With Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine’s Sexual Assault Kit (SAK) Testing Initiative completing DNA testing on almost 14,000 rape kits as of January, suspects are being identified, criminal cases are being developed, and survivors are being helped by advocates.

“Each of these rape kits represents one of our fellow citizens who has been violated,” DeWine said. “Fortunately, advocates throughout Ohio are doing a tremendous job of supporting these victims of crime and their families.”

Richard A. Bell

From 2012 to 2016, forensic scientists with the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) completed DNA testing on 13,931 rape kits that had been lingering in police evidence lockers. A total of 294 law enforcement agencies in 75 counties submitted kits as part of the initiative. The Cleveland Division of Police submitted the most, 4,418. With the statute of limitations bearing down on the resulting cases, Bell, Special Investigations Division chief, had to get organized quickly. “We weren’t going to let this time run out on our watch,” he said.

Bell explained the structure of the Cuyahoga County Sexual Assault Kit Task Force to a group gathered for the Sexual Assault Investigation Symposium, an event for law enforcement officials, prosecutors, and advocates held in conjunction with Two Days in May.

Bell stressed the importance of pursuing the cases. “Those rape kits on your shelves that you think might have been tested, or you’re unsure if they’ve been tested, need to be tested — not just for this case, but for other cases.”

Children pay price for chaos at home, study shows

Doctor: At-risk kids best helped by caring adults, community

The negative experiences of children affect who they become, their physical and mental wellness, and their ability to succeed in life, according to a pediatrician and expert on child abuse featured at the Ohio Attorney General’s “Ideas for Our Future” conference.

The Ohio Law Enforcement Gateway (OHLEG) has added a new feature to its records management system that provides an easy way for officers to report incidents involving a use of force.
Many of Ohio’s children are practically raising themselves, as one or both of their parents are dependent on drugs and cannot properly provide for them. The chaos at home spills over into every area of their lives. Truancy, poor school performance, and behavior problems are all side effects of the difficulties these children are experiencing.

As Robert Shapiro, M.D, of Cincinnati Children’s Mayerson Center for Safe and Healthy Children said at my office’s “Ideas for Our Future” conference in March, supportive and positive relationships, such as with teachers, coaches, or law enforcement officers, can make a huge difference to children who are struggling. (See story, Page 1.)

Another conference speaker, Eric Nation, who worked undercover in narcotics for six years during his law enforcement career, agrees. For a long time, Nation believed that the children of people involved in the drug trade were doomed to repeat the cycle. A particular case changed his mind, and now he works for the National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children. Today, he urges police to work with child-welfare agencies on cases and handle such children with care. “We have to do it differently,” he said. “If you don’t intervene, who will?”

Another way to reach children is through effective prevention efforts. In 2016, I created the Joint Study Committee on Drug Use Prevention Education in conjunction with the Ohio House speaker and the Ohio Senate president. In February 2017, the committee issued a report on its findings and recommendations. The committee’s first recommendation was that every Ohio student receives annual, age appropriate prevention education.

Schools need greater resources to help the children who are being exposed to addiction. On June 18, my office released the committee’s Drug Use Prevention Resource Guide, an inventory of programs and a planning resource for school leaders to help fill the gaps in their districts’ comprehensive prevention strategies. By using the manual, schools will be able to follow the lead of others and gather partners to further build their drug-education programs, potentially reaching more students.

My office will continue to offer resources to help schools and communities battle this epidemic. While there is still much to do, we are making progress. To read the report or the resource guide, visit www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov.

Very respectfully yours,

Mike DeWine
Ohio Attorney General

LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

| Cocaine Amounts Determination | While a recent Ohio Supreme Court decision determined that only the weight of pure cocaine in a substance could be used to set sentences, House Bill 4 clarifies the law to include the total weight of the compound, mixture, preparation, or substance containing the cocaine in assessing penalties. |
| Cocaine Amounts Determination House Bill 4 Sponsors: Reps. Robert Cupp, John Rogers Status: Passed by House; pending in Senate committee | Senate Bill 220 provides a legal safe harbor to covered entities that implement a specified cybersecurity program. |
| Safe Harbor — Cybersecurity Programs Senate Bill 220 Sponsors: Sens. Bob Hackett, Kevin Bacon Status: Passed by the Senate and House | Senate Bill 231 provides for a violent offender database, requires violent offenders to enroll in the database, and names those provisions of the act “Sierah’s Law.” |
| Violent Offender Database Senate Bill 231 Sponsor: Sen. Randy Gardner Status: Passed by Senate; pending in House committee |

Rebate AVAILABLE

Public entities interested in applying for the naloxone rebate should visit www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/NaloxoneRebate.
J. Bartley Cosgrove, director of the Economic Crimes Unit of the Ohio Attorney General’s Consumer Protection Section

The Economic Crimes Unit works with county prosecutors and local law enforcement to investigate and prosecute consumer-related crimes.

