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PRESS RELEASE

Trooper Administers Naloxone(Narcan)to Overdose Victim While Assisting The Hopkinton Police on a Motor Vehicle Stop

For Immediate Release

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Colonel Steven G. O'Donnell, Superintendent of the Rhode Island State Police and Commissioner of Public Safety, announces that on May 26, 2014, Trooper James D'Angelo, a member of the Hope Valley Barracks, was assisting a Hopkinton Police Officer on a traffic stop on Main Road in the Town Hopkinton when they discovered that a passenger in the vehicle was unconscious and unresponsive.

The passenger, a twenty-seven year old male, had a faint pulse and displayed sporadic labored breathing. The operator provided information that the passenger may have ingested a large quantity of Oxycodone pills. At this time, Troopers D'Angelo administered a dose of Naloxone (Narcan) to the passenger through a nasal mist. Members of the State Police were trained in the use of and issued Naloxone (Narcan) last month for the purpose of reducing the number of overdose deaths in the State of Rhode Island.

Ashaway Rescue personnel arrived on scene and began administering Naloxone intravenously. The subject regained consciousness a short time later. He was transported to Westerly Hospital where he was stabilized and expected to recover.

Rescue personnel believe that the Naloxone (Narcan) administered by Trooper D'Angelo stabilized the subject's breathing and most likely kept him from going into full respiratory failure.

Colonel Steven G. O'Donnell, stated "I commend Trooper D'Angelo for his quick thinking and making a difference in someone's life. If the same scenario developed before we trained our members just a month or so ago, the outcome would have been much different."

Doctor Michael D. Fine, The Director of The Rhode Island Department of Health was quoted as saying "When you save a life you save the world. The Department's thanks --and the thanks of all Rhode Islanders-- goes to the Trooper with the courage to administer Narcan, and to Col. O'Donnell for his leadership in paving the way for this to happen."