

FISCAL YEAR ANNUAL REPORT



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

2019 OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION AND ACADEMY



DAVE YOST
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL



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OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

Dear Colleagues and Fellow Ohioans,

The Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission and Academy are committed to providing law enforcement with the training and tools needed to keep our communities safe. This support is essential to our mission of protecting the unprotected.

During 2019, OPOTC and OPOTA worked hard to keep Ohio at the forefront of the evolving landscape of law enforcement. To this end, the commission revamped the state's basic training curriculum by adding 45 lesson plans over six basic-training curricula. Meanwhile, the academy continued to improve access to electronic training materials, including online courses that are available 24/7.

One noteworthy online addition is the Ohio School Threat Assessment Training. The free, 11-part video series focuses on preventing targeted violence in schools with threat assessment teams made up of school personnel, mental health professionals and law enforcement officers.

As for in-person training, OPOTA rolled out its first CSI Academy, a comprehensive certification program focused on crime scene investigations. After completing the 160-hour program, students are given crime scene equipment to further support their agencies.

OPOTA also expanded its training on Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) to include programs for public safety personnel, such as firefighters and search-and-rescue teams. New UAS courses are being developed and will be available soon.

These accomplishments are just a few of the 2019 highlights from OPOTC and OPOTA. I encourage you to visit OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov to learn more about their outstanding work and the resources they provide law enforcement officers throughout the state. I also invite you to share your thoughts and suggestions by emailing AskOPOTA@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov. We value your feedback.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dave Yost".

Dave Yost
Ohio Attorney General

OVERVIEW OF THE OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION

The Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC) advises the Ohio attorney general and provides direction to the executive director of the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy on training, eligibility and service standards for law enforcement and other public-safety professionals throughout the state. The commission's ultimate goal is to ensure the highest level of safety for all Ohioans.

OPOTC has worked to improve the professional capabilities of Ohio's law enforcement and public-safety professionals since 1965. With the assistance of 23 dedicated employees and the executive director, the commission's 10 members play a pivotal role in helping the Ohio attorney general shape training and compliance standards for more than 33,300 peace officers and their nearly 950 respective agencies.

The commission also is responsible for academic policies and professional standards for tens of thousands of corrections officers, court officers, jailers, private security officers, adult parole officers, probation officers, humane agents, public defender investigators, and law enforcement K-9 units.

Commission members are appointed by the governor and approved by the Ohio Senate. The Ohio attorney general provides administrative oversight for the commission. To fulfill its statutory responsibility and improve law enforcement training in Ohio, the commission's role is to recommend:

- Rules for approving peace officer, private security, humane agent, jailer, corrections, public defender investigator, court officer, K-9, tactical medical professionals, school resource officers, and firearms training and certification.
- The curricula, minimum attendance, equipment and facility requirements necessary for approval of training programs.
- Minimum qualifications required for instructors and commanders at approved training sites.
- Categories or classifications of advanced in-service training programs for peace officers, new chiefs and sheriffs.
- Minimum requirements for the certification of K-9 units used by law enforcement agencies and training for county humane society agents.

The commission is also authorized to:

- Recommend studies, surveys and reports designed to evaluate its effectiveness.
- Visit and inspect approved schools for the training of peace officers, corrections officers, jailers, private security officers, court officers, probation officers and parole officers.
- Establish fees for commission services.
- Make recommendations to the attorney general or the Ohio General Assembly on the commission's statutory responsibilities.
- Set the minimum required hours of annual continuing professional training (CPT) for peace officers and troopers.

Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission Members

Sheriff Vernon Stanforth, OPOTC chairman
Fayette County Sheriff's Office
Washington Court House, Ohio

Chief Clayton Harris, OPOTC vice chairman
Cuyahoga Community College Police Department
Cleveland, Ohio

Ms. Leah Amstutz
Ohio Department of Education
Columbus, Ohio

Ms. Wynette Carter-Smith
Representative of the public
Springboro, Ohio

Colonel Richard Fambro
Superintendent, Ohio State Highway Patrol
Columbus, Ohio

Lieutenant James Fitsko
Law enforcement officer representative
Marion, Ohio

Sheriff Michael Heldman
Hancock County Sheriff's Office
Findlay, Ohio

Chief George Kral
Toledo Police Department
Toledo, Ohio

Deputy Attorney General Carol O'Brien
Ohio Attorney General's Office
Columbus, Ohio

Special Agent in Charge, Todd Wickerham
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Cincinnati, Ohio

Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission & Academy
Executive Director Dwight A. Holcomb, CPP
London, Ohio

Basic-Training Programs

Topic	Ohio Administrative Code	Hours Required *
Peace Officer Basic Training	109:2-1	737
Peace Officer Refresher Training	109:2-1	16
Private Security Basic Training	109:2-3	
A. Academic Portion Only		124
B. Revolver		20
C. Semi-Auto		20
D. Shotgun		5
Court Officer/Deputy Court Officer Basic Training	109:2-5	40
State Public Defender Criminal Investigator Basic Training	109:2-6	40
K-9 Unit and Evaluator Basic Training	109:2-7	
A. K-9 Evaluator, Core		25
B. K-9 Evaluator, Special Purpose		38
C. K-9 Evaluator, Patrol-Related		34
Corrections Basic Training	109:2-9	148
Jailer Basic Training	109:2-11	
A. Jailer, 12-Day Facility		124
Humane Agent Basic Training	109:2-15	34

**Hours subject to change with program revisions*

Commission Highlights

Updating basic training curricula

OPOTC and its staff continued to evaluate, revise and implement numerous topics within basic-training programs in 2019. The revisions are being guided by a job task analysis that drew feedback from more than 2,300 officers and 1,000 front-line supervisors from more than 800 law enforcement agencies throughout Ohio.

Effective March 15, 2019, and July 1, 2019, two sets of curricula were released, encompassing changes within the peace officer, peace officer refresher, private security, jailer, corrections, court officer and humane agent basic-training programs. Forty-five lesson plans over six basic-training curricula were released to the field.

As curricula review continues, the commission remains committed to providing current, pertinent and industry best-practice material to basic academy students while incorporating instructional techniques reflecting the most effective adult-learning theories. These ongoing reviews resulted in an increase in hours for peace officer and humane agent basic-training programs.

Expanding basic-training hours

The revamped lesson plans added nine hours to peace officer basic training, increasing the hours from 728 to 737. The commission increased private security basic training by two hours, increasing the time devoted to crisis intervention (from six to eight hours). Corrections basic training increased from 143 hours to 148 hours, including a four-hour increase in crisis intervention and a one-hour increase in ethics and professionalism.

Providing resources electronically

The commission provides many of its resources electronically to allow agencies greater access to services and information.

The Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA) offers online registration for its regional and on-campus courses, allowing officers to search and register for courses through the Ohio Law Enforcement Gateway (OHLEG) at www.OHLEG.org. Designated agency approvers receive an email alerting them to training requests. Once approved, the officer and approver receive an email confirmation. Approvers also can register officers for courses and view their officers' OPOTA training history to enhance agency training records. Agencies can activate their online registration account by sending an email to OPOTAregistration@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov.

The OPOTA Course Catalog at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/OPOTAcourses lists classes available around the state and at the London and Richfield OPOTA campuses. Users can search by subject for full details about available classes.

Peace officers throughout Ohio can access the academy's online courses 24/7 through eOPOTA, which is available on OHLEG. Some courses of general interest – such as a series of classes on human trafficking and a course on the opiate overdose-reversal medication, Narcan – also are offered to the public via the Ohio attorney general's website (www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov). The peace officer basic training, refresher training, private security academic curricula and instructional resources also have been placed on OHLEG, providing easy access for commanders and instructors.

