovered a clear, plastic container with a Fentanyl patch inside. Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) arrived to assist, and it was determined that the vehicle did not have a valid registration or inspection, and the driver did not have proof of insurance. In addition, the driver was operating the vehicle on a suspended driver's license. Appropriate charges were filed by both WCO Beers and PSP.

Air Force One

WCOs work with the United States Secret Service to secure the Susquehanna River adjacent to Harrisburg International Airport any time the President of the United States or Vice President of the United State visits the area.

WCO Mark A. Sweppenhiser and WCO Douglas L. Deppen supported the Department of Homeland Security with a Presidential Security Detail on the river in 2017.

Spear gun

WCO Anthony J. Quarracino Jr. successfully prosecuted an individual for misdemeanor charges of Serious Unlawful

Take and Unlawful Devices after a late night apprehension in the Raystown Lake Dam spillway. The individual was caught utilizing scuba gear, a submersible light and a spear gun to illegally take three trophy Walleyes and one trophy Smallmouth Bass. Entering into a plea agreement with the Huntingdon County Court of Common Pleas, the individual was sentenced to a \$2,500.00 fine, \$221.75 restitution for the gamefish, 6 years of supervised probation and a 3-year fishing privilege revocation.

Water rescue training

The Commission certified 2,799 students through the Water Rescue Program, which meets or exceeds various levels (Awareness, Operations, Technician) of National Fire Protection Association 1670 Standards. The Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission (PFBC) also conducted three Instructor Trainer Courses that certify individuals to deliver PFBC's water rescue curriculum. The Commission has a trained in-state volunteer instructor corps of 171 individuals who provided more than 11,800 hours of training in 2017. Its program is the largest of its kind in the United States.

To read the complete report, visit www.fishandboat.com/AboutUs/AnnualReports/Documents/bleAnnual-2017.pdf.

The mission of the Bureau of Law Enforcement is to protect, conserve and enhance the aquatic resources of this Commonwealth through public education and fair enforcement by dedicated professionals.

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