

CRIMINAL JUSTICE UPDATE

▶ **SEE INSIDE** FOR BCI SPECIAL FEATURE

SUMMER 2016 Vol. 8 | No. 3

MIKE DeWINE
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

COVER STORY

BCI, Battelle partnership to usher in new DNA technology

Revolutionary DNA technology will soon be used at the Ohio Attorney General's Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) thanks to an innovative partnership.



Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine and Battelle President and CEO Jeffrey Wadsworth announced the joint venture between BCI and the global research and development organization headquartered in Columbus.

Forensic scientists from both organizations have begun working together at the BCI lab in London to

run tests on Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) technology and then to seek FBI approval for the use of NGS to solve missing persons cases.

"This will position BCI to be a national leader in DNA forensics," DeWine said. "I am proud to work with Battelle on the future applications of this cutting-edge technology because it's a clear benefit to Ohio families of missing loved ones. With NGS at BCI, we hope to generate faster DNA results and obtain an expanded range of DNA information to help investigators make identifications."

Battelle has spent five years implementing NGS technology for the U.S. Department of Defense and was chosen to lead a National Institute of Justice project evaluating NGS methods in forensic labs.

"Collaborating with the Attorney General's Office and the illustrious BCI laboratory is a great

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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

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

www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/UnidentifiedRemains

For help finding a missing person, file a missing person report with local police and call **855-BCI-OHIO (855-224-6446)**.

Group working on model vehicle pursuit policy

Troubled by the deaths that have resulted from law enforcement vehicle pursuits, particularly one in Huber Heights, Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine formed an advisory group in April to examine the issue and create a model pursuit policy that can be used by agencies throughout the state.

On March 17, an 18-year-old suspect was being pursued by Huber Heights police when she slammed into an SUV driven by a 50-year-old Xenia resident, killing him and critically injuring his passenger. The suspect was indicted in Montgomery County Common Pleas Court on charges of aggravated vehicular homicide, failure to comply with the order or signal of a police officer, and grand theft auto.



Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine addressing the advisory group

At least 352 people, including one peace officer and 147 bystanders, were killed in law enforcement pursuits in Ohio between 1982 and 2014, according to data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The Huber Heights case struck a nerve with the Attorney General and prompted him to look into

forming a group to study pursuit policies.

"The goal is to lessen the risk to bystanders and police officers in regard to high-speed chases and hopefully come up with best practices," DeWine said.

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FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



Since the tragic morning in April when eight members of the Rhoden family were found shot to death in four homes in Pike County, the investigation has been a priority for my office. After realizing the magnitude of the crime, Pike County Sheriff Charles Reader requested the assistance of the Attorney General's Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI). Since that time, our agents have been working long hours to gather clues and uncover evidence.

On Day 1, 10 crime scene agents and a supervisor responded immediately to begin processing the multiple crime scenes, and they worked around the clock in those crucial first hours. Staff from our offices in Athens, Bowling Green, Cincinnati, Columbus, London, and Richfield converged on Pike County to offer help. I also went to the area to make appeals to the public to come forward with tips that might be of benefit to law enforcement.

The number of BCI employees involved in the case has continued to expand to include 11 members of the command staff and supervisors; 54 special agents, investigators and analysts;

17 laboratory workers; four BCI support staff members, one victim advocate, and three special prosecutors. Our team continues to gather information and process and analyze evidence.



Anyone with information on the Pike County investigation is asked to call **855-BCI-OHIO (855-224-6446)** or the Pike County Sheriff's Office at **740-947-2111**.

Meanwhile, Sheriff Reader has been shouldering a heavy burden, and his 22 sworn officers and six dispatchers spent the weeks after the murders working 12-hour shifts to provide a heightened level of security to the people of Pike County. Also, sheriff's offices from throughout the state sent deputies and pitched in to offer manpower, equipment, and support in the days after the murders.

Going into it, we knew this case wouldn't be solved quickly. The investigation is unprecedented and multilayered. It is going to take time. Like a 1,000-piece puzzle, it takes a while

before you start to see any kind of picture. BCI, which will mark its 95th year in September, is up to the challenge. This issue of *Criminal Justice Update* looks at highlights from the history of the bureau, which in 1921 was formed to provide identification services to law enforcement throughout the state. So much has changed through the years. In 2015, the lab analyzed 207,830 pieces of evidence for 961 law enforcement agencies.

In Pike County and elsewhere, BCI will continue to provide the highest level of service to law enforcement through investigative assistance at crime scenes, knowledgeable scientists and forensic specialists using cutting-edge technology to process evidence, and criminal intelligence analysts and identification specialists who help solve cases.

Very respectfully yours,

Mike DeWine
Ohio Attorney General

IN THE COURTS



State v. Barker, Slip Opinion No. 2016-Ohio-2708



In this case, the Ohio Supreme Court declared that Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Section 2933.81 (B) is unconstitutional as applied to

juveniles because it eliminates the state's burden of proving that electronically recorded statements made during custodial interrogation are voluntary and it places the burden on the defendant to prove otherwise.

Brief facts: Tyshawn Barker, 15, and three other teens were involved in a murder. Concerned that one of them would go to the police, Barker and the remaining participants lured that teen to an isolated area where they shot and killed her. Barker was arrested, and, after being read his Miranda rights, implicated himself in the crimes. Barker pleaded no contest and appealed to the 1st District Court of Appeals, which affirmed the sentence citing ORC 2933.81(B), noting that nothing in the trial court record refuted the presumption that Barker voluntarily made statements to detectives. Barker appealed to the Ohio Supreme Court arguing the presumption of volun-

tariness contained in ORC 2933.81(B) violates due process when applied to a juvenile.

Court's findings: The court examined ORC 2933.81(B), which states that "all statements made by a person during a custodial interrogation in a place of detention are presumed to be voluntary if the statements made by the person are electronically recorded." The court noted that the Legislature could not supersede Miranda. The court said the statute "cannot lessen the protections announced in Miranda by removing the state's burden of proving a suspect's knowing, intelligent, and voluntary waiver of rights prior to making a statement." So, simply because a suspect's statement is recorded doesn't mean that the suspect understands his or her rights or knowingly and intelligently waives them.



Visit www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/LawEnforcementBulletin for a monthly newsletter on key court cases and www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/EmailUpdates to sign up for that and other newsletters.



CRIMINAL JUSTICE UPDATE

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To offer story ideas, contact Editor Julia Brinksneider at **614-995-0328** or Julia.Brinksneider@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov. Sign up for the electronic edition at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/EmailUpdates.

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Q & A with:

Valoria Hoover, chief of the Ohio Attorney General's Environmental Enforcement Section

The section investigates and prosecutes those who violate Ohio's environmental laws and represents state agencies that protect Ohioans and their environment and natural resources.



The Hoover File

Previous jobs: attorney with Hoover Law Offices; partner in Kohrman, Jackson & Krantz; partner in Roderick, Myers & Linton; judicial attorney for Justice Deborah Cook, Ohio Supreme Court; judicial attorney, 9th District Court of Appeals; legal writing instructor at The Ohio State University

Education: Bachelor of Arts, Miami University; Juris Doctorate, University of Dayton School of Law

Hobbies: Traveling with husband Jeff and daughter Tori, coaching

Contact: 614-466-5249; 30 E. Broad St., 25th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215; Valoria.Hoover@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov

How does your section take up investigations?

We get involved upon the request of agencies, of county prosecutors, of local law enforcement, and others. Inside our Environmental Enforcement Section, there is a Criminal Prosecution Unit made up of two attorneys and the environment criminal investigators, including a BCI Special Agent Supervisor and five BCI agents.

What agencies does your section represent?

We have six agency clients that we represent in court — in criminal and civil cases — and during administrative appeals. They are: the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Ohio Department of Agriculture, State Fire Marshal's Bureau of Underground Tank Regulations, Ohio Power Siting Board, and State Emergency Response Commission. We also receive referrals from local boards of health.

What is the section's role when it gets involved in an agency's case?

Those agencies are the executive branch — they implement the law through regulation. But, when they need the law enforced, they need us to go into court and get a judge's order or criminal conviction. We are the enforcement side. When there has been environmental damage done, in addition to cleaning up the harm, we fight for a penalty, too.

Why is the penalty important?

Civil penalties have two purposes: one is to penalize those who violate the law; the second is to deter others from engaging in the sort of conduct that would violate the law. The penalty makes people ensure that their equipment is well-run so that they don't have toxic releases into the environment. You don't want someone releasing, for example, oil and gas into a river and just saying, "Well, I cleaned it up. No big deal." You have to be able to say, "No, there's a consequence to you for not following the rules." When the environmental harm is severe, the penalty should be higher.

Do you ever get tips about environmental hazards from the public?

Yes. The Environmental Enforcement Section has a constituent liaison officer who serves subpoenas and deals with public inquiries. We have, on occasion, received tips from the public.

READ MORE: Read an extended interview with Valoria Hoover at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/CriminalJusticeUpdate.

Fatal fire became case for Environmental Enforcement Section

Layered and multifaceted cases are typical at the Ohio Attorney General's Environmental Enforcement Section, according to Valoria Hoover, who became the section chief in April.

For example, the section is currently working on a case out of Cincinnati involving a fire at an environmental services company that resulted in the death of an employee.

"There are multiple levels to this case," Hoover said. "There were criminal investigations and a criminal grand jury. There will also be a civil side of this, too."

Zachary Henzerling, 20, was treating hazardous waste on Dec. 28, 2012, at the Spring Grove Avenue facility of Environmental Enterprises Inc., when a fire ignited.

A Hamilton County Grand Jury indicted the company and two company managers in connection with the fire.

The indictment, filed Jan. 7, 2016, charges Environmental Enterprises with nine counts, including involuntary manslaughter, reckless homicide, tampering with records, tampering with evidence, and violating the terms of a solid waste license.



Henzerling's supervisor, Kyle M. Duffens, was indicted on one count of involuntary manslaughter, one count of reckless homicide, and three counts of violating the terms of a solid waste license.

Gerald E. Nocks, a company manager, was indicted on one count of violating a solid waste license for failing to properly train employees, one count of tampering with records, and two counts of tampering with evidence.

"An employee who was processing hazardous waste wasn't properly supervised and didn't know what he was doing . . . and he died," Hoover said. "It's horrible."

An attorney with Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine's Environmental Enforcement Section was appointed to serve as a special prosecutor.

The case was investigated by the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Environmental Enforcement Unit; the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's Special Investigations Unit; and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Criminal Investigative Division, all of which are members of the Southwest Ohio Environmental Crimes Task Force.

'We all feel the loss deeply'

Ceremony honors Ohio's fallen officers

At the 2016 Ohio Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony, Christine Harvey found solace being among the family and friends of her fiancé — Deputy Michael Brandle of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, who died last year during a training exercise — and being with others who understand her heartache.

"It's comforting to be with the other families and to hear their stories, to know that they've gone through the same thing," she said. "Everyone has been so wonderful."

Nathan Van Oort Jr., whose father, Officer Nathan Van Oort Sr. of the Ohio University Police Department, was among those lost in 2015, agreed with Harvey.

"This gives me a great sense of family," he said of being surrounded by law enforcement officers from throughout the state who gathered to pay their respects at the May 5 event on the lawn of the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy in London.

The annual ceremony honored the 770 officers killed in the line of duty since 1823, including those killed in 2015 — Brandle, Van Oort, and Officer Sonny Kim of the Cincinnati Police Department. Their names have been added to the Ohio Fallen Officers' Memorial.

"This is the 29th year Ohioans have come together to commemorate the peace officers in our state who have lost their lives in the line of duty," said Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine. He noted that Brandle, Van Oort, and Kim were among 124 officers throughout the United States who in 2015 ended their watch having made the ultimate sacrifice.

"The risks that peace officers face are unlike those of almost any other job," DeWine said. "When a peace officer dies as the result of discharging his or her duties, we all feel the loss deeply."



Attorney General DeWine greeting the family of Cincinnati Officer Sonny L. Kim

HONOR & REMEMBER

OHIO PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL CEREMONY

The Honorees



Deputy Michael A. Brandle,
Jefferson County Sheriff's Office

On May 21, 2015, Deputy Brandle, 33, suffered a fatal heart attack while participating in sniper training.



Officer Sonny L. Kim,
Cincinnati Police Department

On June 19, 2015, Officer Kim, 48, was slain in an ambush.



Officer Nathan J. Van Oort Sr.,
Ohio University Police Department

On Nov. 7, 2015, Officer Van Oort died as a result of a lightning strike in 2006.

Historical Induction:

Det. Alfred Knight, Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Police Department

On Sept. 15, 1927, Det. Alfred Knight, 25, was shot and killed in a gunbattle near Dayton.



For the first time, fallen K-9 officers were honored in the ceremony, and five of their names were added to the new Ohio K-9 Memorial plaque, which will be displayed in the training academy's lobby.

K-9 Inductions

Falko, Toledo Police Department

On Aug. 12, 2015, K-9 Falko was shot and killed while pursuing a suspect.

Historical K-9 Inductions:

Bandit, Cincinnati Police Department — End of Watch: April 16, 1987

Cero, Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office — End of Watch: March 25, 2000

Bungee, New Albany Police Department — End of Watch: May 25, 2011

Andy, Vermilion Police Department — End of Watch: June 26, 2012



95th anniversary



“As Attorney General, I am committed to ensuring that the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation is a first-rate resource that serves the needs of the state’s law enforcement agencies and protects Ohio’s families.” — *Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine*

► SPECIAL FEATURE

BCI yesterday and today



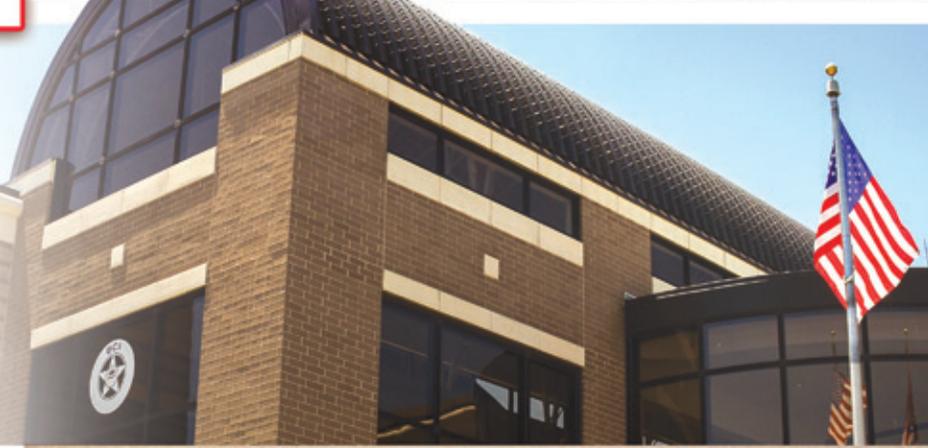
What is now the Ohio Attorney General’s Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) started in 1921 as a record-keeping facility operated by the Department of Public Welfare. By

1924, a superintendent, one assistant, and a collection of inmates from the Ohio State Penitentiary had become the caretakers of criminal identification and fingerprint records, which they would make available to law enforcement agencies. The bureau moved to the Department of Mental Hygiene and Corrections and then to the Department of Corrections. In 1963, it became part of the Attorney General’s Office.

Through the years, the bureau has grown into a multifaceted law enforcement resource. BCI is the state’s official crime lab, and it provides criminal investigative services to law enforcement agencies upon request. In the past 95 years, various divisions have been added to fulfill the needs of law enforcement.

Experienced special agents, forensic scientists, and other law enforcement experts staff BCI’s Identification Division, Investigations Division, and Laboratory Division.

Today, BCI has offices in Athens, Bowling Green, Cambridge, Richfield, Youngstown, and London. In the past year, BCI handled more than 207,830 pieces of evidence and investigated more than 38,522 cases for 961 law enforcement agencies throughout Ohio.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

In the past five years, BCI has played a critical role in key initiatives and projects, among them:

1. Sexual Assault Kit Testing Initiative: In 2011, Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine launched the initiative after learning that law enforcement agencies had rape kits that had never been sent to a DNA lab for testing. He made an open call to law enforcement to send their kits to BCI.

As of July 1, 294 law enforcement agencies had submitted 13,890 kits to be tested, and forensic scientists had completed testing on 11,257 kits, resulting in 4,055 hits in the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS).

2. Crimes Against Children Initiative: Started in 2011, the initiative focuses on identifying, arresting, and convicting people who prey on children. For the initiative, BCI formed a Crimes Against Children Unit, which receives assistance from other BCI units, and the Special Prosecutions and Crime Victim Services sections.

Local authorities can request help with investigations, prosecutions, forensic analysis, training, technical assistance, equipment loans, and

victim advocacy. In 2015, the Crimes Against Children Unit assisted 81 law enforcement agencies in 178 cases.

3. The Heroin Unit: The unit was developed in 2013 to help law enforcement pursue high-level traffickers and to work with communities affected by the opiate epidemic.

BCI provides investigative assistance and training for law enforcement agencies. It has special agents assigned to assist local law enforcement with heroin-related cases. BCI criminal intelligence analysts gather data for drug cases. The BCI Chemistry Unit examines evidence to determine the presence of harmful substances.

4. Ohio Unsolved Homicides Initiative: In 2012, Attorney General DeWine asked law enforcement agencies to submit cold case information to BCI to be included on an online database.

Today, there are 464 cases from 240 agencies in the database, which can be viewed at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov.



95th anniversary



A BCI retrospective:

1921 - 2016

The Ohio Attorney General's Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) will mark its 95th anniversary in September. Here is a look at some of its milestones.



Sept. 6, 1921

The Bureau of Criminal Identification begins operating within the Department of Public Welfare to provide identification services to law enforcement throughout the state.



1949

BCI conducts its first polygraph exam.



1959

BCI becomes the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation to reflect its new Investigations Division.

1963

The Ohio Attorney General's Office assumes oversight of BCI.

1972

BCI begins computerizing criminal histories.



Early 1980s

BCI launches its marijuana-eradication efforts.

1994

Ohio establishes an Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS), enabling the computerization of criminal fingerprint cards.

1998

BCI provides DNA analysis for the first time, meaning DNA evidence can be presented in criminal prosecutions.



The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies accredits BCI.

1999

BCI's current headquarters opens in London. The \$20.3 million, state-of-the-art facility is three times the size of the former accommodations.

2001

Ohio connects to the National Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) network. The state has its first CODIS hit when

DNA from a Warren County rape case is entered into the database and it matches that of an offender earlier convicted of aggravated burglary.



2002

The American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board accredits BCI's Laboratory Division.

2011

A template is created and baselines are developed to track BCI laboratory turnaround times.

BCI's Clandestine Drug Lab/Cannabis Suppression Unit seizes 350 methamphetamine labs.

Senate Bill 77 is enacted requiring the collection of DNA from felony arrestees.

BCI establishes an Athens office to enhance polygraph and evidence-intake services.

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine launches the Sexual Assault Kit (SAK) Testing Initiative after learning that dozens of law enforcement agencies throughout the state were in possession of rape kits that had never been sent to a DNA lab for testing.

The Crimes Against Children Initiative is launched to target sex offenders who prey on children, and its Crimes Against Children Unit is set up at BCI to provide cutting-edge resources and a rapid response team to help law enforcement.

2012

Cutting-edge technology, including a smartphone app, is made available to better track sex offenders through a partnership among BCI's Crimes Against Children Unit, the U.S. Marshals Service, and local law enforcement.

After months of training, the Forensic Dive Team is established with eight team members.



2013

After a two-year effort to improve lab processes, turnaround times are reduced 84 percent for DNA evidence, while submissions rise 34 percent.

Ohio's Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) is expanded to include 600,000 palm prints.

Attorney General DeWine creates a Heroin Unit to go after opiate traffickers.

2014

BCI opens a 30,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art lab and investigations facility on the campus of Bowling Green State University (BGSU).



The Ohio Attorney General's Center for the Future of Forensic Science — a resource for the professional development of forensic science practitioners and students interested in forensic science — is established at BGSU.

2015

Senate Bill 316 requires Ohio law enforcement agencies to submit any untested or new sexual assault kits to a crime lab for analysis.



2016

BCI forensic scientists test their 10,000th rape kit for DNA as part of the Sexual Assault Kit (SAK) Testing Initiative.

BCI enters a partnership with Battelle to use Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) to enhance BCI's DNA testing capabilities to solve missing persons cases.

Trace evidence: When small clues add up

At BCI, shoe prints, vehicle tracks lead to arrests

Mud is enough to sink some criminals.

Suspects' damp shoes leave shoe prints and their vehicles leave tire tracks — rich clues for the forensic scientists of the Trace Evidence Unit at the Ohio Attorney General's Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI).

Suzanne Noffsinger, who has been a forensic scientist with BCI for about four years, can look at a shoe print pattern and map out the circles, lines, zigzags, and squiggles and enter what she finds into a footwear database — Shoeprint Image Capture and Retrieval (SICAR) — to try to determine what type of shoe made the impression.

Shoes are a constantly evolving product, she said. "We have 35,000 tread designs in SICAR and it keeps growing. Every three months, we get an update with a couple hundred new ones."

Once a footwear brand is identified, the suspect's shoes can be retrieved and compared directly to the print from the crime scene. Unique areas of damage on a shoe's tread can cause the print to be like no other.

"If you have a shoe print, for example on paper or glass, you can see not only the pattern, but

also the nicks and cuts on the tread," she said.

In her office, Noffsinger keeps a piece of cardboard covered with shoe prints that became key evidence in a case involving men who broke into a warehouse to steal copper pipes. The discarded cardboard lying on the warehouse floor captured the suspects' tracks.

