

Protecting Ohio's Families



Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation



MIKE DEWINE
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL





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Law enforcement
hotline..... **855-BCI-OHIO**

Drug tip line..... **800-282-DRUG**

Missing Persons Unit..... **800-325-5604**

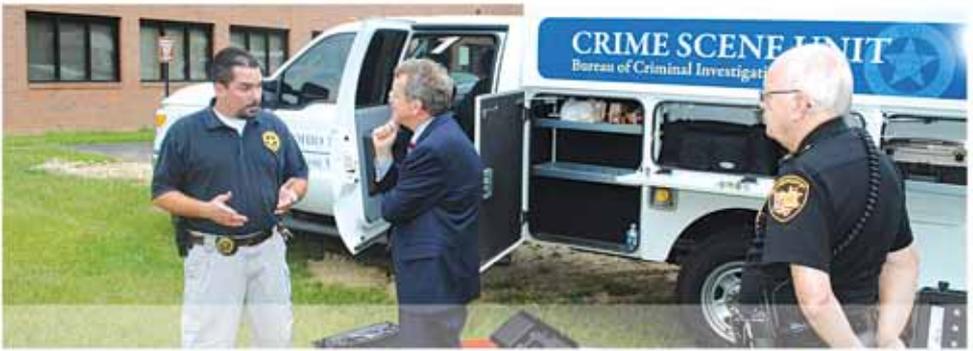
Crime scene services **740-845-2224**

Background Check
Inquiries **877-224-0043**

WebCheck™ equipment
inquiries..... **740-845-2113**

OHLEG inquiries **866-406-4534**

Attorney General's
Help Center..... **800-282-0515**



As Ohio Attorney General, ensuring that the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) continues to be a leading resource serving the state's law enforcement and judicial communities is vital to our efforts to protect Ohio's families.

With its headquarters in London and offices in Athens, Bowling Green, Cambridge, Richfield, and Youngstown, BCI stands ready to help local law enforcement throughout the state of Ohio. In 2014 we opened a new, 30,000-square-foot BCI crime lab on the campus of Bowling Green State University to bolster BCI's capabilities and expand our partnership with the university to help train the next generation of forensic scientists.

Every day, the men and women of BCI are helping to solve crimes and protect Ohioans. For example, they have tested more than 7,200 rape kits as part of the Ohio Attorney General's Sexual Assault Kit Testing Initiative that I started in 2011. This has led to more than 2,600 hits in the FBI's national DNA database and hundreds of indictments.

BCI also offers many other services including special agents who are on call to offer investigative assistance at crime scenes at any time of day or night, knowledgeable scientists and forensic specialists using the latest technology to scour evidence to bring criminals to justice, and criminal intelligence analysts and identification specialists who help local law enforcement solve cases and track down criminals.

This brochure details the many ways BCI helps local law enforcement bring criminals to justice and offers some measure of comfort to the families of victims.

Very respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike DeWine".

Mike DeWine
Ohio Attorney General



Identification Division

The Identification Division provides the latest records and state-of-the-art technology to law enforcement and other criminal justice professionals throughout the state. The division serves as the central repository for all felony records for the state of Ohio and maintains fingerprints, palm prints, photographs, and other information related to arrests within the state. The division is made up of these units:



Identification Division Services

Conversion Unit

The Conversion Unit processes criminal arrest and disposition transactions received from courts and law enforcement. The work entails entering data, correcting records, processing juvenile arrest submissions, and updating the criminal repository with disposition information.

Civilian Unit

The Civilian Unit processes all fingerprint background check requests, including FBI background checks. Personnel in this unit scan manual fingerprint cards, enter demographic data, update prior background checks upon request, and assist the public and background check vendors. Background check results, including criminal history records, are printed and mailed from this unit. The unit processes more than 1 million background checks each year.

Quality Assurance Unit

The Quality Assurance Unit checks the completeness and accuracy of the computerized criminal history database and trains law enforcement agencies on Ohio laws as they relate to criminal history reporting. The unit also conducts audits of WebCheck™ agencies to ensure compliance and adherence to policies established by the Attorney General's Office and the FBI. The unit also provides training on the national WebCheck™ system.

Technical Unit

The Technical Unit verifies all incoming civilian and criminal fingerprint transactions identified with an existing BCI record. Fingerprint examiners also classify, file, and search fingerprint files and process all expungement and sealed-record requests.



Automated Fingerprint Identification System

Ohio's Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) is a powerful crime-fighting tool that brings the latest technology to Ohio law enforcement agencies. The system houses more than 4 million criminal records and corresponding fingerprints, palm prints, and mug shots.

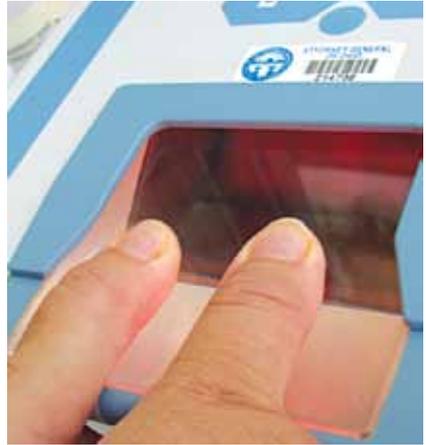
Through AFIS, law enforcement can retrieve criminal history information electronically from desktop computers, laptops, and handheld devices. The integration of computerized criminal history files with AFIS databases allows for the rapid identification of suspects by their demographic information, fingerprints, palm prints, and facial characteristics.

Recent upgrades have made hundreds of thousands of palm prints available through AFIS as a means of identifying suspects. The advancement is especially important since, according to national estimates, about

25 percent of latent prints found at crime scenes are palm prints.

Biometric Technology

The Attorney General's Office has provided hundreds of mobile and desktop biometric identification devices to law enforcement agencies throughout the state.



Using a scan of a person's fingerprints, the units take just minutes to return identifying information as well as criminal history data on file with BCI or the FBI. The biometric devices allow law enforcement to quickly identify individuals who may be carrying false identification or no identification and could be considered dangerous based on their criminal histories.

Law enforcement and corrections officials statewide use an electronic data submission system known as LiveScan to securely and electronically submit criminal arrest transactions to BCI. Agencies that wish to purchase a LiveScan system for

criminal arrest transactions must select a system certified by BCI; civilian applicant transactions are not accepted from a LiveScan system.

Both of these units – WebCheck™ and LiveScan – can verify a subject’s identity and criminal history through BCI and FBI databases. Technology such as this improves not only law enforcement’s identification processes, but also officer safety.

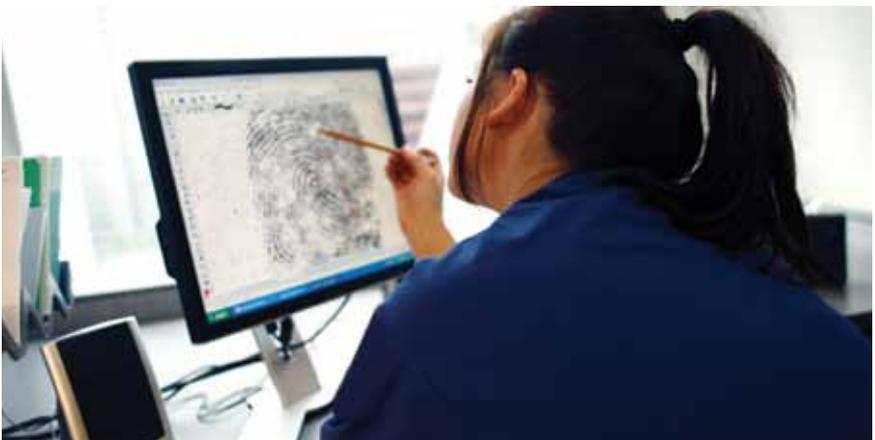


WebCheck™

BCI processes about 1 million background checks annually. Through WebCheck™, agencies transmit fingerprints and other data electronically. BCI then conducts the background checks and issues reports that help schools, hospitals, day-care centers, and other employers make critical hiring decisions.

Results of background checks requested through the mail can take as long as 30 days to return. Using WebCheck™, agencies can electronically transfer all information needed to complete a background check, usually within days.

In cooperation with the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles, BCI makes background check services available at about 100 deputy registrar locations across the state. BCI also partners with the FBI to make national background checks available to Ohioans. FBI checks can be conducted using the national WebCheck™ system as long as state law requires them as a condition of employment.





Investigations Division

Because criminal cases can be won or lost at the scene of the crime, the professional investigators of BCI are on call 24/7 to share their expertise with local jurisdictions. They assist local, state, federal, and international law enforcement agencies in securing and analyzing evidence, addressing legal issues, and providing other services necessary to ensure thorough and successful criminal investigations. BCI special agents work closely with federal and local authorities, as well as legal counsel from the Ohio Attorney General's Office, to ensure decisions related to investigations are based on sound legal principles.



