



Ohio Attorney General's **Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy**

Advanced Training for Ohio Peace Officers

September 2015

Learn More About Addressing Campus Safety Issues

September is National Campus Safety Awareness Month. As students first arrive on campus they can be bewildered and overwhelmed by the college experience. It's the job of officers to keep order on campus, but that is sometimes easier said than done because college campuses are not immune to destructive behaviors and violence. Some issues that can impact college campuses are: high-risk drinking, illegal drug use, prescription drug abuse, hazing, hate crimes, stalking, relationship violence, and sexual assault.

This summer, the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy held six regional **Campus Sexual Assault Investigation** training courses that were designed to educate campus peace officers, as well as municipal and county law enforcement professionals connected with colleges and universities, on issues relating to sexual assault, physical violence, and stalking on college campuses. The trainings were part of several initiatives launched by Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine to help Ohio's colleges and universities better respond to sexual assaults.

If you were unable to attend one of these trainings, OPOTA still offers many courses that can help officers deal with issues that may arise on campus, including OPOTA's general **Sexual Assault Investigation** course.

This course, which is open to all peace officers, will be offered in April 2016 and will address several topics, including:

- Investigation of the crime
- Suspect/victim interviews
- Report writing
- Crime scene evidence collection

You can sign up for this course on the [OPOTA course catalog beginning on Oct. 8, 2015.](#)

Another course that can be beneficial to campus police officers is OPOTA's **Street Drugs: Recognition and Identification** course, because abusing drugs or alcohol is an ever increasing problem that threatens the safety of those on campus and off.

The training will update officers on current drug trends, substance identification, types of paraphernalia, and concealment locations. This course, which is designed for all law enforcement and criminal justice professionals, will be only offered one more time this year. The course will be held at OPOTA's London campus on **Sept. 30, 2015**, and there is still time to sign up.

Visit the [OPOTA course catalog for more information and to register.](#)

Procedural Justice and Police Legitimacy Bolsters Community Ties

Procedural justice is the process used by police officers in which citizens are treated fairly and with proper respect. Legitimacy refers to when a citizen feels that a police officer should be deferred to, complied with, and trusted. It's as basic as the old adage: It is not what you say, but how you say it. It's not just about what you do, but how you are doing it.

The goal of OPOTA's *Procedural Justice and Police Legitimacy* course, which will be offered two more times before the end of the year, is to help officers strengthen their department's relationship with the community, ultimately improving officer safety and efficiency. The course is free.

Procedural justice and legitimacy in law enforcement is not just a strategy, but a movement. By fostering an environment where procedural justice principles become standard practice, the department can create an organizational culture that fosters a true partnership with the public and leads to safer work environments.

There is still time to sign up for the **Sept. 16** regional course, which will be held at The Family Center in Findlay. The course will then be offered one more time before the end of the year on Oct. 1 at OPOTA's main campus in London.

The course was developed through the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy's partnership with the Education and Training Division of the Chicago Police Department, with substantial support from Yale law professors Tom R. Tyler and Tracey L. Meares. Additional cooperation from researchers Dennis P. Rosenbaum, Amie M. Schuck, and other staff from the University of Illinois at Chicago was critical in the implementation of the initial Procedural Justice curriculum.

Learn [more and register at the Attorney General's website.](#)

Understanding, Working with People in Tough Situations

Providing service often puts public employees in direct conflict with difficult people because officers very often are interacting with citizens on the worst day of their lives. These situations can often escalate unnecessarily if proper techniques are not utilized, which is why officers need the tools and strategies to diffuse volatile situations.

OPOTA's *Understanding and Working with Difficult People* course is aimed at helping officers understand behaviors and attitudes that are common in times of difficulty. The course also provides suggested techniques for diffusing these difficult behaviors.

