



February 2017

Middletown Officers Climb Behind the Wheel for Emergency Driving Experience

Scenario-based training offered by the Attorney General's Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA) was highlighted in a recent article in the Journal-News of Butler County.

In the Feb. 2 story, "[Realistic Training Keeps Middletown Officers, Public Safe](#)," reporter Lauren Pack followed officers from the Middletown Police Department as they received free training in a driving simulator.

"It is just very important because we are on the road 24 hours a day regardless of weather. Anything we get through training just makes us better," Middletown Police Chief Rodney Muterspaw is quoted as saying.

The article highlighted the free training exercises, which send officers through different real-life scenarios: injury crashes, traffic stops, and more.

The mobile academy program began in 2012, with just three driving simulators, but now has seven devices. Recent upgrades make the exercises more realistic. Drivers can now see a 180-degree view via three 55-inch LED monitor displays and experience more realistic in-car motions. The base and seat move in conjunction with what happens on the monitors, such as braking and accelerating.

Agencies can request the driving simulator by emailing AskOPOTA@ohioattorneygeneral.gov. Once a session is scheduled, an OPOTA instructor will bring a trailer with the simulator to the students' location for up to three days. The simulator can accommodate up to 46 officers over a three-day period.

Learn More About Middle Eastern People and Culture

Many Ohio communities have growing populations from Middle Eastern countries or with ties to Middle Eastern culture. This course will educate officers on cultural norms and dispel common myths and misconceptions. In addition, participants will learn more about Islam, the religious practice of many people from Middle Eastern nations.

Students in this course, [Dispelling Myths & Misconceptions/Interacting with the Middle Eastern Population](#), will learn more about the basics of Islam, working with Muslim children, gender roles and cultural expectations, and religious fulfillment. In addition, participants will discuss cultural interviewing and interrogation techniques, how to resolve language barriers, and what extremism looks like in the Middle East. The instructor is an OPOTA Law Enforcement Training Officer with 10 years of law enforcement and corrections experience who spent the majority of her childhood in Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

Officers who attend will receive the resources they need to help them serve the public and this population more effectively, safely, and respectfully. Understanding and practicing mutual respect helps to develop positive community relationships.

March 22, 2017

8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

OPOTA Richfield

4055 Highlander Parkway

Richfield, OH

Cost: \$75

May 3, 2017

8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

OPOTA Main Campus

1650 State Route 56 SW

London, OH

Cost: \$75

Get Certified as an Advanced Driving Instructor

Car crashes are one of the leading causes of line-of-duty deaths for police officers, which makes driving courses an important component of officer training and development. Unfortunately, limited scheduling options and financial constraints can make it difficult for departments to send officers for driver training. Students who attend the [Advanced Driving Instructor](#) course receive eight days of training in driving techniques, so they can return to their respective departments and train others.

Officers who take this course can become certified instructors in each of four areas offered by OPOTA:

- Basic Academy Driving Instructor, which includes emergency and nonemergency driving (This section of the course enables the student to become an OPOTC Basic Academy Driving Instructor if they already have their Basic Instructor Certification.)
- Pursuit Termination Techniques (includes tire deflation devices and various pursuit termination techniques as well as the Precision Immobilization Technique)
- Tactical/ Dynamic Vehicle Operations (higher speed maneuvering and pursuit driving)
- Sport Utility Vehicle Operations (includes on- and off-road applications) which focuses on current driving mechanics, ideologies, and officer safety considerations.

Students will drive OPOTA track vehicles and experience different training courses and exercises that they could incorporate into training at their respective departments or in an academy setting. Certified instructors will teach using various methods. Then, students will practice teaching parts of the material to each other.

They will receive the current training material, PowerPoint presentations, and lesson plans used in the OPOTA driving program to share.

March 29, 2017 - April 7, 2017 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

OPOTA Tactical Training Center

1960 U.S. Rt. 42 SW

London, OH

Cost: \$1,150

Gain Basic Hostage Negotiation Skills

Because a hostage-negotiation situation involves multiple units and officers, hostage negotiation takes a group effort. Each member of the team must carry out their role to make the best outcome a possibility: the safe retrieval of the perpetrator and victims. In this course, [Hostage Negotiations – Basic](#), students will acquire basic skills to manage hostage and barricade situations. In addition, students will learn:

- The history of hostage negotiation.
- The different philosophies related to what works best in various hostage circumstances.
- How to manage the environment surrounding a hostage situation and coordinate between various departments and units.
- How to control personnel at the scene and information flow to and from the scene, and how to manage the environment during a hostage situation.

On the final day, students will participate in a negotiation scenario where their skills can be tested. For those interested in developing additional skills related to hostage negotiation, two [Hostage Negotiations – Advanced](#) courses will be held this spring.

March 27 - 31, 2017 | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

OPOTA Richfield Campus

4055 Highlander Parkway, Suite B

Richfield, OH

Cost: \$400

Connect with Blue Courage

This free course, [Blue Courage CPT](#), is a shortened version of the Blue Courage leadership development workshop. Students will review and learn about the Nobility of Policing, Positive Psychology, and Health, Wellness, and Resilience. This shortened version satisfies the four-hour Officer Wellness 2017 CPT requirement, but does not replace the 16-hour program. Two course sessions are available every month in various locations.

Note: If interested in hosting a Blue Courage CPT session, contact Sean Smith at sean.smith@ohioattorneygeneral.gov

March 6, 2017 | 8 am – Noon and 1 pm – 5 pm
Performing Arts Center
Notre Dame College
4545 College Road.
South Euclid, OH,
Cost: Free

April 4, 2017 | 8 am – Noon and 1 pm – 5 pm
Owens Community College
Industrial and Engineering Technology Building Room 109
30335 Oregon Rd.
Perrysburg, OH
Cost: Free

May 11, 2017 | 8 am – Noon and 1 pm – 5 pm
Regina Auditorium
Notre Dame College
4545 College Road
South Euclid, OH
Cost: Free

We've Gone Paperless.

As of Jan. 1, 2017, the Peace Officer Training Academy is no longer printing advanced training certificates. The agency or officer may print certificates by logging into OHLEG.

Follow these directions to print OPOTA Advanced Training Certificates and Transcripts:

1. Log into OHLEG.
2. Select "OPOTA Online Registration."
3. Click on "Registrations."

4. To print a list of courses (transcript), select "Print My Attended Courses."
To print a duplicate certificate, select "Print" next to the desired course.