

Nebraska State Patrol Recruit Class 57
Journal: Week # 21

Week 21 began with all 19 recruits on duty and in uniform by 0800 Monday morning. After morning chow, Camp 57 met in the classroom to begin the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations class.

In the classroom, Camp 57 learned the importance of keeping commercial motor vehicles operating within regulations in order to promote highway safety. Recruits were taught the 13 step process for doing a level III (driver only) inspection, from choosing the inspection site to completing the inspection paperwork.

While becoming acquainted with the 13 step process, recruits learned federal laws, regulations, and definitions regarding commercial motor vehicles operating in interstate commerce. Recruits became knowledgeable of how to recognize the type of vehicles they would be in contact with and which rules would apply. Class 57 also spent time learning about classifications of a commercial motor vehicle driver's license and the limits of each.

After learning classifications of both driver and vehicles, the class focused on operating hours. Commercial motor vehicle drivers have requirements regarding operating hours, time on duty not driving, and time sleeping or off duty. These laws are in place to ensure that drivers are staying rested and are able to adequately perform tasks to keep all drivers safe. These rules require commercial operators to accurately record time and keep them up-to-date in accordance with the Hours of Service regulations. Recruits learned how to read these logs, detect false logs, and make sure they are operating within the limits for driver safety.

Overall, Camp 57 had performed well and had earned the week 21 battle streamer. Recruits kept good attention to detail, were performance driven during a week that covered a substantial amount of material, and remained team oriented by helping each other understand the new subject. Week 21 finished with the exam on Friday over the week's material.

For It Is Our Duty