Topics covered in the course include:

- Identification of behavior types
- Strategies and tools for diffusing difficult behaviors
- Understanding the four primary interactive styles
- Exploration of tools and strategies for effective communications
- Practice and application

This one-day course will take place on Dec. 1 at OPOTA Richfield. For more information on this course and to register, [click here.](#)

More from the OPOTA Course Catalog

[Stops & Approaches Instructor Update](#)

The Stops & Approaches Instructor Update is intended to provide Stops & Approaches instructors with the changes to the updated lesson plan for the 8-5 topic of the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission's Peace Officer Basic Training Program. This update is required for all certified instructors of the 8-5 section of the OPOTC Peace Officer Basic Training in order to maintain their instructor certification in this topic. There will be a pre-course assignment, a written test, and a practical assessment. Instructors will be provided with the materials for the pre-course assignment prior to the course. The pre-course assignment, written test, and practical assessment must be successfully completed in order to pass the course and retain certification. Participants should bring appropriate clothing and gear in the event of poor weather.

Prerequisite: Applicants must be currently certified as a Peace Officer Basic Training instructor for the 8-5 Stops & Approaches topic of the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission's Peace Officer Basic Training Program.

Sept. 28, 2015 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

OPOTA Richfield
4055 Highlander Parkway
Richfield, OH
Cost: \$65

Oct. 2, 2015 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

OPOTA Richfield
4055 Highlander Parkway
Richfield, OH
Cost: \$65

Nov. 5, 2015 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

OPOTA Main Campus
1650 St. Rt. 56 SW
London, OH
Cost: \$65

Dec. 15, 2015 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

OPOTA Main Campus
1650 St. Rt. 56 SW
London, OH
Cost: \$65

[Regional Legal Update](#)

This course will take an in-depth look at recent legal developments affecting law enforcement. Topics will reflect new case law and recent updates to the Ohio Revised Code.

Oct. 5, 2015 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Golf Manor Police Department
6450 Wiehe Road
Cincinnati, OH
Cost: Free

Nov. 13, 2015 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Sidney Police Department
234 W. Court St.
Sidney, OH
Cost: Free

Dec. 18, 2015 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Miami Valley Career Technology Center
Adult Education Building
6801 Hoke Road
Clayton, OH
Cost: Free

[Patrol Drug Operations](#)

This is a two-day course for all patrol officers. Topics include the development of street informants, recognition of high-risk zones, search methods, and surveillance techniques, along with directed patrol strategies. Course includes descriptions of hidden compartments in vehicles and K-9 deployment, along with observation techniques for drug interdiction within patrol.

Sept. 22-23, 2015 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Owens Community College
Center for Emergency Preparedness
30150 Tracy Road
Walbridge, OH
Cost: \$130

Oct. 14-15, 2015 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
OPOTA Main Campus
1650 St. Rt. 56 SW
London, OH
Cost \$130

[Tactical Communication](#)

This course covers critical communication skills for those tasked with maintaining their composure during potentially volatile encounters. Some of the topics covered include verbal and non-verbal skills, de-escalation techniques, guidelines for effective verbalization, active listening, and effective questioning techniques. Students can expect to be involved in role-playing as they practice the skills taught throughout the course.

Nov. 13, 2015 | 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Sidney Police Department
234 W. Court St.
Sidney, OH
Cost: Free

Mobile Training

If you don't have the time or manpower to send your officers to OPOTA for training, our law enforcement training officers will travel to you.

Police driving in today's society requires attention to detail. Our Mobile Driving Simulators offer real-life scenarios, requiring constant monitoring and awareness of officers' surroundings. We will challenge officers to utilize safe driving habits while on patrol and emergency response situations. With recent safety concerns and tragic events which have taken place, officers need to be able to respond safely and efficiently to the scene.

OPOTA also offers judgmental firearms simulators, subject control, and safe entry tactics in the portable training facility, through the mobile academy training program. Departments that have utilized this training say:

"Excellent attention to detail!"

"Fresh, new techniques for weapon retention."

If you are interested in OPOTA coming to your agency, email AskOPOTA@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov