

The Honor Is to Serve-Keeping Indian Highways Safe and Free of Tragedy



**Bureau of Indian Affairs
Office of Justice Services
Wind River Agency-District V**

Who am I?

- **Lieutenant, Steve Knispel**, has spent 11 yrs Federal LEO. Started Indian Country career as Havasupai Highway Safety Officer at Truxton Canon Agency, located in the great state of Arizona. He has worked in BIA – OJS Districts, 1, 3 and 5. He also served as a police officer with the **BOR**, assigned to the Hoover Dam Police Department.
- He has also served as a Law Enforcement Park Ranger with the **NPS**, assigned to the Badlands National Park and the Niobrara National Scenic River. He started his LE career with the White River Police Department and Mellette County Sheriff's Department in South Dakota.
- LT. Knispel is an esteemed graduate and alumnus of the United States Indian Police Academy, the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center's, Land Management Training Program and, most recently a graduate of the FLETC - Criminal Investigator Training Program.



Who am I? Continued

- Initially his career with the Federal Government started with the Internal Revenue Service, as a Taxpayer Service Representative working on the Rosebud and Pine Ridge Indian Reservations in South Dakota.
- LT, Knispel is currently assigned to the Wind River Indian Reservation, located in Ft. Washakie, Wyoming. The department is currently one of 4 sites designated as an HPPG site, by the President Obama's Office. Lt. Knispel has had oversight of the unit that has focused its attention and efforts on reducing traffic fatalities on the reservation, caused by impaired drivers.
- He would like to share his information with you.



The Heart of Highway Safety



The foremost goal(s) of any Highway Safety Program are:

- To promote safe driving
- Ensure the safety of those who drive our roads
- Squash vehicle accidents that involve drugs and alcohol
- Reduce the amount of overall vehicle related accidents
- Eliminate vehicular fatalities



The Mobile Breath and Alcohol Testing Unit



Referred To as the BAT Mobile



The BAT Mobile Deployed In the Field



The Many Benefits of The BAT Mobile

- Mobile Command Center for DUI Checkpoints
- Public Education
- Job Fairs
- Profound Show of Force Against the Criminal Element In the Community
- The Ability to Open the Doors With Surrounding LE Agencies to Work Together to Fight DUI Related Offenses and Accidents



Combining Forces for Wind River Highway Safety



The Team Hard At Work



Wind River Stats

- 1 out of every 3 drivers on the roads in Wyoming do not wear seat belts.
- In 2008 there were 256 DUI Arrests.
- 15 Alcohol related fatalities.
- In 2010 there were 435 DUI Arrests and 1241 Public Intoxication Arrests
- The Public Intoxication stats correlate into offenders getting into vehicles intoxicated
- We have tried to be more proactive and making the arrests prior to offenders getting into vehicles



2010 Four Week DUI Statistics

Date	Calls for Service	DUI
11/08/2010	512	32
11/01/2010	708	41
10/25/2010	544	22
10/18/2010	611	25



The Facts

“DUI suppression patrols and checkpoints are a formula for success, keeping community members free of alcohol related fatalities”



What Has Made the Difference

“In 2008 Wind River Agency had one Patrol Sergeant and four Patrol Officers. In 2009 The BIA hired additional patrolman and implemented the Indian Highway Safety Unit. More officers, more DUI arrests less community trauma!”



DUI Check Points and Field Operations

Over the past several weeks the BIA-OJS, Wind River Patrol Division comprised of officers and agents from through out Indian country have set up DUI check points and conducted field operations that have been directly tied to the suppression and sustained reduction of alcohol related fatalities and crime on the Wind River Indian Reservation.



Lieutenant, Eddie Eppler on point, completes a cursory view of a vehicle after he has already interviewed the driver. Lieutenant. Martin Armajo, the Wind River Highway Safety Team Leader, carefully documents information. And Police Officer, Steven Red Cloud, conducts an interview simultaneously, under the watchful eye of Lt. Armajo.



Three major components to this picture. A driver is being interviewed by two team members in the van. In front to the right, two officers are preparing to arrest the driver for DUI. And to the side of the BAT Mobile are two newly hired police officers recruits who are watching and learning. BIA Special Agent, Wesley Conway is with the recruits and explains the intricate details of the interviewing techniques used at check points such as these.



SAC Pryor interviews the driver as BIA Drug Agent, Craig Janis interviews the passenger. During the interim, Highway Safety Team members document information as well as provide backup.



Chief Joseph Brooks III, enjoys a meal he prepared with members of his Highway Safety Team, prior to deploying for shift. Newly hired recruits are in attendance as well.



QUESTIONS or COMMENTS?

**BIA-OFFICE OF JUSTICE SERVICES
DIVISION OF OPERATIONS DISTRICT V**

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