

# CRIMINAL JUSTICE UPDATE

FALL 2015

Vol. 7 | No. 4



MIKE DEWINE  
★ OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL ★

## COVER STORY

# When a child goes missing

### Crisis brings out best in rescuers, insiders say



When an Amber Alert is issued, the vast resources of law enforcement and community unite with a passion to save a missing child.

Cynthia Peterman, deputy director of the Criminal Intelligence and Missing Persons units at BCI, said the Amber Alert is like no other call. In the earliest moments of an alert, the Crimes Against Children, Missing Persons and Intelligence units at the Ohio Attorney General's Bureau of Criminal Investigation start gathering information. Outside the agency, others are doing the same.

"When this alert goes off, the highway patrol, BCI, local law enforcement, the FBI and many others come together with a focus on recovering that missing child," she said. "That's what's really important.

"Broadcasters, the Ohio Department of Transportation, the media — the list is incredible. Google and Facebook put

out alerts, too," she said. "You just don't get this cooperation for any other type of case."

When a 6-year-old girl was kidnapped in 2013 in Jackson County, Larry McCoy, a special agent for BCI and the Ohio Child Abduction Response Team (CART) coordinator, recalled that at least 10 agencies became involved in the case, plus civilian search-and-rescue groups and volunteers.

"There were easily 100-plus people down there at one point," he said.

"When BCI put out a request for help, we had guys three hours away calling to say, 'Do you need me?'"



Zachary Dunn

The child was abandoned by her captor in a cemetery and managed to make her way to a nearby residence. In June, her kidnapper and rapist, Zachary Dunn, 32, was sentenced to life in prison without parole.

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**Amber Alerts are for abducted children and are designed to be issued and disseminated quickly.**

- 1 The child must be younger than 18.
- 2 The abduction must pose a credible threat of immediate danger of serious bodily harm to the child.
- 3 Law enforcement must have a sufficient description of the child, the suspect and/or the circumstances of the abduction to believe that activation of the alert will help locate the child.
- 4 Law enforcement must have determined that the child isn't a runaway and wasn't taken by a family member who poses no threat.

**Endangered Missing Child Alerts are for any type of at-risk missing child.**

- 1 The child is a runaway or has gone missing with no witnesses.
- 2 The child's missing status and the fact that the victim is in danger of serious harm must be confirmed by law enforcement.
- 3 Enough descriptive information must exist about the case to allow for public assistance.

## Teamwork key in fighting campus sexual assaults

In an effort to help colleges and universities better respond to sexual assaults, Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine's office recently dedicated \$3 million in grants to improve advocacy programs, and conducted a series of investigation training sessions.



Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine announcing initiatives to help colleges better respond to sexual assaults

"Sexual assault happens far too often in this country. We know it happens in Ohio, and we know that it happens on college campuses," DeWine said. "Streamlining investigations and prosecutions and improving victim services are crucial to addressing campus sexual assaults."

Six Campus Sexual Assault Investigation Training sessions took place during the summer to update law enforcement and others about laws, victim advocacy, forensic exams, evidence collection and constitutional issues.

Experts from the Attorney General's Office, HelpLine, the Ohio Department of Education, the Columbus Division of Police and the University of Toledo Medical Center will revisit the topic at the Law Enforcement Conference.

The Attorney General's Office has also prepared resources for schools.

To read recommendations for crafting a memorandum of understanding to establish protocols for responding to reports of campus sexual assaults, visit [www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/MOU](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/MOU).

# FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



The safety of children has always been my number one priority. In the Attorney General's Office, my staff works hard to assist law enforcement agencies and prosecutors with investigations, prosecutions, training and technology.

For example, I created our Crimes Against Children Unit and a rapid response team specifically to help local agencies in investigating those who prey on Ohio's young people. There is nothing more valuable than our children, and I want to make sure that those who harm them are held accountable for their actions. In 2014, the unit worked 150 cases in 46 Ohio counties, executed 24 search warrants and made 19 arrests.

We also updated the Child Abduction Response Team (CART) model last year and chose an Ohio CART coordinator to make sure the response is always quick and efficient when either an Amber Alert or Endangered Missing Child Alert is issued.

Once local authorities make the call, CART is ready to advance quickly to any corner of the



state to help find a missing child.

Last year, 18,097 children were reported missing in Ohio. Of those, 17,826 were recovered safely. For the children who are still missing, we must never stop pursuing leads and never give up the search.

This issue of *Criminal Justice Update* touches on just a few of the things that the Attorney General's Office has done to protect Ohio's children. Our lead story takes a look at the unified response that occurs when an Amber Alert is issued.

Our second cover story deals with sexual violence

on college campuses and the efforts of my office to improve advocacy programs with \$3 million in grants, investigation and training classes, and memorandums of understanding for communities to use.

Inside this issue is a story about the U.S. Supreme Court case *Ohio v. Clark*, which involved the reporting system for child abuse. A team from our Appeals Section wrote an award-winning brief in the case, and the court unanimously agreed with Ohio's position. The ruling preserves Ohio's strong reporting system for protecting children from abuse.

My office has worked tirelessly to safeguard children, because nothing is more important.

Very respectfully yours,

Mike DeWine  
Ohio Attorney General

## Sexual assault cases granted more time

As the Bureau of Criminal Investigation continues to make its way through untested rape kits as part of Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine's Sexual Assault Kit Testing Initiative, Gov. John Kasich signed House Bill 6 to extend the statute of limitations for prosecution of sexual assault cases.

The 20-year statute of limitations has been extended to 25 years. If DNA evidence links a suspect to an attack after 25 years have passed, the bill also adds another five years for possible prosecution after the DNA link is made.

"This new law is another way to show victims of sexual assault that Ohio is serious about bringing their attackers to justice. As our Sexual Assault Kit Testing Initiative has shown, sexual assaults that occurred years ago can be solved with DNA evidence. I applaud Gov. Kasich and the Ohio General Assembly for enacting this crucial law supporting both law enforcement and victims," DeWine said.

The Attorney General launched his initiative in 2011 after learning that dozens of law enforcement agencies throughout the state were in possession of rape kits – some of which were decades old – that had never been sent to a DNA lab for testing.



As of Sept. 1, **198** law enforcement agencies had submitted **10,764** kits to be tested as part of the initiative. Forensic scientists with BCI had completed testing on **8,416** of those kits, resulting in **3,121** hits in the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS).



Visit [www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/LawEnforcementBulletin](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/LawEnforcementBulletin) for a monthly newsletter on key court cases and [www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/EmailUpdates](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/EmailUpdates) to sign up for that and other newsletters.



## CRIMINAL JUSTICE UPDATE

*Criminal Justice Update* is typically published four times a year by the Ohio Attorney General's Office.

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Volume 7, Issue 4  
FALL 2015

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30 E. Broad St., 17th Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215

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Q&A



**Jonathan D. Blanton, Section Chief,  
Attorney General's Consumer  
Protection Section**

**The section helps resolve consumer issues, keeps track of consumer complaints and assists law enforcement on consumer-related investigations.**

■ *Could you tell us more about your section?*

The section has 90 employees, including those in regional offices in Toledo and Cincinnati. Handling consumer complaints is one of the biggest services we offer. People file complaints online, in writing or on the phone. We log them in a publicly searchable database. If you're going to have someone put a roof on your house or you're going to buy a car, for example, you can search our database and see whether there are any complaints against that person or that dealership.

We offer informal dispute resolution – a voluntary service where we try to work out problems between businesses and consumers.

We also look at complaints against a business to see if it's appropriate for the Attorney General to seek a civil remedy for violations of the Consumer Sales Practices Act or the Telephone Sales Solicitations Act.

If there is a potential criminal element to a complaint, it is kicked over to our Economic Crimes Unit, which makes contact with local law enforcement and prosecutors to see if we can offer service to them either in the investigation or during prosecution.

We have the Identity Theft Unit, which deals with data-breach or credit-card issues. If your credit-card information has been stolen, you can contact us and we'll help you unwind those things. We also give consumers the information they need to monitor their credit.

■ *How are you different than the Better Business Bureau?*

They provide a great service, and we share information. The biggest way we differ, however, is that we offer the legal-services side. We have the ability through the Consumer Sales Practices Act and the Telephone Sales Solicitations Act to take action in court to get an order prohibiting someone from engaging in certain types of business and certain types of acts. We have legal teeth. We can bring the power of the Ohio Revised Code and the courts to bear on folks who are engaging in unfair, deceptive or unconscionable acts.

■ *What do business owners need to know?*

It's a complex marketplace; there are a lot of statutes, rules and court decisions out there that can trip up a business owner. We offer free presentations and educational materials on pretty much every statute we would be enforcing. We would be happy to provide a speaker for any group, preferably 25 people or more. If they want to give us a forum, we'll come talk.

■ *What is the best way to contact the Consumer Protection Section?*

The Attorney General's website ([www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov)) is the most efficient way to contact Consumer Protection. Online, the consumer has an opportunity to write a narrative of what happened and can attach related documents, such as checks, emails or contracts. We take phone calls, mail and walk-ins, too.

**READ MORE:** Read an extended interview with Jonathan Blanton at [www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/CriminalJusticeUpdate](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/CriminalJusticeUpdate).

**The Blanton File**

**Previous jobs:** Jackson County prosecuting attorney (2001-2011); principal assistant attorney general, supervisor of the Economic Crimes Unit, Office of Attorney General Mike DeWine (2011-2014); deputy director of investigations and enforcement, State Medical Board of Ohio (2014)

**Education:** Bachelor of arts in political science, Ohio University; juris doctorate, the University of Kentucky College of Law

**Family:** Wife, Susie; daughter, Nina, 10; son, Vince, 8; and a "well-meaning, but somewhat irritating, dog, Roximus"

**Hobbies:** "I enjoy cooking, eating, driving other people's antique cars, and hanging out with my family. I have really cool kids."

**Consumer Protection works with law enforcement to end scams**

The Ohio Attorney General's Consumer Protection Section is a valuable law enforcement resource in the fight against multi-county scams.

"When law enforcement gets a report of someone scamming their community or a suspicious contractor rolling around, we may have information about that person, that business or associated businesses that is extremely valuable in an investigation," said Jonathan Blanton, section chief.

"Our Economic Crimes Unit has been successful in linking law enforcement across counties." As a former Jackson County prosecutor, Blanton knows how law enforcement can be aware of a scam in their area without realizing that it is also operating elsewhere.

"In Consumer Protection, we've been able to use the information we have to build some pretty successful cases against contractors who skip around counties and rip off people."

Blanton wants to encourage officers to call Consumer Protection when a scam pops up.

"We would love to leverage the information we have for the greater good," Blanton said.

For example, in March, the section's Economic Crimes Unit worked with law enforcement and prosecutors from Union County to build a case against James Twaddle of Reynoldsburg. The storm-chasing home-repair contractor operated as Restore It USA and stole more than \$150,000 from 40 victims throughout central and southwestern Ohio.

"We started seeing a pattern develop," Blanton said. "We started getting complaints in 2013. They were sprinkled throughout Ohio in Hamilton, Union, Ross and Franklin counties. The scam didn't involve huge amounts of money in any single county. We started chasing data and realized that Twaddle was behind it. We worked on the investigation and partnered with local law enforcement and the Union County prosecutor's office and were able to indict Twaddle."

He was sentenced to 59 months in prison and ordered to pay more than \$153,000 in restitution.

Anyone who suspects a scam should contact the Ohio Attorney General's Office at **1-800-282-0515** or **[www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov)**.



# Project LINK finds connections between remains, missing persons

**Project LINK (Linking Individuals Not Known) — in which DNA samples from family members of missing people are compared to DNA samples from human remains in an attempt to find a match — is part sleuthing and part science.**

To date, 60 cases have been solved through the program established in 1999 by the Ohio Attorney General's Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI). The program is free to police, coroners and families of missing individuals.

Anyone seeking help finding a missing person may call BCI at **855-BCI-OHIO**.

## The sleuthing



Lisa Savage, left, and Jenni Lester looking at open cases on the Ohio Attorney General's website

BCI Criminal Intelligence Analyst Lisa Savage said it doesn't matter if a lot of time has passed since the person disappeared, but to be eligible for Project LINK, the person has to have been missing at least 30 days.

"We had a recent call about a person missing since 1995. The family just assumed the subject was deceased and there was nothing more they could do."

When those calls come in, Savage and others in the Criminal Intelligence Unit gather information and photos from the family. Next, analysts use databases to run searches. If the initial BCI search doesn't close the case, family members are asked to submit DNA via a mouth swab. BCI sends the swab to the the Center for Human Identification at the University of North Texas (UNT), which has a lab that does mitochondrial forensic DNA analysis. It enters the resulting profiles into a database for comparison to Ohio's Project LINK entries and to the national Combined DNA Index System (CODIS). If a match is found, the Texas lab sends a report to BCI. If the match is confirmed, BCI contacts law enforcement to break the news to the family.

