



March 27, 2020

Dear 158<sup>th</sup> Cadet Class:

On behalf of your more than 4,300 brothers and sisters, I offer my congratulations on becoming a Pennsylvania State Trooper. You have become a member of an elite law enforcement agency — the first of its kind in the nation.

For decades, the Pennsylvania State Police has held induction ceremonies that properly honor your hard work and dedication to public service. It's also a day to celebrate with your family and loved ones who rightly share in your honor. As we all well know, the bravery of our loved ones, who watch as we go to work each day to protect our communities, is special.

That's why it's so disappointing for all of us that your graduation ceremony has been limited, as our commonwealth addresses the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. We all know that duty and sacrifice comes first. We certainly understand the precautions being taken to keep everyone safe, but we also believe the 158<sup>th</sup> Cadet Class still deserves a proper graduation ceremony.

PSTA will be contacting our department leadership in the coming days to promote the concept of having a special honorary ceremony once this pandemic ends. An honorary ceremony is something you and your loved ones all deserve. Also, I know there are several legacies in your cadet class. Having your badge handed to you by a relative who served as a Trooper, or in another law enforcement agency, is a special moment treasured by many cadets who came before you. We look forward to discussing this further with our department leadership.

Once again, thank you for your service, and welcome to the greatest law enforcement agency of its kind!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D.M. Kennedy', written in a cursive style.

David M. Kennedy  
President