"The cardboard showed every cut and divot," she said. "I made test impressions of the suspects' shoes. They pleaded guilty when faced with the evidence."

While footwear is the most common type of evidence the unit handles, the scientists also examine a lot of tire tracks, which can place a certain car at the scene of a crime. "Tires are like shoes, but they are 7 feet long," she said.

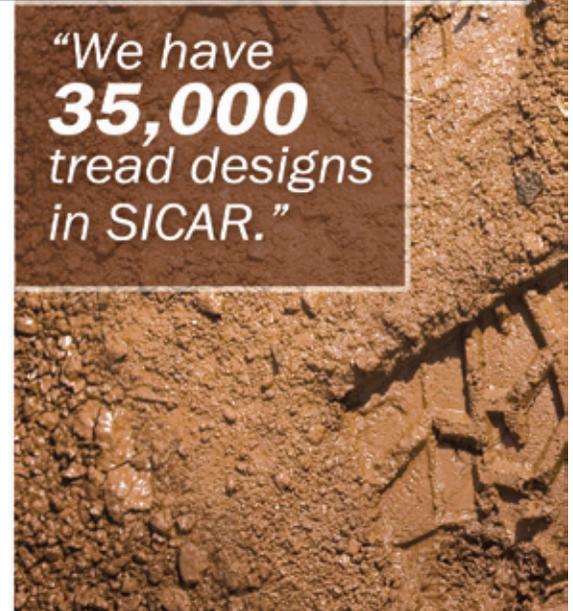
Small things like paint chips, glass shards, vehicle lamp filaments, fibers and gunshot residue are also among the unit's specialties.

For more information about the unit, visit www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov and search "Trace Evidence Unit."



Suzanne Noffsinger, a forensic scientist with the Trace Evidence Unit at BCI, examining shoe prints left at a crime scene

"We have
35,000
tread designs
in SICAR."



Chad Wissinger, chief of the fire marshal's forensic lab, looking at a package of evidence

Fire marshal's forensic lab finds answers in the ashes

Crime scenes often unite investigators from different agencies, for example the Ohio Attorney General's Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) and the State Fire Marshal's Office.

Investigators for the State Fire Marshal focus on the origin and cause of fires and explosions, said Chad Wissinger, chief of the Fire Marshal's forensic Lab. But often, arsons and explosions are intertwined with other crimes — such as homicides and illegal drug manufacturing, which concern BCI.

Evidence collected by Fire Marshal's investigators is sent to the State Fire Marshal's Forensic laboratory in Reynoldsburg. The lab also accepts, and processes, at no cost to the requesting agency, fire and explosion evidence collected by fire departments, law enforcement, government agencies, and coroners.

The Fire Marshal's Forensic Lab is accredited

by ASCLD-LAB International Program in the disciplines of trace evidence, which includes fire debris, explosives, and unknown chemicals; latent print processing; and video and audio analysis.

It receives evidence from 70 to 90 cases a month, which is between 800 and 1,000 cases a year.

"That's not a very good indication of how busy we are because if each case came in with one piece of evidence, we wouldn't be very busy, but we track 3,000 to 4,000 pieces of evidence a year," Wissinger said. To top it off, each piece of evidence is examined multiple times for a total of 5,000 to 6,000 examinations per year.

A few of the devices that the lab uses to examine evidence include:

- A scanning electron microscope. "We use this for elemental analyses of explosives and chemicals from meth labs," Wissinger said.
- A gas chromatograph-mass spectrometer (GC-MS) for detecting and identifying ignitable liquids in fire debris.
- Two hand-held chemical identification devices, which have 11,000 chemicals in their databases and can identify a sample in 30 seconds.
- A portable trace explosives detector, which can identify residue from a swab in seconds.

For more information on the fire marshal's forensic laboratory, visit www.com.ohio.gov/fire.

SUMMER 2016 NEWS & NOTES



OHLEG updated to better serve needs of law enforcement

User feedback has been positive on the May upgrade of the Ohio Law Enforcement Gateway (OHLEG) system, and, according to support specialists, calls to the help desk have decreased dramatically.



“OHLEG is an important tool that law enforcement depends upon 10,000 times a day for searches of reliable data to be used in an effort to bring criminals to justice,” said Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine. “We are pleased to provide this update to improve the system.”

