Here to help

The Ohio Attorney General’s Office offers critical assistance for local investigations and prosecutions through two divisions: the Attorney General’s Bureau of Criminal Investigation and the Special Prosecutions Section. Both may get involved in cases at the request of local officials.

Special Prosecutions Section

- This unit is comprised of seasoned prosecutors with expertise in areas including capital murder, officer-involved shootings, child abuse, drug trafficking, financial crimes, human trafficking and public corruption.

- Upon the request of a county prosecutor, these attorneys can serve as lead prosecutors in criminal cases. They may also be appointed as assistant prosecutors in cases in which specialized knowledge or expertise is required or in which a lack of local resources would limit the prosecution.

- A special prosecutor may also be requested when a prosecutor has a conflict of interest in a case, such as when a prosecutor may have represented a defendant prior to becoming the elected prosecutor.

- Additionally, special prosecutors are often requested to review and prosecute officer-involved shootings. This is done to ensure an independent review since prosecutors work with local law enforcement on a daily basis.

To reach Special Prosecutions, call 614-629-8340.
Bureau of Criminal Investigation

BCI’s staff of investigators and technicians are trained specialists skilled in solving crime who are available to respond 24/7 to the needs of local law enforcement agencies.

BCI must be requested to become involved in an investigation, per Ohio Revised Code Section 109.54. Procedurally, this request can be made to BCI’s superintendent or by a memorandum of understanding, and it may be requested:

- By local, county or federal authorities to investigate a crime.
- By the secretary of state to investigate elections-related cases.
- Within a law enforcement task force.

BCI investigators’ areas of expertise:

- Crime scene investigations
- Officer-involved critical incidents, including shootings and in-custody deaths
- Special victims cases, including crimes against children, the elderly and human trafficking victims
- Cyber crimes
- Environmental enforcement
- Forensic accounting
- Narcotics, clandestine drug labs and marijuana eradication
- Criminal intelligence
- Missing persons
- Technical operations
- Polygraph testing

To reach the Bureau of Criminal Investigation, call 855-BCI-OHIO (855-224-6446).
OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov