



Ohio Attorney General's Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy

Advanced Training for Ohio Peace Officers

November 2018

[Investigating Sexual Assault Cold Cases](#)

Now that nearly 14 thousand rape kits have been tested by the Ohio Attorney General's Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI), departments may want guidance on how to move forward with investigating cases.

BCI staff will lead *The Sexual Assault Kit – Cold Case Investigations* course to help agencies begin their cold case sexual assault kit investigations. Students will review BCI lab report information, hear tips on victim advocacy and information from prosecutors, and learn strategies on how to get started.

The training is free but seating is limited. Reserve your spot for the December class by emailing BCI@ohioattorneygeneral.gov.

Dec. 17, 2018
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
OPOTA London
1650 St. Rte. 56 SW
London, OH 43140
Room 252

[New Training House for Ohio Law Enforcement Training Village](#)

Immersive training helps officers gain important experience in stress-inducing, realistic environments to simulate what they may encounter while on duty. A new training house is in development to add to the immersive law enforcement training village located at the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy in London.

The old warden's residence at the London Correctional Institution will be used in OPOTA advanced training courses.

Once the building is renovated it will host crime-scene evidence collection courses to help officers train in realistic settings to investigate crime scenes and gather evidence. OPOTA plans to modify the garage and second-story apartment for building-entry training, simunitions courses (which utilize non-lethal training ammunition), and training on maneuvering in enclosed stairways.

[Best Practices to Secure Property Rooms](#)

Proper storage and handling of property and evidence is a key part of a law enforcement department's responsibilities. A new manual from the Ohio Attorney General and the Ohio Auditor of State provides law enforcement officials with best practices on how to manage property and evidence.

Although the document is not meant to be a uniform model for every Ohio law enforcement agency, it provides departments the tools to run an effective property and evidence room with the flexibility needed to adapt to each agency's unique circumstances.

According to [the manual](#), developing a well-functioning property and evidence room is an intentional effort by an agency to create and follow policies and procedures designed to:

- Keep the property and evidence room secure.
- Preserve evidence and property according to existing laws, courtroom requirements, and agency retention schedules.
- Establish and maintain accurate documentation, including inventory and chain of custody records.
- Ensure the physical safety and legal compliance of all personnel.

The document also explores how agencies can use inventories and audits of property rooms to curb theft and expose lax procedures. It includes sample documents such as property room access logs, inventory tracking documents, currency envelopes, release authorization forms, and property tags.

[New Courses Coming Next Year](#)

The Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy will offer four new courses in 2019 that cover topics like Diversity and Inclusion, Marketing, and Cultural Competence for patrol officer and administrators.

The following courses are for patrol officers:

The *Diversity and Inclusion* course is a four-hour interactive workshop focused on the key elements of diversity along the lines of race, gender, sexual orientation, disability, social status, and age. Participants will be challenged to reflect, have opportunities to share, and learn strategies on how to become more inclusive in their professional and personal lives.

Cultural Competence is a four-hour interactive workshop focused on cultural competence in relation to race, gender, sexual orientation and other statuses. This workshop will explore each area and examine norms and challenges connected to each. Participants will take a self-assessment to measure their current cultural competence and be provided with strategies on how to increase or maintain their level of competency.

The following courses are for administrators:

Facilitators in the *Building Positive Community Relations Through Branding* course will teach marketing concepts to help departments develop their identity and build positive community

relations through various communication channels such as social media and community engagement events.

Marketing and Recruitment is an eight-hour course primarily designed for organization leaders and community decision makers. This workshop focuses on strategies and what works to build an inclusive experience for employees and stakeholders.

Participants will be introduced to ways to examine culture, learn how to articulate the 'why' of diversity and inclusion, and develop skills to build an inclusive culture.

Registration for these courses is [online](#). Course dates will be added to the [online catalog](#) in December.

[Did you Know?](#)

Did you know the main campus at OPOTA just updated its fitness center? Whether you're looking to build up your agency fitness program through an advanced training course, or you stay with us for another course, we hope you enjoy the new state-of-the-art equipment.