A team from the Ohio Attorney General’s Information Technology Services Section and Bureau of Criminal Investigation installed the new version of the system, which is designed to be simple to navigate, easier to view on mobile devices, and more secure than ever for OHLEG’s almost 27,000 users. Among the new features:

- The system includes a notification option so OHLEG staff can send pop-up or status messages for better communication with individuals or groups.
- The update allows a user who is a member of more than one law enforcement agency to easily toggle between those roles to allow access to the proper applications.
- The new version offers a choice of screen colors for ease of viewing in various lighting conditions.
- The update helps users to more easily keep track of and change their passwords.

The new features are meant to be self-explanatory, but training is available upon request. Also, a new OHLEG training and security video is planned for later in the year.

For more information or assistance, call OHLEG Support at **1-866-40-OHLEG (866-406-4534)**.

Plush toys, books donated to advocacy centers



Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine and volunteers pack comfort items for abused children.

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine and a group of volunteers filled boxes with stuffed animals, books, and journals to be given to abused children who seek services from the Ohio Network of Children’s Advocacy Centers.

More than 80 boxes of items were donated by attendees of the Attorney General’s Two Days in May Conference on Victim Assistance and area businesses. Thirty-one advocacy centers will receive the donations.

During the conference, DeWine met with representatives of several of the advocacy centers receiving the donations to thank them for the work they do to protect Ohio’s children.

“Advocacy centers like these are critical in supporting children who have been traumatized by crime, and I hope that these donations can provide some comfort to children who need these services,” DeWine said. “I am thankful to everyone who donated today, because small gestures like this can make a big difference in the life of a child.”

Badges for Baseball participants tour Ohio State University



Campus tour participants cheering for the Buckeyes

About 130 Ohio children had a chance to experience college life and sports during a daylong event hosted by the Ohio Attorney General’s Office and the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation.

The kids, who are from area community youth groups that are partners in the foundation’s Badges for Baseball program, participated in College Experience Day on April 23 at The Ohio State University. The children took part in a baseball skills clinic, a tour of the campus, and an interactive presentation by OSU representatives. The kids ended their day watching an OSU women’s lacrosse game.

The Attorney General’s Office, in partnership with the foundation, provides financial support for Badges for Baseball.

Advocate, university program honored at Two Days in May conference

An advocate against domestic violence and a college program designed to end sexual assaults were recognized at the 2016 Two Days in May Conference on Victim Assistance.



Grigsby

Nancy Grigsby, the legal assistance program director at the Ohio Domestic Violence Network, was honored with the 2016 Robert Denton Special Achievement Award for her 36 years of service as an advocate for victims.

“It was really humbling to have my work recognized in the midst of so many people who are also doing amazing work,” she said.

The 2016 Promising Practice Award was given to the Not Without Consent: Healthy Relationships and Bystander-Intervention Program, which was created through a partnership between Wittenberg University and Project Woman, a group dedicated to ending domestic violence and sexual assault.

The mandatory program, which is presented to incoming students during orientation, encourages healthy relationships and teaches how to intervene when peers exhibit inappropriate behavior.

model vehicle pursuit policy continued from page 1

Since 2003, law enforcement agencies have been required to have a pursuit policy, but the policy details are up to the individual departments.

Canton Public Safety Director Andrea Perry is leading the advisory group, which includes 12 representatives from law enforcement, local government, and the public.

So far, the group has met three times — April 19, May 18, and June 15 — and more meetings are planned. Members have heard several perspectives on vehicle pursuits and examined the vehicle pursuit policies of various agencies.

At the May meeting, the panel learned about the Ohio State Highway Patrol's pursuit policy from Lt. Chuck Jones and driving training from Sgt. Jonathan Davis.

The patrol's training begins in the classroom, Davis said, then moves on to regular driving, emergency

driving, and pursuit driving. The final training session is held in the classroom. The patrol calls on the teachings of Below 100, a program designed to reduce line-of-duty deaths by placing an emphasis on sound judgment.

"When our trainees are asked, 'Who are you sworn to protect?' They will generally answer, 'society,'" Davis said. "When asked, 'Whose life are you willing to take if you choose to engage in a pursuit without weighing the risk of the pursuit with the necessity of apprehension?' They always give you that blank stare. ... So we put the burden on them to make educated decisions about whether to pursue or not pursue."

The emphasis on making good choices during a pursuit, he said, is the most critical part of the training.

"It's that good sound decision-making that makes the difference," he said.



