

Public Service



MASTER TROOPER BENNIE GRADY

Department of Public Safety,
State Highway Patrol

Trooper Grady joined the N.C. State Highway Patrol in June 2002. He is assigned to the Field Operations Division and has been stationed in Smithfield (Johnston County) and Goldsboro (Wayne County), where he currently serves. In 2016, he joined the N.C. Troopers Association Caisson unit (NCTA), which provides a team of North Carolina State Troopers to carry out the mission of providing funeral honors for line of duty deaths for law enforcement officers. Trooper Grady is well known for his efforts with the NCTA.

In 2017, when the NCTA moved its operations to Wayne County, Trooper Grady generously offered to house the unit's horses and equipment. The NCTA owns eight horses, two trucks, two horse trailers, and a variety of other equipment. Trooper Grady volunteers numerous hours to ensure the caisson unit and its equipment receive the necessary attention and maintenance.

Trooper Grady's kindness and generosity goes beyond his care for the unit's horses and equipment. Since the NCTA relies on donations to operate, Trooper Grady organizes and hosts fundraisers for the caisson unit. He designs and sells caisson unit apparel, and meets and works with state legislators and various community groups to raise funds to assist the caisson unit with its operational costs.

The NCTA Caisson unit has been a large part of the Wayne County community. Trooper Grady works tirelessly on his time off from the State Highway Patrol to ensure the caisson unit and its horses are ready to provide funeral honors when needed. "It is a very humbling experience to be a part of a respectful service that is given to someone who gave their all, so others could have a better life," he said.

