A COORDINATED EFFORT TO AID THE VULNERABLE

Human trafficking efforts by AG Yost shift responsibility from prostitutes to pimps, johns

“Pimps play on three things: ignorance, low self-esteem and the desire to be loved,” says Ohio State University Professor Elaine Richardson, a survivor of human trafficking.

People with such vulnerabilities live in every part of Ohio, encapsulating why human trafficking is a problem affecting the whole state.

“The fact that you don’t see it doesn’t mean it’s not happening,” Attorney General Dave Yost said.

“It means that it’s happening in the shadows. People don’t want it to be seen, and, for decades, our society was blind to the scale of the problem and blind to those trapped in it.”

During the first 11 months of 2019 alone, law enforcement task forces operating under the authority of the Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission rescued 110 trafficking victims.

Continued on Page 4
Del Rio — ensuring that their killers receive a just
later, during a raid on drug traffickers this past
Detective Jorge Del Rio, who was killed 32 years
So it is essential that we remember who Officer
the generations until the end of time.
place. The effects of this crime will ripple through
children his dedication to make the world a better
another Morrow resident, sing another silly song
heart — simply because he was a police officer.
— 150 shotgun pellets embedded in his chest and
Officer Phegley was not killed because of some-thing
he did or did not do. He died on the street — 150 shotgun pellets embedded in his chest and
heart — simply because he was a police officer.
The young officer never got the chance to help
officer who tried to stop him.
On that cold day in January 1987, McIntosh had
swearing to a friend that he would kill the next
had stashed a sawed-off shotgun in his car after
On the Job
is typically published four times a year by the Ohio Attorney General’s Office.
To offer story ideas, contact Editor Jenny Applegate at 614-995-3232 or jennifer.
Applegate@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov. Sign up for our update e-mail newsletter at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/EmailUpdates.

FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Morrow Police Officer Jeffrey Phegley was the kind of young man who'd start off his shift singing to co-workers.

On the day in 1987 when he was murdered, the 22-year-old also had visited his sick grandmother before coming to work, a shift he had volunteered to cover for the chief of the small department.

You see, stepping up was a way of life for Officer Phegley, who regularly volunteered with the Red Cross, a hospital and the local ski patrol. He had also volunteered on a presidential campaign and intervened with a U.S. congressman, but his heart was in law enforcement.

He had a bright future dedicated to helping Ohioans, but Anthony Wayne McIntosh stole that promise.

When Officer Phegley pulled over McIntosh for driving 48 mph in a school zone, the younger man fired the illegal weapon and fled.

Officer Phegley was not killed because of something he did or did not do. He died on the street — 150 shotgun pellets embedded in his chest and heart — simply because he was a police officer.

The young officer never got the chance to help another Morrow resident, sing another silly song — 150 shotgun pellets embedded in his chest and heart — simply because he was a police officer.

Of course, we have every reason to believe you'd do the same. We are proud of you.

We support tough punishment for those who kill officers. A strong response serves as a deterrent and provides justice for, in essence, two crimes — the harm to the officer as a person and the harm society suffers when one of its guardians is killed.

Take Detective Del Rio as an example. The 55-year-old father of five — who once saved a teen from drowning and, another time, prevented a double murder for hire — specialized in undercover work that took drugs off the street and sent traffickers to prison.

When the man who killed Detective Del Rio fired his gun, he stole from the officer’s family and from each of us.

Yes, the killing of a police officer is an attack on you and your family, as well as on me and my family. That is because the rule of law is the foundation of our society.

Officers like Phegley and Del Rio step up to take on those who threaten us. As a result, law-abiding folks don’t have to; we can live in peace and security, free from violence and fear. In exchange for police putting their lives on the line, we must do what we can to protect officers.

Thus we arm them with guns and body armor, train them to fight criminals and provide them with other crime-fighting technology.

We support tough punishment for those who kill officers. A strong response serves as a deterrent and provides justice for, in essence, two crimes — the harm to the officer as a person and the harm society suffers when one of its guardians is killed.

That is why I commend the Ohio Parole Board for refusing to free Anthony Wayne McIntosh after a hearing in November, and why my heart goes out to Officer Phegley’s loved ones, who once more were forced to relive the worst tragedy of their lives.

I hope — for the sake of Detective Del Rio’s widow and daughters, for every officer in Ohio and the nation, and for the rest of us — that the men responsible for the Dayton officer’s death get the full measure of justice they deserve.

Yours,
Dwight ‘Dee’ Holcomb
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | OPOTA

What drew you to a career in policing?
In middle school, I had career day and I went around to all of the booths to see the options. One of the people who was there was a police officer who was really engaging. He talked about how it was a public service, and, yeah, you catch the bad guys. He also said it was a job for people who enjoy being outdoors and getting involved. It sparked an interest.

Then, when I was in college, I did a ride-along with a police agency and said, “Yeah, this is what I want to do.” And here I am.

What attracted you to this job?
With my background in law enforcement, it became a natural segue to go back into the public sector after 14 years with The Dispatch Printing Co. and affiliates. Coming back into something like this is truly different from being a front-line police officer and police chief, but it’s back into the heart of supporting education for the 33,000 law enforcement officers we have here in the state.

What are your priorities for OPOTA?
I don’t have specific goals yet because I want to learn as much as I can and meet with staff and our many partners before setting priorities. But my big goal is to continue to maintain and make OPOTA, and all the training we give here, some of the best in the country.

What do you think of the state of police training in Ohio?
It’s good, but it can always be expanded. We need to be proactive in identifying what the future issues in policing will be. Some things that happen today might seem like a little blip, but we need to be able to recognize, “You know what, that could become something in the future that we need to be concerned with.”

It’s important to get input from all the partners around the state, whether it’s county sheriffs, State Highway Patrol, local municipal police officers. We need to get their input so that we know what kind of training they may need to go into the future also.

What would you tell people considering going into law enforcement?
That, despite all of the bad publicity that happens with officers around the country, this is still one of the most noble professions you could do. Certainly, being a law enforcement officer is about catching bad guys, but it’s mostly about public service. It’s about helping individuals who turn to law enforcement because you represent your community and you’re there 24–7. They trust that they can pick up a phone and a police officer will respond to help them in their most critical times. Public service is truly what you’re providing in law enforcement.

What do you do when you’re not working?
My family loves boating, and we center all of our vacations in the summer. We spend multiple days every year at Lake Erie and Cedar Point on the waterfront. And then we take our ski boat to the big lakes down in Kentucky for our annual family vacation. So our vacations are all based around water and boating, and that’s pretty much my hobby.

Bio box
Hometown: Franklin County
Family: married to Peggy for 37 years; three adult children: Amanda, a nurse practitioner in a trauma fellowship at OhioHealth Grant Medical Center; Chad, a BCI special agent in southern Ohio; and Tyler, a mechanical engineer in Kansas City
Education: FBI National Academy (163rd session); Franklin University, graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor’s degree in public administration; Police Executive Leadership College; Ohio State Highway Patrol Basic Police Academy (48th session); Columbus State, associate degree in Law Enforcement Technology
and referred an additional 217 to services. That’s almost 330 Ohioans combined who have not had control of their liver, their bodies or their time. And the number represents only the tip of the iceberg; Ohio is the fourth-worst state in the nation for human trafficking.

“We’ve seen that human trafficking doesn’t just happen in big, flashy parts of the city,” said Matt Hilbert, deputy director of OOCIC. “It is happening in suburbs, towns and rural communities, too. Right now. Girls who live in my community are at risk.”

“And here’s a hard truth,” Yost said. “Society is not doing enough to end human trafficking. But there’s a reason we’re not trying to help these modern-day slaves.”

The attorney general has created a plan of attack focused on fighting traffickers, decreasing demand and helping survivors. Since enacting the Ohio House Bill 340 on Jan. 14, 2019, Yost has pushed to change state laws, educate law enforcement officers and prosecutors, and make a difference for survivors.

The Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy offers human trafficking-specific courses, and one of Yost’s main tools is the new Human Trafficking Initiative, for which he has hired two experts in their fields to work full time to improve the human trafficking response in Ohio.

