Opiate Overdose Death Investigations Training Seminar

Fatal heroin overdoses are leaving Ohio families and communities shattered. Law enforcement’s ability to effectively investigate overdose crime scenes and collect evidence is essential to hold traffickers accountable.

Because no community is immune to the effects of the opioid epidemic, this training is recommended for law enforcement from every community. By sharing experiences from a variety of law enforcement arenas and community types, attendees will have a wide-ranging conversation and learning opportunity.

OPOTA’s latest course will equip law enforcement professionals in their overall response to the growing heroin and fentanyl issues in our state. This one-day training session, provided by the Ohio Attorney General’s Office, will address issues in death investigations and prosecutions stemming from opiate overdose deaths. The session will particularly address best practices in the investigation of overdose deaths from initial crime scene response, evidence preservation, and cellphone analysis to determine the identity and culpability of the heroin or fentanyl provider. Attendees can expect to participate in dialogue about treating overdose death scenes as homicide scenes, quickly contacting possible witnesses, searching the area for drugs and paraphernalia, and checking digital media.

The training will also emphasize the role of the medical examiner and prosecutor in the consideration and successful use of involuntary manslaughter charges, and public health data and criminal intelligence sharing. Also included is a panel discussion on the interaction of law enforcement with public health providers.

The speakers and panel members include experts from the following:

- Hamilton and Warren County prosecutors’ offices
- Hamilton and Butler County coroners’ offices
- Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation
- Hamilton County Heroin Task Force
- Norwood Police Department
- Delhi Township Police Department
- Hamilton County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Board
- Hamilton County Department of Health
- Ohio High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Intelligence Center

Jan. 12, 2017 | 9 a.m.– 4 p.m.
Mayerson Jewish Community Center
Flying While Armed

Officers and departments often need to use air travel on official business as a quick and cost effective way to travel. According to the U.S. Transportation Security Administration, (TSA) federal regulation states that a law enforcement officer must meet the following criteria to fly armed:

- Be employed as a federal law enforcement officer, whether or not on official travel, and armed in accordance with an agency-wide policy.
- Be a federal law enforcement officer or a full-time municipal, county, state, tribal or territorial law enforcement officer who is a direct government agency employee.
- Be sworn and commissioned to enforce criminal or immigration statutes.
- Be authorized by the employing agency to have the weapon in connection with assigned duties.
- Have completed the TSA Law Enforcement Officer Flying Armed Training Course.

In an effort to assist Ohio law enforcement in this area, OPOTA is offering Law Enforcement Officers Flying Armed. This course meets the requirements of the TSA for officers who are required to fly armed and are providing protective escort, hazardous surveillance operations, and prisoner escort or for a law enforcement officer on official travel required to report to another location armed and prepared for duty.

Jan. 24, 2017 | 9:30 a.m. – noon
OPOTA Main Campus
1650 St. Rt. 56 SW
London, OH
Cost: Free

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 provides information and updated training on how to interact with this special population. The one-day course could be of particular interest to veteran officers who haven’t had a chance to take it.

Facilitators introduce concepts that provide officers with options other than force when dealing with people in crisis. In addition, students of the class are introduced to a wide variety of options regarding the mental-health realm, such as, treatment options, psychotropic medications, and various mental illnesses and how
they manifest. Finally, students learn how and when to use the three de-escalation models: Engage Assess and Resolve (EAR), Loss models, and the Lethality Availability Specificity and Timing (L.A.S.T.) model.

Jan. 11, 2017 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
OPOTA Main Campus
1650 St. Rt. 56 SW
London, OH
Cost: $115

**Training a Community**

Whole Community Training is a new approach on how to respond to emergency events. This training helps first responders, emergency management practitioners, and government officials collectively understand their capabilities and weaknesses. The Whole Community approach attempts to engage the private and nonprofit sectors, including businesses and faith-based organizations and the public.

Whole Community Training is a regional class where all members of a community can collectively prepare for an emergency event. When all members of the community participate, they build a more effective path to a safe and secure community that can recover if an emergency event occurs. During the morning session, the instructor will assess the needs of your community, determine the best way to organize your resources, and discuss how to prepare for emergency events. The afternoon session will consist of tabletop exercises. Because Whole Community Training is regional, the instructor will come to the assigned city and work with the community.

For more information about the training, send an email to Micah Stoll at micah.stoll@ohioattorneygeneral.gov.


**New Courses**

The Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy is pleased to announce two new courses in 2017. These courses will be offered at six regional sites around the state. Check the online catalog for dates, times and locations.

Foundations: Patrol Tactics is a four-hour course designed to teach various aspects of patrol including mental and physical preparation, overview of patrol methods, aspects of proactive patrol, and aspects of responding to calls for service.

Foundations: Dealing With Dangerous Drugs During Patrol Stops is a four-hour course designed for officers to assess and maintain public and officer safety through recognition and proper handling of patrol stops where dangerous drugs are involved.
In other news –

We’re trying to go paperless. Effective Jan. 1, 2017, OPOTA will no longer print advanced training certificates. The agency or officer will be able to print their own certificates by logging into OHLEG.

To print OPOTA advanced training certificates and transcripts:

- Log into OHLEG.
- Select "OPOTA Online Registration."
- Click on "Registrations."
- To print a list of courses (transcript), select "Print My Attended Courses."
- To print a duplicate certificate, select "Print" next to the desired course.