Have you heard about OPOTA’s drone program?

Unmanned aircraft systems, commonly called drones, are increasingly being used by law enforcement agencies as tools for searches, surveillance, crowd control and monitoring, and training.

The Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy’s advanced drone courses focus on training in all of these areas and more. OPOTA currently offers classes in how to:

- Operate a drone.
- Investigate drone complaints.
- Implement a public-safety drone program.
- Use drones as a training tool for instructors.
- Visually observe drones (for air crew and patrol personnel).
- Use drones as a search-and-rescue tool.

In addition, OPOTA offers more advanced training in FLIR XT and Yuneec CGOET for public-safety drone operators. The class addresses the use of thermal imaging and infrared cameras attached to drones.

With drone technology rapidly improving, it is crucial that law enforcement agencies not fall behind the curve. To learn more about OPOTA’s courses, call Doug Daniels at 740-845-6304 or go online to www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/OPOTA and click on “Online OPOTA Course Catalog.”

And, coming soon: an advanced course in drone operator proficiency.