DECEMBER 2017

**Coordinating Emergency Responders**

Law enforcement, fire, and EMS personnel have distinct roles and areas of expertise, but violence and targeted attacks have made it necessary for the emergency response community to act as one team to stop threats and save lives.

A new mobile course called [Rescue Task Force](#) will guide first responders in creating a Rescue Task Force team. In the event of an ongoing violent act or explosive threat, the team would stabilize, treat, and remove the wounded from the scene while being protected by law enforcement.

Upon request, this mobile class will come to local departments to train and assess what responders need to do to develop a task force and determine how the task force would operate. Hosting agencies will need to provide space and audio/visual equipment.

The concept of a Rescue Task Force has been adopted by many agencies in Ohio and endorsed by:

- Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy
- State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire and Transportation Services (EMFTS Board)
- Buckeye State Sheriff’s Association
- Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police
- Ohio Fire Chief’s Association
- Ohio Homeland Security
- Ohio State Highway Patrol
- Ohio Association of EMS
- Metropolitan Medical Response System
- Ohio Emergency Management Agency

Cost: $400 per agency
NOTE: Contact Micah Stoll at micah.stoll@ohioattorneygeneral.gov to schedule this course.

**Identifying Marijuana**

Peace officers involved in narcotics investigations or who need training in marijuana identification can attend [Marijuana Identification](#). The course will help participants develop or improve skills to scientifically identify marijuana using chemical and microscopic techniques.
Participants will use the modified Duquenois-Levine test, the effervescence test, and NIK field testing procedures. In addition, information about Ohio’s new medical marijuana law will also be presented. Instructors will help students develop skills in the microscopic examination of substances. Also, students will participate in hands-on testing and conduct more than 50 microscopic and chemical examinations.

Jan. 18 - 19, 2018
OPOTA Main Campus
1650 St. Rt. 56 SW
London, OH
Cost: $250

Training a Community

Unfortunately, unexpected and tragic events such as active-shooting incidents and terrorist attacks have become more common, so communities are working to become more resilient. Whole Community Training helps first responders, emergency management practitioners, and government officials understand their capabilities and weaknesses when collectively responding to emergency events.

The Whole Community approach engages the private and nonprofit sectors, including businesses, faith-based organizations, and the public.

For this regional class, an instructor will come to an area and work with members of the community to prepare for an emergency event. During the first session, the instructor will assess the needs of the community, determine the best way to organize its resources, and discuss how to prepare for emergency events. The second session will consist of tabletop exercises.

- The instructor will help participants with:
- Defining the roles and responsibilities of responders.
- Identifying who is missing from the preparation process.
- Identifying strengths of the community.
- Identifying weaknesses and figuring out how the community can resolve those issues.
- Emphasizing the importance of including the government and other community partners.
- Discussing ways to enhance resiliency.
- Communicating throughout the process.

This course can be scheduled regionally, as requested. Hosting agencies will need to provide the space and audio/visual equipment.
Interacting With and De-escalating the Special Needs Population

Law enforcement officers are often called in to help on cases where a person is suffering a potential mental-health crisis. This course, Interacting With and De-escalating the Special Needs Population, provides information and training for anyone who may interact with this population.

Instructors will cover topics such as recognizing observable characteristics of individuals in crisis and basic de-escalation techniques to respond in those situations. In addition, students will discuss various mental-health illnesses, including depression, schizophrenia, and bipolar disorder. Students can expect an interactive learning experience, including a PowerPoint presentation, videos, and small-group discussions.

Jan. 11, 2018 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Feb. 15, 2018 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
OPOTA Main Campus | OPOTA Richfield
1650 St. Rt. 56 SW | 4055 Highlander Pkwy
London, OH | Richfield, OH
Cost: $115 | Cost: $100

Did You Know?

“Did you know” when you attend a course at the academy’s main campus or Tactical Training Center in London, tuition fees include the cost of three meals a day? Lodging is also available at $15 a night. Don’t use your limited training budget on expensive lodging and meal costs.