## The science



The BCI lab plays an intermediate yet pivotal role in Project LINK. Coroners are required by law to forward to BCI fingerprints and DNA samples for remains that have gone unidentified for more than 30 days.

In cases where human remains are found and all other means of identifying the decedent have failed, the scientists at BCI do a direct comparison of the nuclear DNA, said Diane Gehres, the BCI CODIS laboratory manager and state CODIS administrator. But when the identification is in doubt or the remains are degraded, the scientists at BCI submit samples to UNT for mitochondrial and nuclear DNA testing.

Bobbie-Jo Kennedy, a forensic scientist at BCI, said her role is to help law enforcement with the process of dealing with unidentified human remains. "We'll help them decide which samples are the best ones to be submitted, and also which ones to retain," she said. "They send the samples here, and I make sure it's packaged correctly and labeled correctly, and I fill out all the paperwork for them."

"That's a huge bonus for law enforcement not to have to fill out some paperwork they've never seen before, to figure out a family tree, to figure out what sample needs to be sent," Gehres said. "We want to make the process as easy as possible for them."

If a match occurs, the Texas lab sends an email to BCI, and the law enforcement agency that submitted the remains is contacted. Once the match is confirmed, the family is notified. If it's not a match, the DNA profiles stay in the database to be checked against new samples on a regular basis in hopes of someday making a connection.



Bobbie-Jo Kennedy in the BCI lab

## By the numbers (unidentified human remains)

**49** Unidentified Human Remains cases submitted to BCI for Project LINK

**14** – Number of cases solved by CODIS hit or direct DNA comparison (*Note: While 14 cases were solved, only 13 people were identified because two cases ended up being remains from one person.*)

## By the numbers (missing persons)

**150** Number of missing persons cases submitted to BCI for Project LINK

**14** – Number of people found alive during investigation

**11** – Number of cases solved by CODIS hit or direct DNA comparison

**21** – Identification made by dental records or unknown method through another agency

## Total numbers (remains and missing persons)

**199** Total number of LINK cases opened at BCI

**60** – Number of closed cases

**139** – Active LINK cases

\* Information current as of Sept. 16, 2015



## To find out more

The Ohio Attorney General's Office maintains Web pages devoted to Ohio missing persons and unidentified human remains.

To read about, see photos of, or offer tips about missing persons, visit: **[www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/Ohio-Missing-Persons](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/Ohio-Missing-Persons)**

To read about, see likenesses of, or offer tips about unidentified human remains, visit:

**[www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/UnidentifiedRemains](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/UnidentifiedRemains)**

For help finding a missing person, file a missing person report with local police and call **855-BCI-OHIO**.

# A look back...

## 50 YEARS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING



The Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission will be celebrated for its work in shaping training and compliance standards, and former executive directors will be honored, during the Ohio Attorney General's 2015 Law Enforcement Conference.

The commission started as a council: The Ohio Peace Officer Training Council was created on Sept. 6, 1965, in response to a law passed by the Ohio Legislature calling for formal training for law enforcement. The council was set up to recommend rules of basic training, and, according to the law, any person appointed to a peace officer job after Jan. 1, 1966, had to complete the training.

Col. Anson B. Cook, a former Highway Patrol superintendent, was chosen on Oct. 14, 1965, by the council to serve as its first director. In a Dec. 29, 1965, article in *The Columbus Dispatch*, Cook said that while some training programs would only need a slight revision to meet council standards, others were lacking. He is also quoted as saying a lot of police agencies "have little or no training ... they hand a man a badge and a gun and that's it."

### 2015 Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission members

Fayette County Sheriff Vernon P. Stanforth, chairman  
 Stephen Anthony, special agent in charge, FBI's Cleveland office  
 Chief Clayton A. Harris, Cuyahoga Community College Police Department  
 Hancock County Sheriff Michael Heldman  
 Sgt. Troy Mineard, Akron Police Department  
 Col. Paul Pride, superintendent of the Ohio State Highway Patrol  
 Stephen Schumaker, deputy attorney general for law enforcement, Ohio Attorney General's Office  
 (Appointments are pending for the vacated seats.)

### Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission directors

Col. Anson B. Cook	(1965-78)
Wilfred "Bud" Goodwin	(1978-86)
Keith N. Haley	(1986-91)
Gregory T. Merritt	(1991-95)
Vernon C. Chenevey	(1995-04)
Steven W. Schierholt	(2004-07)
Tomi L. Dorris	(2007-09)
Ronald Ferrell	(2009-10)
Robert Fiatal	(2010-13)
Mary Davis	(2013-present)

## PEACE OFFICER TRAINING HAS COME A LONG WAY IN 50 YEARS. HERE'S A LOOK BACK AT SOME MILESTONES:



**COUNCIL MEMBERS** — These eight members of the newly created Ohio Peace Officer Training Council gathered Thursday at a meeting in Governor Rhodes' office. They are, seated, from left: Harold L. Alden, head of the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation; Louis, vice president; and Police Chief Paul W. Engelman, Reading, standing.

### OSU Man Selected to Head Ohio Peace Officer Training Council

Dr. Robert W. Brown, dean of the School of Criminal Justice, Ohio State University, will head the Ohio Peace Officer Training Council. Brown was chosen at the organization's first meeting, held at the governor's office. The council will be responsible for setting standards and recommending rules of basic training for peace officers in Ohio.

**9/6/1965:** State law creates the Ohio Peace Officer Training Council (OPOTC)

**9/22/65:** Congress enacts the Federal Law Enforcement Assistance Act of 1965 to pay for law enforcement training

**9/30/65:** OPOTC conducts its first meeting

**10/14/65:** Col. Anson B. Cook becomes the first executive director of OPOTC



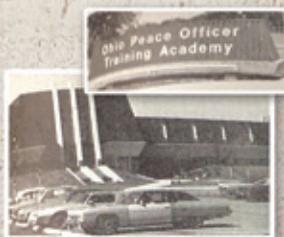
**6/19/68:** Congress enacts the Federal Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act to encourage state and local government to improve law enforcement and to offer grants for related projects

### Training Head To Be Picked

NO BEATLE HAIRBOTS ON OAK RIDGE CAMPER  
 The Ohio Peace Officer Training Council has selected Col. Anson B. Cook as its first executive director. Cook, a former Highway Patrol superintendent, was chosen by the council on Oct. 14, 1965.



**4/2/70:** Ohio Legislature calls for OPOTC to establish the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA)



**7/22/74:** Officials break ground for OPOTA in London

**4/8/76:** Council dedicates OPOTA in London

**4/4/88:** Thirty-three officers from 19 counties are part of first D.A.R.E. class at OPOTA

**1997:** House Bill 670 changes name of Ohio Peace Officer Training Council to Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission to reflect its administrative appellate powers



**10/03/98:** Peace officers gather for the first Women in Policing Conference at OPOTA

**1999:** OPOTA completes revision of training curriculum

**10/11/01:** Commission dedicates OPOTA's Richfield campus



**AUGUST 2003:** OPOTA opens the Tactical Training Center

**MARCH 2006:** Workers complete renovation to upgrade dorm rooms, conference rooms and facilities on OPOTA's main campus

**MAY 2011:** The Attorney General's Office and OPOTC conduct an independent Job Task Analysis (JTA) of peace officer basic training



**10/25/12:** OPOTA offers new "Mobile Academy" program featuring portable firearm and driving simulators

**5/14/15:** Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine presents OPOTC with his advisory group's report on law enforcement training

# FALL 2015 NEWS & NOTES



## Pet-encounter training to be offered

Included in the budget bill signed by Gov. John Kasich on June 30 is a requirement that all Ohio peace officers receive training on companion-animal encounters and behavior.

With the mandate taking effect 90 days from being signed into law, the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission had to act quickly to meet the requirements for dealing with what the law calls “companion animals,” which are defined as “any animal that is kept inside a residential dwelling and any dog or cat regardless of where it is kept.”



Among other things, the training must include handling companion-animal-related calls or encounters, particularly with dogs, and the use of nonlethal methods to stop an attack.

## Police teach teen drivers advanced skills



A police sergeant who has seen his share of fatal car accidents involving young drivers believes he and fellow officers are saving lives by instructing students in the free Take Control Teen Driving Program in Medina County.

“I think a lot of kids don’t understand that pushing on the gas pedal can kill them or someone else,” said Sgt. Chris LaFond of the Montville Police Department.

The Take Control program began in May 2013 after concerned parents asked whether their teens could participate in the county’s juvenile court diversion program, a kind of three-hour driver’s education, even though they had not broken any laws.

Montville Police Chief Terry Grice gathered a group of sponsors to pay for Take Control.

The program takes place the third Saturday of every month and is open to licensed drivers 16 to 19 who want to learn advanced driving techniques. LaFond, a driving instructor at the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy, is the core instructor of the program along with Sgt. Tina Jackson of the Ohio State Highway Patrol and Sgt. Scott Schmol of the Medina County Sheriff’s Office.

Other law enforcement officers from throughout the county are rotated in to teach, as well. Classes can accommodate up to 12 students.

LaFond knows of no other free program like theirs, but he thinks other counties could start their own. The key, he said, is communication and partnership with other agencies.

For information about Take Control, visit [www.takecontroldriving.org](http://www.takecontroldriving.org).

## IN THE COURTS



### **Ohio v. Clark, U.S. Supreme Court, 135 S.Ct. 2173, June 18, 2015**

The U.S. Supreme Court unanimously reversed the Supreme Court of Ohio in *Ohio v. Clark*.

#### **Brief facts:**

A preschool teacher noticed that one of the students, a 3-year-old boy, had bruises and a bloodshot eye. When teachers questioned the boy about what happened, he made statements that identified his mother’s boyfriend, Darius Clark, as the source of the injuries.

Clark was charged with multiple counts of child endangerment, felonious assault and domestic violence. The boy was found incompetent to testify by the trial court due to his young age. Clark moved to exclude the boy’s statements to his teachers on the grounds that the statements were testimonial because their primary purpose was to create evidence against Clark. The trial court disagreed. Because the statements were non-testimonial they were allowed to be introduced. The jury found Clark guilty and he was sentenced to 28 years in prison.

#### **Ohio law:**

The 8th District Court of Appeals reversed the trial court and the Supreme Court of Ohio agreed, finding that a child’s statement to teachers about physical abuse is testimonial in nature because teachers have mandatory reporting requirements under Ohio law.

#### **U.S. Supreme Court findings:**

In its review of the case, the U.S. Supreme Court found that the child’s statements to his teachers were non-testimonial. The U.S. Supreme Court held that mandatory reporting requirements do not automatically convert a conversation between a teacher and a student into a law enforcement mission designed to gather evidence, and the statements should be allowed to be introduced.



## Legal team wins writing award



From left: Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine, State Solicitor Eric Murphy and Deputy Solicitor Sam Peterson with the award

The National Association of Attorneys General awarded a “Best Brief Award” to a team from the Appeals Section of the Ohio Attorney General’s Office for their work on *Ohio v. Clark*.

The winning brief asked the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn another court’s ruling, which had thrown out a child-abuse conviction. The court unanimously agreed with Ohio’s position, which was argued by Matthew Meyer of the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor’s Office.

The Attorney General’s Office also provided legal research, argument preparation and coaching in advance of the oral arguments.

# When a child goes missing

*continued from page 1*

On the day of Dunn's conviction, Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine recognized the work of the Crimes Against Children Critical Response Team, the Jackson Police Department, the Jackson County Sheriff's Office and the many other law enforcement and public safety agencies involved in the search for the child and suspect, and the subsequent investigation.



"This defendant committed one of the most heinous crimes imaginable, and with this sentence, he will never have the chance to hurt another child ever again," DeWine said. "Those who target children in this state will be met with the full force of the law."

Peterman was impressed by the teamwork in that case and in other Amber Alert situations.

"There is a process that kicks in very quickly," she said. "When this particular alarm goes off, it is a unified response from all of us involved."

When a child is abducted:

- Local law enforcement responds to the scene, enters information about the child into the Law Enforcement Automated Data System (LEADS) run by the Ohio State Highway Patrol, and can make a request for an Amber Alert.

- BCI, the FBI, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the Highway Patrol get that request. The Highway Patrol reviews the information, and if the case meets the criteria, it issues an Amber Alert.

McCoy is always at the ready to get involved to help local law enforcement when the need occurs.

"Once we get the request for assistance, it gets forwarded to a whole host of us," McCoy said. "I contact the agency to get information to start accessing what we can do to help."

Often, McCoy — or one of the 40 CART coordinators throughout the state — is asked to respond to the scene. There, he works as an adviser to the incident commander.

"I make suggestions and offer resources," he said. "I'll help direct the response to the recovery and also to the investigative resources that come in."

Amber Alerts last until the child is found.

The all-out response is similar in cases where an Endangered Missing Child Alert is issued.