Could you briefly explain what the Economic Crimes Unit does?

Attorney General Mike DeWine made it a priority to criminally prosecute scammers who target Ohioans. He created the Consumer Protection Section’s Economic Crimes Unit (ECU) to combat criminal consumer fraud. ECU investigates crimes that don’t receive federal attention, but at the same time, crimes, whose multijurisdictional reach, can hinder local police from seeing a scam’s full impact.

What are economic crimes? What does the unit investigate?

Economic crime doesn’t have a universally accepted definition. It’s a theft-based crime that has levels of concealment to hide the suspect’s true identity. This includes contactor fraud, grandparent scams, romance scams, embezzlement, and money laundering. These crimes are committed by white-collar professionals and career criminals alike.

How many of the investigations have led to convictions?

ECU has obtained 135 convictions. Over the past seven years, we have obtained $5 million in court restitution orders. In some cases, consumers have recovered all of their money. Consumers in one case received full restitution of $150,000 and $43,000 in another case.

How do you work with local law enforcement?

It’s a partnership. Sometimes, police seek our assistance; other times, we alert them to new scams. When we work on an investigation together, we often obtain and review the financial information that is necessary for the foundation of a case. This frees up the detective’s time to work on another part of the case, or on a different investigation altogether. Today, most scams have some telecommunications component. Yet, some agencies don’t have experience with electronic search warrants. We can help in this area.

Could you tell us about a case of note?

In 2013, we indicted the owners of a home-repair business for stealing more than $139,000 from 35 victims in a storm-chasing roofing scam in southeast Ohio. Patrick Richard Jr. and his company All Seasons of Kentucky Inc. swept through Lawrence County and accepted insurance funds from the victims for new roofs before leaving town. The homeowners received nothing in return. The homeowners received nothing in return.

Patrick Richard was charged in Lawrence County with engaging in a pattern of corrupt activity, theft, theft from the elderly, money laundering, and receiving stolen property. It was an important case to indict because of the widespread fraud. The owner was sentenced to prison and some money was recovered for the victims. This case is a good example of how ECU worked closely with the local police and prosecutor’s office.

The J. Bartley Cosgrove File

Previous jobs: Assistant attorney general, Consumer Protection Section, Economic Crimes Unit; assistant Hamilton County prosecuting attorney

Education: Juris Doctor, Cleveland State University, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law; Bachelor of Arts, Loyola University Maryland

Family: Wife, Judge Megan Shanahan; two children, Dolan, 4, Claire, 1

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Fatal overdose prosecutions rely on solid investigations

Good police work at the crime scene lays the groundwork for a successful overdose death prosecution, according to presenters at a training event put on by the Ohio Attorney General’s Office and the National Attorneys General Training and Research Institute.

“We need that scene information,” said Dr. Kent Harshbarger, the coroner of Montgomery County. “Law enforcement should communicate with the lab about what they suspect was going on at the scene.”

Such information helps narrow down what lab tests to run on the body of the suspected overdose victim, he said.

“I need the timeline. I need witness statements,” Harshbarger said. “What drugs was the person known to use? What were they doing before they died?”

When suspected drug packaging or paraphernalia are found at the scene, the lab can test them to identify any drug residue, which would provide a lead on what tests to run on the body, he said.

Besides covering investigation techniques, the daylong training also explored the criminal prosecution of overdose deaths as homicides and how such prosecutions can be used to address illegal drug distribution, punish wrongdoing, and, ultimately, save lives.

About 175 peace officers and prosecutors from throughout the state gathered at Southern State Community College in Wilmington for the training.

“As part of our fight against opioids, we need to ensure prosecutors and law enforcement have the tools they need to safely and effectively investigate these crimes,” said Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine. “The training was designed to help investigators and prosecutors better build their cases and hold opioid dealers accountable.”

Unintentional drug overdoses caused the deaths of more than 4,000 Ohio residents last year, a 32.8 percent increase from 2016. Fentanyl, which is 25 to 50 times more potent than heroin, and related drugs, were involved in 58.2 percent of those deaths.
Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine, members of the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission, and law enforcement officers from throughout the state gathered May 3 in London for the annual Ohio Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony.

They united to honor the 791 Ohio peace officers who have died in the line of duty since 1823.

“We can never fully repay these officers,” DeWine said. “We do our best to honor their commitment and sacrifice. We remember how they embraced their oath of service with courage, clarity, and conviction. And we pray that those who are left behind may be blessed with peace and comfort.”