The commission offers an electronic Law Enforcement Directory, which provides contact information for Ohio police chiefs and sheriffs and links to state agencies and correctional facilities. The directory can be found at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/Law-Enforcement/Law-Enforcement-Directory.

OHLEG also contains a directory on OPOTC-certified instructors, which can be searched by instructor topic or county. Law enforcement officers throughout the state can update their contact information at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/OPOTAUpdate to ensure that they receive electronic communications from the academy and commission.

Law enforcement officers and administrators also can email OPOTA with general, certification or training questions (askOPOTA@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov); to register for, or seek, information on courses (OPOTARegistration@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov); and to transmit agency changes of officer status or new appointments (SF400@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov). The attorney general's website was revised to make locating OPOTC-specific forms easier. The forms have been consolidated under **OPTC Resources**, which is under the **Forms** tab.

Continuing Professional Training for peace officers and troopers

Unlike the state budget bill for fiscal years 2016 and 2017, the FY 2018-19 biennial budget did not include funds for training reimbursement. With no other funding source, OPOTC could not mandate Continuing Professional Training (CPT) for 2018 or 2019.

However, the commission recommended that each agency continue to build toward the 40 hours of annual advanced training for each of its officers and focus on specific topics.

Topic recommendations from the advisory group include:

- Legal updates (i.e., case law, legislative changes)
- Community-police relationships (e.g., implicit bias, procedural justice, community diversity, agency transparency, generational issues)
- Mental health and crisis de-escalation
- Refresher training for perishable skills in a reality-based training environment
- Use of force policy review

Ohio Peace Officer Profile

Ohio agencies commissioned 33,709 peace officers in fiscal year 2019. Here is a breakdown by agency type and appointment status:

Agency Type	Commissioned Peace Officers
Full-time Peace Officers	25,244
Sheriff's Offices	5,733
Police Agencies	19,511
Part-time Peace Officers	3,402
Sheriff's Offices	318
Police Agencies	3,084
Special Appointments	2,175
Sheriff's Offices	2,059
Police Agencies	116
Auxiliary Peace Officers	1,493
Sheriff's Offices	242
Police Agencies	1,251
Reserve Peace Officers	1,175
Sheriff's Offices	692
Police Agencies	483
Reserve/Auxiliary Peace Officers	196
Sheriff's Offices	102
Police Agencies	94
Seasonal Peace Officers	24
Sheriff's Offices	4
Police Agencies	20
Total Peace Officers	33,709

Ohio's Concealed Carry Weapons Update

OPOTC maintains a database of statistics related to Ohio's concealed handguns law and issues an annual report highlighting the statistics, which are reported quarterly by sheriffs in Ohio.

During 2019, the sheriffs reported issuing 54,426 regular licenses, 28 temporary licenses, 77,959 license renewals, 1,956 license suspensions, four temporary license suspensions, 939 license revocations, 1,310 license applicant denials, one temporary license denied, and 217 license process suspensions.

OVERVIEW OF THE OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING ACADEMY

OPOTA is recognized as a national leader in advanced training for law enforcement. Groundwork was laid for its establishment in 1970 when then-Gov. James A. Rhodes signed House Bill 1160, authorizing OPOTC to launch its own training academy. The academy opened in 1976.

OPOTA uses the latest research and instructional methods to develop outstanding training programs that meet the needs of law enforcement professionals and the communities they serve. Courses are offered at the academy's main campus and Tactical Training Center, both in London; at a satellite campus in Richfield; through Mobile Academy and regional trainings throughout the state; and online through eOPOTA.

Courses cover an array of topics pertinent to today's law enforcement community — from latent fingerprint development, shooting reconstruction and instructional skills to computer forensics, crisis intervention and first-line supervision.