Investigations Division Operations Units

Crime Scene Unit

The Crime Scene Unit helps local law enforcement process felony crime scenes for physical evidence and provides experts to testify in court. BCI's crime scene agents are among the most highly trained and best equipped in the nation and contribute advanced crime scene processing techniques and forensic equipment to local investigations. BCI's computerized digital imaging capabilities, used to create facial composites and crime scene diagrams, are among the latest advancements the bureau makes available to local law enforcement.



BCI's Forensic Dive Team, an extension of the Crime Scene Unit, is available to help local agencies recover criminal evidence under water. The team has expertise and equipment to locate human remains, weapons, tools, and other items. BCI and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency partner in dive team operations, enhancing both entities' work in documenting environmental crimes.

Cyber Crimes Unit

The Cyber Crimes Unit helps local officials deal with the increasingly complex technical and legal issues involved in computer crime investigations and prosecutions. The unit's investigations encompass murder, sexual assault, fraud, theft, child pornography, and other crimes committed with the aid of computers, external drives, memory cards, cellphones, digital cameras, gaming stations, global positioning systems, and more. A majority of crimes investigated by the unit involve violent criminal activity, and more than half involve children.

Environmental Enforcement Unit

The Environmental Enforcement Unit assists the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, other state and federal agencies, and local law enforcement in investigating criminal environmental activity. The unit's work encompasses hazardous, solid, and infectious waste as well as air and water pollution. Agents are specially trained in environmental investigations, analytical investigative methods, and Occupational Safety and Health Administration requirements.

Special Operations Unit

The Special Operations Unit works with local law enforcement to combat illicit drug activity that ranges from street-level drug trafficking to complex, multi-jurisdictional conspiracies. Agents can bring the latest technological tools to an investigation, including photo and video equipment, pen registers to track phone and Internet activity, thermal imagery, body wires, vehicle tracking devices, and ground sensors.

Methamphetamine and marijuana-growing operations are another focus of this unit's work. Drug lab agents can respond with vehicles equipped with breathing apparatuses, personal protective equipment, portable decontamination equipment, sampling gear, generators, and other tools to assess, process, and dismantle labs. The unit also conducts free clandestine laboratory safety and awareness training. In addition, agents locate and eradicate tens of thousands of pounds of marijuana each year and work to arrest those responsible for indoor and outdoor growing operations throughout Ohio.

Special Investigations Unit

The Special Investigations Unit (SIU) conducts probes that fall outside the scope of BCI's other investigative units. Typical cases involve serial crimes, unsolved homicides, fugitive apprehension, police-involved shootings, public corruption investigations, and dignitary protection. SIU agents also are assigned to federal corruption and violent crimes task forces.

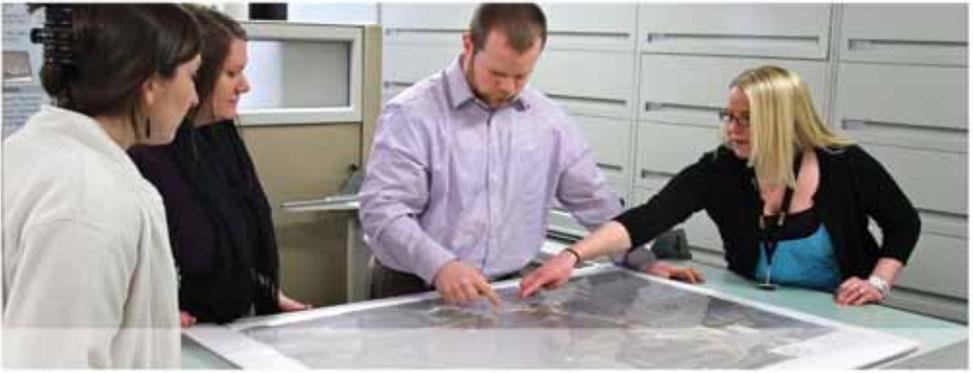


Initiative targets criminals who prey on children

The Ohio Attorney General's Crimes Against Children Initiative helps local authorities investigate and prosecute those who commit crimes against children. Cases involve sexual abuse, child pornography, human trafficking, shaken baby/abusive trauma, and other offenses.

The investigative team at BCI has expertise in undercover online chat, peer-to-peer file sharing, forensic analysis of computers and other technology, and sex-offender warrant enforcement. BCI staff members also serve on the initiative's Rapid Response Team, which is available around the clock to jump-start investigations and assist victims.