Buddy Blankenship, a police specialist with the Cincinnati Police Department, spoke to the crowd of his ongoing grief in the wake of the death of his friend and fellow officer Sonny Kim, who died in the line of duty in 2015.

“Like the heroes we are honoring today, Sonny was where he was that morning because he answered the call,” Blankenship said. “For the families of our fallen, I pray God will provide the helpful hand they need to find peace to learn how to live in the wake of the loss of their loved one. For my fellow police officers, I pray for God to watch over us and we continue to answer the call.”
The Ohio Local Law Enforcement Agency Data Survey of 1,043 Ohio chiefs, sheriffs, and prosecutors was conducted Nov. 3-28 via email. It was meant to gauge the willingness of leadership to participate in a system for sharing data and using data from other agencies within their regions and throughout the state. A total of 552 responses were received.

The second — the Ohio Law Enforcement Officer Data Needs Survey — conducted Nov. 29 through Dec. 18 through a link on the Ohio Law Enforcement Gateway (OHLEG) portal, was designed to establish how those in the criminal justice community are using data, and their need for data and data analysis tools. Of the 28,000 users of the electronic information network, 1,569 took part in the survey.

OHLEG Director Cynthia Peterman shared the results of the surveys with the OHLEG Advisory Committee. The group, which meets twice a year, serves as the sounding board for the OHLEG Steering Committee and the Attorney General as new policies, emerging trends, and opportunities develop.

Included on OHLEG is the Ohio Local Law Enforcement Information Sharing Network (OLLEISN), which enables law enforcement agencies throughout Ohio to securely share criminal investigative information. It was launched in 2005 as part of a federally funded homeland security program. In its heyday, OLLEISN had more than 800 agencies contributing, today about 250 agencies take part.

“What the surveys are trying to find out,” Peterman said, “is, ‘If we created a new platform that allowed agencies to see data from other agencies, would they use data from other agencies in their daily work?’”

In the Ohio Local Law Enforcement Agency Data Survey, 91 percent of respondents said they were “likely” or “very likely” prepared to share their own agency data and 93 percent were prepared to use data from other agencies. Only 17 percent of respondents, however, indicated they were prepared to dedicate funding to a statewide data system. Agency leaders are also concerned about maintaining the ability to control the use of data. Of agency leader respondents, 72 percent said it was “important” or “very important” to control who sees their data.

In the Ohio Local Law Enforcement Agency Data Survey, respondents who were not heavy data users were asked what could get them to use more data, and 42 percent indicated a need for training, 42 percent indicated a need for analytical tools, and 61 percent indicated a need for an increase in the availability of data. An increase in training and data would likely lead to deeper analytics and a more data-driven law enforcement community, Peterman said.

OHLEG’s Records Management System, where the module is located, offers a free, efficient way to organize, track, and access a department’s information on field interviews, citations, property and evidence, and more.

To sign up for OHLEG, call 866-406-4534 or send email to OHLEG Support@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov.
Event shines spotlight on missing persons cases in Ohio

In honor of Ohio Missing Persons Day, organized by the Ohio Attorney General’s Office and Battelle, families united on May 19 to remember their loved ones and talk to those who are working to find new leads in their cases.

During a vigil, the family and friends of Andy Chapman, Kayla Eitel, Amber Flack, Barbara Frame, Megan Lancaster, Wanda Lemons, Jacqueline Lombardi, Carla Losey, Rosemary Rapp, and Brian Shaffer lighted candles and said prayers for their missing loved ones.

In the lobby, representatives from agencies with a common goal — finding the missing — were available to talk about their work. Victim advocates, some with trained K-9s, offered comfort.

Family members were invited to provide DNA to help in their search for answers were invited to do so by BCI representatives. The DNA will be included in the Ohio LINK (Linking Individuals Not Known) Program, which was established through the Ohio Attorney General’s Office in 1999 to help match DNA from family members of the missing to DNA from unidentified remains.

Scientists with Battelle were on hand to discuss an emerging technology being researched at BCI in partnership with Battelle to support missing persons investigations.

Clay facial reconstruction models created by a BCI forensic artist and based on unidentified remains were on display in an effort to identify the unknown individuals.

To find out more

The Ohio Attorney General’s Office maintains webpages 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).

Advocate honored for her work with rape survivors

Senior director of victim services, outreach at Cleveland Rape Crisis Center among those who received awards

Teresa M. Stafford, who works as a senior director of victim services and outreach at the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center (CRCC) and as a Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) coordinator for Cuyahoga and Lake counties, was presented with the 2018 Robert Denton Special Achievement Award.

The other awards presented at the May 14-15 conference, which drew more than 1,300 victim advocates to the Greater Columbus Convention Center:

- **2018 Promising Practice Award**: Homicide Survivors Youth Initiative Pilot at the Cincinnati Police Department — The pilot program was developed to meet the social and emotional needs of children who have witnessed a homicide or been exposed to other violence.