The panel

The advisory group is being led by Canton Public Safety Director Andrea Perry and includes:

- **Erik Abrahamsen**, Motorists Insurance
- **Arlene Anderson**, Cleveland NAACP
- **Chief Joseph Andzik**, German Township Police Department
- **Lt. Chad Carson**, Licking County Sheriff's Office
- **Rockney Carter**, Montgomery County IMPACT and Zion Baptist Church

- **Lori Cope**, Ohio Municipal League and Mansfield Safety Service Director
- **Lt. James Fitsko**, Marion Police Department
- **Prosecutor James Flaiz**, Geauga County Prosecutor's Office
- **Judge William Grim** (retired), Athens County Municipal Court
- **Joseph Hegedus**, Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association
- **Ken Hilty**, County Risk Sharing Authority
- **Ric Oxender**, Ohio Conference of AAA Clubs

BCI, Battelle partnership to usher in new DNA technology

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opportunity for our scientists, who are advancing the important technology, to see it have further applications," Wadsworth said. "It puts Ohio in the leadership position of doing what others in the nation have not yet achieved."

Currently, specialized DNA testing is necessary in most missing persons cases, which BCI sends to a federal lab in Texas. Results sometimes take up to six months. With this partnership, NGS testing will be done at BCI, which could speed results to a week or less.

Project LINK (Linking Individuals Not Known), in which family members of the missing submit their own DNA to compare to DNA samples from human remains, is seeking matches for 118 missing Ohioans. At least 90 sets of remains are

awaiting identification in Ohio. Case descriptions are available at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov. Public tips are welcome.



The Ohio Attorney General's Office is urging law enforcement and coroners to send unidentified human remains to BCI. For help, call **855-BCI-OHIO (855-224-6446)**.

LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES



Adult Protective Services

House Bill 24 (Elder Justice Act)

Sponsors: Reps. Mike Dovilla, Wes Retherford
Status: Passed by House; pending in Senate committee

House Bill 24 enhances Adult Protective Services (APS) by requiring the program to assist an older victim of abuse whether or not the perpetrator is a caretaker, expands the list of mandatory reporters to include financial institutions, and gives APS the ability to seek protective orders regarding irreparable financial harm.



Foster Care-Adoption Assistance Age

House Bill 50

Sponsors: Reps. Dorothy Pelanda, Cheryl Grossman
Status: Filed June 14; effective Sept. 13

House Bill 50 extends the eligibility age for federal foster care and adoption assistance payments to 21, and requires that a guardian receive the *Ohio Guardianship Guide*.



Police Training

House Bill 204

Sponsors: Reps. Tim Derickson, Nathan Manning
Status: Passed by House; pending in Senate committee

House Bill 204 would lift the cap on the number of hours of basic training required for peace officers. It also requires all new peace officers to have a high school diploma or GED.



Children's Credit Freeze

House Bill 317

Sponsors: Rep. Ron Maag
Status: Filed June 29; effective Sept. 28

House Bill 317 allows parents or guardians to apply a security "freeze" to a child's credit to help stop identity thieves from opening accounts in the child's name.



Violent Career Criminal Act

Senate Bill 97

Sponsors: Sens. Jim Hughes, Frank LaRose
Status: Filed June 15; effective Sept. 14

Senate Bill 97 increases the mandatory prison term for an offender convicted of a firearm specification and who has been previously convicted of a firearm specification.



Elder Financial Exploitation Symposium

When: 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Aug. 26
Where: Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy Auditorium, Richfield
For information: call 614-728-8461 or visit www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/ElderAbuse.



Ohio Attorney General's Law Enforcement Conference

When: Oct. 4-5
Where: Hyatt Regency Columbus
For information: Visit www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/LEConference or call 740-845-2684.



John Crabtree and the Reynoldsburg Youth Choir performing during the candlelight vigil

Safety stressed for National Missing Children's Day

Families gathered May 21 in Reynoldsburg to observe National Missing Children's Day at an event sponsored by the Ohio Attorney General's Office and the Reynoldsburg Youth Human Trafficking Coalition.



Linda Maloy, the mother of a child who survived an abduction, spoke about the day her daughter was taken and recovered. Afterward, John Crabtree and the Reynoldsburg Youth Choir sang *Fly Little Angel* during a candlelight vigil.

Representatives from law enforcement agencies, fire departments, and the Ohio Attorney General's Bureau of Criminal Investigation offered equipment demonstrations. Information was provided on DNA collection and human-trafficking awareness.

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CRIMINAL JUSTICE UPDATE