Through the Crimes Against Children Initiative, local authorities can request help with investigations and prosecutions, forensic analysis, training and technical assistance, equipment loans, and victim advocacy.



Investigative Services Units

BCI's law enforcement partners often require investigative services that are not locally available due to budget, personnel, or training constraints. When needed, law enforcement professionals such as criminal intelligence analysts, polygraph examiners, forensic accountants, and technical specialists are available to analyze data and share forensic expertise and equipment.

Criminal Intelligence Unit

The Criminal Intelligence Unit (CIU) collects, processes, analyzes, and disseminates criminal intelligence to law enforcement agencies throughout Ohio and collaborates with state, national, and international entities. The unit focuses on organized crime, major crimes, criminal gangs, fugitive apprehension, and organized drug trafficking operations. CIU analysts use powerful tools and technology to predict and expose criminal activity or patterns. The unit also administers the Sex Offender Registration Notification Nationwide Extradition Team (SORN NET) Initiative, which reimburses sheriffs' offices for costs incurred in apprehending sex offenders who have fled Ohio and failed to register.

Interpol Liaison



BCI is the state of Ohio's official liaison to Interpol, the world's largest international police organization. All three BCI divisions work with Interpol to field a variety of international requests, including locating individuals, conducting interviews, taking statements, and aiding in surveillance, photography, and research.

Missing Persons Unit

The Missing Persons Unit assists local law enforcement and families in locating and recovering missing children and adults. The unit issues Missing Child Alerts, Missing Adult Alerts, and AMBER Alerts in coordination with local law enforcement. Staff members aid in searches for missing children and adults using social media, public records, law enforcement databases, and other resources.



Polygraph Unit

Examiners use computerized polygraph instruments to monitor a person's physiological responses to questions and help determine truthfulness. Polygraph tests can aid law enforcement in criminal cases and can be administered to suspects and witnesses.

Technical Operations Unit

The Technical Operations Unit provides direct field support for law enforcement agencies through the installation and use of technology. This includes audio and video recording devices, wire-taps, GPS tracking devices, and other technology needed for specific cases. The unit also provides for remote child victim testimony and depositions and trains federal, state, and local law enforcement in the use and deployment of surveillance equipment.



Ohio Law Enforcement Gateway (OHLEG)

OHLEG is a state-of-the-art electronic information network that allows Ohio law enforcement agencies to share criminal justice data efficiently and securely. The Web-based platform provides law enforcement with dozens of investigative tools and training applications to help solve and prevent crime. Ohio is a leader nationally in providing multiple resources to law enforcement statewide via the Internet.

OHLEG Resources

OHLEG Search Engine — This powerful, easy-to-use investigative tool can securely query numerous data sources through a single interface. It allows officers to run entire criminal histories, conduct license checks, track vehicle ownership, save search results to a spreadsheet, and determine who is conducting similar searches to increase collaboration between agencies. Collectively, Ohio law enforcement turn to the search engine more than 3 million times each year.

OHLEG Records Management System (RMS) — A proprietary records management system available to agencies throughout Ohio, RMS benefits departments unable to afford a commercial record-keeping system. Agencies can customize the



system, choosing from such functions as a message center, news and alerts, and a supervisor review and approval process. They also can use the system to share information with other departments by exporting their data to the Ohio Local Law Enforcement Information Sharing Network (OLLEISN).

eSORN — Ohio's electronic Sex Offender Registration and Notification database (eSORN) contains information about convicted sex offenders, providing valuable information for law enforcement agencies and communities. A mapping function allows officers and the public to determine if sex offenders live within a certain distance of a particular address.

Laboratory Online – County prosecutors can use Laboratory Online to check the status of evidence submitted to BCI, view approved laboratory reports dating back to 2004, and provide specific instructions to lab personnel for cases involving DNA.

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Laboratory Evidence Prelog and Inquiry – This feature allows law enforcement agencies to securely log evidence that is ready to be submitted to any BCI laboratory and track the status of evidence they already have submitted.

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RxPATROL – The Rx Pattern Analysis Tracking Robberies and Other Losses database features pharmacy theft information. It helps protect pharmacists, guards against potential robberies and burglaries, and assists law enforcement in apprehending and successfully prosecuting criminals.