Jennifer Rausch, legal director of the initiative, and Jomel Aird, director of victim services, have been meeting with coalitions, prosecutors and multidisciplinary groups throughout Ohio.

“We have a lot of different people doing a lot of different things throughout the state,” said Rauch, a former leader in the Franklin County Prosecutor’s Office. “As we travel, we’re working to connect everybody to make sure people aren’t reinventing the wheel, to make sure that we can provide resources, too, and bring attention to groups that are doing things really well.”

On Jan. 9, various experts will share key information through the attorney general’s inaugural Human Trafficking Summit, where the focus will be “to send people home with ideas and rhetoric,” Yost said. Since enacting the Ohio House Bill 340 on Jan. 14, 2019, Yost has pushed to change state laws, educate law enforcement officers and prosecutors, and make a difference for survivors.

On Jan. 9, various experts will share key information through the attorney general’s inaugural Human Trafficking Summit, where the focus will be “to send people home with ideas and rhetoric,” Yost said. Since enacting the Ohio House Bill 340 on Jan. 14, 2019, Yost has pushed to change state laws, educate law enforcement officers and prosecutors, and make a difference for survivors.

On Jan. 9, various experts will share key information through the attorney general’s inaugural Human Trafficking Summit, where the focus will be “to send people home with ideas and rhetoric,” Yost said. Since enacting the Ohio House Bill 340 on Jan. 14, 2019, Yost has pushed to change state laws, educate law enforcement officers and prosecutors, and make a difference for survivors.

On Jan. 9, various experts will share key information through the attorney general’s inaugural Human Trafficking Summit, where the focus will be “to send people home with ideas and rhetoric,” Yost said. Since enacting the Ohio House Bill 340 on Jan. 14, 2019, Yost has pushed to change state laws, educate law enforcement officers and prosecutors, and make a difference for survivors.

On Jan. 9, various experts will share key information through the attorney general’s inaugural Human Trafficking Summit, where the focus will be “to send people home with ideas and rhetoric,” Yost said. Since enacting the Ohio House Bill 340 on Jan. 14, 2019, Yost has pushed to change state laws, educate law enforcement officers and prosecutors, and make a difference for survivors.
Sarah Shendy is a veteran Copley police officer, an OPOTA trainer and a Muslim woman who has had such a positive experience in policing that she would recommend the career to anyone, especially minorities.

“I mean it when I say that police officers protect and serve the country. On top of that, I'm not going to go up to someone and be mean, God forbid we have a school shooting or a fire. I'm not going to go up to someone and be like, 'Sorry, I couldn't drag your son, daughter, brother, wife, whatever out of the school because I failed to plan. So that's why I push myself and the uniform does not make you.'" 

Central Ohio Violent Crime Working Group

This task force shut down the Trotwood and Athensen Crips, one of the most violent gangs in Columbus' history. Nineteen men were indicted, and nine face the death penalty.

The Columbus, XT, FBI and Ohio Adult Pa- role Authority linked gang members to 380 shots fired, including in murders; connected suspects to crime scenes with data from social media, cellphones, towers and fingerprint experts. 

VALOR AWARD
Troopers James M. Davis, Charles M. Gannon, Jason R. Hutchison and Sgt. David L. Robison, Ohio State Highway Patrol

After a crash on I-75 in Montgomery County, a small bus caught fire. Trapped inside was Cayley Gannon, Jason R. Hutchison and Sgt. David L. Robison, Ohio State Highway Patrol. The troopers kept Seltz safe and calm, fighting back the flames with fire extinguishers.
Traffic safety grants cover OPOTA tuition

OPOTA has grant money available to reimburse law enforcement officers for tuition to certain traffic safety courses.

Late last year, the academy was awarded $280,000 in grants funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The qualifying courses:

- Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE)
- Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) Instructor
- Advanced Traffic Collision Investigation (Level II)
- RADAR and LiDAR Operator and RADAR and LiDAR Instructor
- Traffic Collision Investigation (Level I)
- Vehicle Dynamics (Level III)

Registration is available at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/OPOTAcourses.