- **2018 Special Courage Award**: Hope Dudley, UCanSpeakForMe Inc. — Dudley has worked tirelessly to bring attention to unsolved homicides since her son Daniel “Chaz” Dudley was killed in a drive-by shooting in 2007 in Cincinnati.

- **2018 Advocate Award**: Shawn Moser, Ohio Attorney General’s Crime Victim Services Section — Moser has been instrumental in outreach efforts to educate Ohioans about the services available through the Crime Victim Services Section.
Children pay the price for chaos at home  

continued from page 1

Robert Shapiro, M.D. of Cincinnati Children’s Mayerson Center for Safe and Healthy Children told the almost 700 attendees gathered at the March 27 event in Mason, Ohio, that stressful experiences can change a child on a biological level, and those changes can last a lifetime.

Having a better understanding of the challenges faced by these children will go a long way toward providing solutions, said Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine.

“Half of the children in foster care today are there because one or more of their parents are drug addicts,” DeWine said. “These are the innocent victims of this epidemic.”

Children who suffer as a result of their parents’ opioid addiction and chaotic living conditions adapt to survive.

“If you have to deal with stress, if you are a victim of abuse and neglect, if your parents aren’t there for you because they are dependent on opioids, you have to be a different person to survive,” Dr. Shapiro said.

He cited the “Adverse Childhood Experiences” (ACEs) study, conducted from 1995 to 1997 by Dr. Vincent Felitti of Kaiser Permanente and Robert Anda from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which connected a variety of adult diseases to the abuse, neglect, and household challenges that individuals experienced as children.

The study found that a 10-question quiz could be used to predict patients’ health. Shapiro was not surprised at the outcome of the study, which showed that if a person grew up in a home with abuse and neglect, he or she might experience mood or anxiety disorders, substance abuse issues, and poor impulse-control as an adult.

The score, however, is not destiny, Shapiro said. Good relationships can offset the negative effects of a high score and toxic stress. With help, children can build resilience.

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### ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES (ACEs) QUIZ*

To find your score, take this quiz.

Prior to your 18th birthday:

1. Did a parent or other adult in the household often swear at you, insult you, put you down, or humiliate you, or act in a way that made you afraid that you might be physically hurt?  **Score One**
2. Did a parent or other adult in the household often push, grab, slap, or throw something at you, or ever hit you so hard that you had marks or were injured?  **Score One**
3. Did an adult or person at least five years older than you ever touch or fondle you, or have you touch their body in a sexual way or attempt or have intercourse with you?  **Score One**
4. Did you often feel that no one in your family loved you or thought you were important or special, or your family didn’t look out for each other, feel close to each other, or support each other?  **Score One**
5. Did a parent or other adult in the household often drink or use drugs when you were around?  **Score One**
6. Did a household member ever go to prison?  **Score One**
7. Were your parents ever separated or divorced?  **Score One**
8. Were your parents ever pushed, grabbed, slapped, or had something thrown at her, or sometimes kicked, bitten, hit, or threatened with a gun or knife?  **Score One**
9. Was a household member depressed or mentally ill, or did a household member attempt suicide?  **Score One**
10. Did a household member go to prison?  **Score One**

Now add up your “yes” answers. .............  **This is your score.**

* This is an edited version of the test. Scores of four or higher might indicate health risks.

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For the “Ideas For Our Future” conference, the Ohio Attorney General’s Office produced videos that focus on how to help young victims of the opioid epidemic. To see the videos, visit www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/Media/Videos.

**‘Help and Hope in Ohio’**

While the opioid epidemic in Ohio has been devastating, it has brought people together to be creative, passionate, and powerful in the fight against it. There is real help and real hope happening every single day, particularly for kids.

**‘Dan Palmer’**

One person can make a difference in the opioid epidemic. Dan Palmer is just one example of that. He took an idea to help children — the victims in this opioid crisis — into action. In southern Ohio, his project is making a difference for kids in Scioto County.

**‘Ohio Start’**

Far too often, the opioid epidemic tears families apart, but a new pilot program through the Ohio Attorney General’s Office is all about keeping families together. It’s called Ohio START (Sobriety, Treatment, and Reducing Trauma) and early results are promising.

**‘Brittany’s Story’**

At 12, she started her addiction path, and at 19, she found heroin. In March of 2019, Brittany celebrated 13 months of sobriety. She’s now on a mission to get her kids back.

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SUMMER 2018
At a booth operated by the Ohio Attorney General’s Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI), guests at the Ohio Missing Persons Day event at Battelle learn about forensic facial reconstruction and the quest to identify victims’ remains. (See story, Page 6.)