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Ident-A-Drug Reference – This resource allows OHLEG users to quickly identify drug products by their imprint codes, color, and shape. The ingredients, strength, manufacturer, drug class, national drug code, and drug identification number are provided for nearly 40,000 products. The database includes thousands of photos as well as Drug Enforcement Administration classifications for narcotics and other scheduled drugs.

Ohio Protection Order Registry – The Ohio Protection Order Registry (OPOR) provides real-time access to protection order information. It allows for the electronic creation of relevant documents, helps ensure that all fields required by the National Crime Information Center are completed before transmitting to law enforcement, and indicates when an order has been delivered to an offender.

eOPOTA – The Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy makes dozens of courses available through this online training option for law enforcement officials, saving departments travel costs and personnel time.

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Carrying Concealed Weapon Database – This database supports the management and reporting of information related to concealed carry licenses issued in Ohio. County sheriffs are responsible for keeping concealed carry statistics and relaying them quarterly to the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission.

Security Threat Group Database – This database, maintained by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, contains information on individuals known to belong to gangs and other groups that pose security threats.

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Ohio Missing Children Clearing-house – This database contains information about children reported missing in Ohio. It also is used to issue AMBER Alerts and Missing Child Alerts.

For additional information about the Ohio Law Enforcement Gateway, contact the OHLEG Help Desk toll-free at **866-406-4534** or visit **www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/OHLEG**



OHLEG
OHIO LAW ENFORCEMENT GATEWAY





Laboratory Division

BCI's Laboratory Division processes more than 200,000 pieces of evidence each year. It employs the highest standards of care and most advanced forensic testing technologies to provide law enforcement with accurate, timely analysis. The addition of robotics in the DNA and CODIS units has helped significantly reduce turnaround times.

Forensic scientists examine evidence in a variety of disciplines, including DNA, forensic biology, chemistry, firearms, latent prints, trace, and questioned documents. The CODIS laboratory performs DNA analysis on samples collected from people convicted of, or arrested for, felony offenses and certain sexually oriented misdemeanors.

The Laboratory Division is internationally accredited by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB), which assures the highest standard of quality within forensic laboratories. In addition, the DNA and CODIS sections are externally audited every other year to ensure compliance with the FBI's DNA Quality Assurance Document.



Laboratory Division Services

Chemistry Unit

Forensic scientists in the Chemistry Unit examine physical evidence to determine the presence or absence of illegal or harmful substances. Ninety percent of the unit's caseload involves drug analysis, including prescription drugs, marijuana, heroin, cocaine, LSD, designer drugs, and others.

Forensic Biology Unit

The Forensic Biology Unit examines evidence for the presence of body fluids that provide a possible source for DNA. The unit also samples items that have been worn or touched to collect skin cells for DNA analysis. Additional resources have enabled the unit to increase its capacity for sexual assault kit testing.

DNA Unit

DNA profiling is a powerful tool for convicting the guilty and exonerating the innocent. BCI has implemented the most modern forensic technology for DNA casework, including 15 distinct DNA tests plus gender determination. Results of analyses

can be compared to the DNA profiles of suspects and victims as well as to samples within the CODIS database.

CODIS Unit

BCI's Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) contains digital profiles of DNA collected from crime scenes, convicted felons, and felony arrestees. It is part of the FBI's National DNA Index System. Through CODIS, DNA profiles can be linked to evidence from unsolved crimes, and serial crimes can be linked together at a local, state, or national level. The BCI London Laboratory serves as the State DNA Index System for Ohio.

Firearms and Toolmarks Unit

Forensic scientists in this unit conduct ballistics and toolmark examinations that can tie a bullet or cartridge case to a specific gun or link a unique tool to a crime scene. BCI is part of the National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN), a computer-assisted ballistics imaging system that stores and compares images of the unique markings made on fired cartridge cases. NIBIN is useful in linking crimes previously thought to be unrelated.



Latent Print Unit

This unit examines evidence for the presence of fingerprints, palm prints, and bare footprints using physical, chemical, and electronic processes. Prints determined to be of value are compared with submitted standards or those from state and/or FBI records. Unidentified prints can be searched through the Ohio AFIS and the FBI's Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System. BCI also maintains an unsolved latent print database that searches eligible prints daily through AFIS.

Questioned Documents Unit

The Questioned Documents Unit examines handwriting for authorship and documents for alterations. The unit also performs quality assurance tests on instant lottery games for the Ohio Lottery Commission.



