



Specialty units within the department frequently wear distinctive uniforms.

Shades and ball caps characterize the original ISP gang unit. From left to right, M/Sgt. Mark Koelker, Capt. Terry Delaney, S/A Joseph Bates, Sgt. Gary Catto, and Sgt. Jerry Johnson (ret.), all from Dist. 11.



A TRT unit's sniper and spotter wear combat helmets with Kevlar covers and black combat fatigues. Sighting in on their target are Tprs. Bobby Seas and Toby Pleasant (Dist. 16).

1980s

- James B. Zagel was appointed as the director of Law Enforcement in 1981.
- Laimutis A. Nargelenas was appointed superintendent of the Division of Illinois State Police in 1983.
- Executive Order Number 3 of 1985 by Governor James R. Thompson renamed the Department of Law Enforcement as the Department of State Police and the official name of the Division of Illinois State Police became the Division of State Troopers and the Division of Support Services became the Division of Forensic Services and Identification.
- Jeremy D. Margolis was appointed the first director of the Department of State Police in 1987.
- January 15, 1986, the Department of State Police achieved national prominence, becoming the first State Police organization in the United States to garner accreditation by the Commission of Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies. This was repeated in July 1991 and in May 1996.



With kilts, plaids, and plumed bonnets, the Pipes and Drums of the Illinois State Police lend an air of pageantry to official occasions. Formed in 1987, the first state police pipe and drum unit in the nation plays parades, graduations, promotions, funerals and other police ceremonies. Pictured here, from front left to right, Tpr. Eddie Kamm, Ofc. Dan McCall, and Tish Carneghi; back, left to right, Pipe Major Shannon Bringolf, Bob Fletcher, Kevin Brown, Capt. Dave Erdmann, S/A Tim Wooldridge.

- In September of 1988, the designation of "Deputy Director" replaced the title of "Superintendent." In addition, the Department of State Police unofficially became known as the Illinois State Police. The change was made to emphasize the Illinois State Police as a single full-service police agency.



Team leader signals all-clear after TRT unit executes a raid.



Anti-terrorist patrol was part of the contingent assigned to the World Cup Soccer Games in 1994. TRT members include (standing, left to right): M/Sgt. Scott Koerner, Tpr. Calven Compton, Tpr. Derek Weston, Tpr. Mark Odenthal, Sgt. Paul Moody; (kneeling, left to right) Sgt. Rob Scambelluri, Tpr. Jaime Plomero.