Together, state and local authorities decide if the facts of the case warrant the issuing of either the Amber Alert or Endangered Missing Child Alert. The Highway Patrol assists in the issuing of the Amber Alerts and BCI assists in the issuing of the Endangered Missing Child Alerts.

"You don't want an Amber Alert going out so often that no one's paying attention to it anymore," McCoy said, "so they have that list of criteria that they have to go through."

The response from BCI is the same in either situation, McCoy said. "We treat it as a worst-case scenario until proven otherwise."

And the alerts work, he said. "People pay attention."

## What does 'AMBER' stand for?



AMBER is an acronym for America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response and was coined as a legacy to 9-year-old Amber Hagerman, who was kidnapped in 1996 while riding her bicycle in Arlington, Texas. Her body was found four days later in a ditch. Her homicide remains unsolved.

## Do the alerts work?

Since the inception on Jan. 1, 2003, of the Ohio Amber Alert, **172** alerts have been issued and **195** children have been recovered safe.\*

\*As of July 31, 2015

Since 1996, national Amber Alert programs have helped save the lives of **772** children nationwide.\*\*

\*\*As of Aug. 24, 2015



*"Those who target children in this state will be met with the full force of the law."*

— Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine

## How do I sign up to receive alerts?

Visit [www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Law-Enforcement/Local-Law-Enforcement/Ohio-Missing-Persons/Ohio-Amber-Plan](http://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Law-Enforcement/Local-Law-Enforcement/Ohio-Missing-Persons/Ohio-Amber-Plan).

Sources: The Ohio State Highway Patrol, National Center for Missing & Exploited Children

# E-cigarettes being made to look like kid stuff

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine is warning parents about the risks of e-cigarette use among children and young adults.

E-cigarette



Common highlighter

Electronic cigarettes, battery-operated devices that heat liquid nicotine and other chemicals into a vapor that is inhaled by the user, are being made to appeal to children and look like common items found in kids' backpacks.

"E-cigarettes are now likely to be found among the school supplies of an increasing number of kids. Many e-cigarette products could be easily mistaken for pens, highlighters, or other common school supplies," DeWine said. "We want to alert parents and protect young people."

During a news conference, DeWine and Peter Shields, M.D., of the Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute displayed the devices in kid-enticing designs and showed nicotine liquid packaged to look like candy.



Dr. Peter Shields, left, and Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine at the news conference

Dr. Shields warned parents that e-cigarette use by youngsters has skyrocketed.

According to the National Youth Tobacco Survey, e-cigarette use among high-school students increased about 800 percent from 2011 to 2014.

"We know that tobacco addiction often begins in youth — nine out of 10 adult smokers in Ohio began smoking before age 18," Shields said.

DeWine has a long record of protecting Ohio children from tobacco use. As a U.S. Senator, he sponsored legislation granting the FDA authority over the marketing of tobacco products to kids. As Ohio Attorney General, he supported legislation in the Ohio General Assembly to ban the sale of e-cigarettes to those younger than 18, a measure Gov. John Kasich signed into law in 2014.

# Naloxone available without a prescription



The overdose-reversal drug naloxone can now be purchased without a prescription.

House Bill 4, signed into law in July, authorizes pharmacists to dispense naloxone to those who are at risk of having an opioid-related overdose, people in positions to help those at risk of overdosing, and peace officers.

Opiates include heroin and prescription painkillers. When administered during an opioid overdose, naloxone blocks the effects of opioids on the brain.

## REBATE AVAILABLE

Public entities interested in applying for a naloxone rebate should visit [www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/NaloxoneRebate](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/NaloxoneRebate)



## Hall of Famer a hit with kids



**Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine, Baseball Hall of Famer Cal Ripken Jr. and officers from the Dayton Police Department participated in a July 12 clinic for children involved in the Badges for Baseball program.**



Badges for Baseball was started in Ohio by DeWine and the Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation in 2012 to help at-risk youth and prevent juvenile crime. About 75 children ages 10 to 14 from Dayton, Lima and Hamilton picked up some playing tips from the Baltimore Orioles great during the event at the Boys and Girls Club of Dayton.

By pairing police and kids playing baseball and softball, the program builds new relationships between youth and law enforcement. It has reached more than 26,000 youngsters in 16 states.

FALL 2015



Volume 7 | Number 4

# CRIMINAL JUSTICE UPDATE