Trace Evidence Unit

Scientists in this section examine a wide array of evidence, including footwear and tire impressions, vehicle lamps, fiber, paint, glass, and fracture matches. These materials can be analyzed to provide investigative leads and also can be compared to known samples to associate a suspect with a victim or crime scene.



Career Opportunities with BCI

BCI offers a wide range of career opportunities in the law enforcement, science, and information technology fields. Positions include special agents, forensic scientists, criminal intelligence analysts, forensic computer specialists, fingerprint examiners, and more.

Team members share a strong commitment to excellence, integrity, and professionalism, and they enjoy a collaborative work environment and competitive salaries and benefits. Open positions are listed at **www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/Careers**. BCI is an equal opportunity employer.



Professional Standards and Training

BCI is only as good as the integrity, professionalism, cooperation, and commitment of those who serve the organization. Through training, self-assessment, and accreditation, the bureau has gained and maintained the respect of law enforcement and other criminal justice professionals around the state and the world.



The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) first accredited the bureau in 1998.

BCI has since been reaccruited after each CALEA assessment. The

standards CALEA sets represent the highest professional business criteria related to the administration, operation, and personnel practices of law enforcement.



The American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB) first accredited BCI's laboratory in 2002. The laboratory is internally audited every year and reaccruited by ASCLD/LAB every four years.



BCI Building at BGSU

In November 2014, BCI opened the doors of its state-of-the-art facility on the campus of Bowling Green State University. At nearly 30,000 square feet, the facility houses units from both BCI's Laboratory and Investigations divisions. BCI's newest facility is one of only a select few crime labs located on a college campus. The building is equipped with many unique features, including a firing range, covered evidence-receiving location, and modern labs outfitted with the latest technology, including two hydrogen generators for operating chemistry equipment.

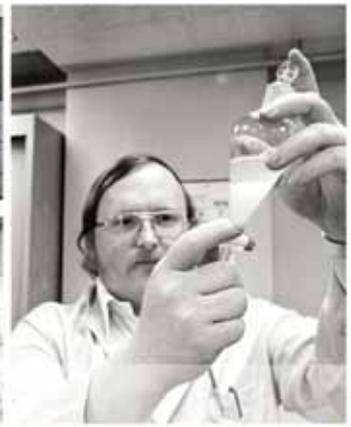


OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL'S
CENTER *for the FUTURE* of
FORENSIC SCIENCE
AT BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

Forensic Science

The Ohio Attorney General's Center for the Future of Forensic Science at Bowling Green State University was established to nurture and fully develop the unique research and teaching opportunities created when BCI opened its newest facility on BGSU's campus. With a vision to develop leaders who will revolutionize the profession of forensic science, the center's scholars of forensic science education are committed to:

- Fostering research and development of cutting-edge forensic science techniques;
- Preparing students for jobs in forensics, investigations, and research; and
- Professional development opportunities for forensic scientists, criminal investigators, and other law enforcement practitioners.



BCI Through the Years

The Bureau of Criminal Investigation opened on Sept. 6, 1921, as a minor record-keeping operation within the Department of Public Welfare. It moved to the Department of Mental Hygiene and Corrections and then to the Department of Corrections before becoming part of the Ohio Attorney General's Office in 1963.

The Department of Corrections housed the bureau in the Ohio Penitentiary until a fire and threatened inmate riot in the 1930s prompted a move to the London Correctional Institution.

During those early years, inmates performed most of the work, including reviewing, indexing, and sorting fingerprint records. Using a BCI printing press, they also produced a book, "The Science of Fingerprint Classification: As Taught and Used in the Ohio State Bureau of Identification and Investigation," which the bureau published in the 1940s.

In the bureau's early decades, criminal investigations were carried out on a small scale by the laboratory

division. When oversight for BCI moved to the Ohio Attorney General's Office, the bureau was expanded to handle a broader range of responsibilities. An Investigations Division was added and investigative field agents were hired.

BCI moved into its headquarters in London — a \$20.3 million, 122,000-square-foot facility — in 1999. The bureau also has facilities in Athens, Bowling Green, Cambridge, Richfield, and Youngstown.

Attorney General DeWine's commitment to BCI has been long-standing. During his time in the U.S. Senate and on the Senate Appropriations Committee, he was able to bring more than \$7.5 million directly to BCI to fight crime in Ohio.

BCI's six locations provide access to law enforcement throughout the state. Since the late 1990s, the bureau has maintained a staff of more than 300 employees whose work is carried out within BCI's Identification, Investigations, Laboratory and Administration divisions.



**BCI — Ohio Bureau of
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