



Texas Department of Public Safety

Information for the News Media
Public Information Office
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DPS trooper shot, killed during traffic stop

A DPS trooper was shot and killed last night during a traffic stop in Marion County.

Trooper James Scott Burns, 39, was shot and killed by a driver he had stopped near the intersection of FM 729 and FM 1969, northeast of Lake of the Pines. At approximately 7:57 pm, Marion County dispatchers received a call over the trooper's radio from a citizen stating that the trooper had been shot.

Trooper Burns is the eighty-third DPS officer to die in the line of duty.

Law enforcement officers throughout the state are looking for a blue Dodge Intrepid with Texas license plate 039-LCG and for Brandon Wayne Robertson, 37, who is a suspect. Anyone with information about the whereabouts of the vehicle or its driver should immediately call 911.

Trooper Burns joined DPS on March 1, 2003. After graduation from the DPS Recruit School, he was stationed in Linden until that office was closed. He then transferred to the Atlanta Highway Patrol office on April 1, 2004. He transferred to Jefferson on Sept. 1, 2006, and was stationed there when he died.

Before joining the DPS, Trooper Burns had worked for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. He was born in Longview and attended college at Tyler Junior College, Texarkana College and Ouachita Baptist University.

Trooper Burns is survived by his wife and five-month-old child.

Funeral arrangements are pending.

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For a recorded sound bite on this topic, call 512-424-2606
Read about DPS online at www.txdps.state.tx.us