The academy is committed to:

- Providing outstanding instruction to the Ohio law enforcement community.
- Promoting rapid student development through the use of superior training methods.
- Continually upgrading course content by incorporating the latest research and recommended professional practices.
- Stimulating inquiry and providing fresh perspectives within the law enforcement profession.

Academy Highlights

Growth in Courses – Crime Scene Investigations

OPOTA held its first-ever CSI Academy in December 2019 and January 2020. The C.S.I Academy is a combination of the OPOTA 80-hour Evidence Technician class along with Crime Scene Photography I and Crime Scene Photography II classes, for a combined 160 hours. The class was conducted using a split schedule in which the 22 students attended for two weeks; were off for three weeks, including the holiday break; and finished the course with two days of classes in January 2020. The students who attended the academy saved \$200 in tuition by not taking the classes separately. In addition, as part of their tuition, they received crime scene equipment with a retail value of almost \$900 to take back to their respective agencies.

The CSI Academy is now part the OPOTA Master Evidence Technician program, a comprehensive certification program consisting of 260 hours of crime scene-related classes followed by a practical exam and a written exam. The overall program curriculum is designed to help students obtain certification from the International Association for Identification Certified Crime Scene Investigator. As of October 2019, only 33 people in Ohio held such certification. In the 20 years that the OPOTA Master Evidence Technician program has existed, only 304 people have obtained the certification.

Unmanned Aircraft Systems Courses

In January 2018, the Ohio Attorney General's Advisory Group on Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) issued its final report, which included a model policy for use by law enforcement. The number of course offerings at OPOTA have greatly increased as application within the field has expanded. These are the Unmanned Aircraft Systems courses offered by OPOTA:

- Implementing a Public Safety Small Unmanned Aircraft System (sUAS)/Drone Program
- Investigating Small Unmanned Aircraft System (sUAS)/Drone Complaints
- Small Unmanned Aircraft System (sUAS)/Drone Basic Operator
- sUAS/Drone Visual Observer Course for Air Crew & Patrol Personnel
- sUAS/Drones as a Search & Rescue Tool

OPOTA continues to offer these courses to law enforcement officers but also recognized that other public-safety agencies (Fire, EMS, Search & Rescue, etc.) were either not offering courses or had no access to courses in small unmanned aircraft systems. Seeing the need, OPOTA opened the new Unmanned Aircraft systems courses to public-safety personnel as well as law enforcement.

In 2019, OPOTA's Remote Pilot conducted 62 missions/operations and gave eight presentations on UAS. The missions/operations were for various assignments documenting training at OPOTA and reference materials for staff instructors, assisting the attorney general's Communications Section with projects, and conducting research for UAS courses offered at OPOTA.

OPOTA also began developing additional courses to be offered in 2020. Among them:

- An advanced UAS operators course using the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) course on "Measuring and Comparing Small Unmanned Aircraft System Capabilities and Remote Pilot Proficiency." Pilots attending this course will be given a proficiency test at the end to document that they are proficient with their aircraft.
- Operating sUAS/Drones Inside Buildings for Tactical Purposes

Safe School Initiative

As part of the Safe School Initiative, the Attorney General's Office developed an online training course to keep children protected while learning. The bulk of the training explains how schools can develop a Threat Assessment Team, made up of school personnel, mental health professionals and law enforcement. The main goal is to work with students who have exhibited concerning behaviors or made threats of violence.

The last part of the training addresses how law enforcement can conduct a vulnerability assessment on the schools in their jurisdiction. A vulnerability assessment form is provided to maintain consistency by all schools.

To fund the safe school initiative, \$24 million has been earmarked for school safety for the next two years. This year, \$10 million will be provided to schools and \$2 million to law enforcement; next year, \$11 million will be provided to schools and \$1 million to law enforcement.

For more information about the threat assessment training and how to apply for the grants, visit <https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov> and look under the state and local government section.

Scenario Training Equipment Program

OPOTA launched a new law enforcement training program aimed at bringing customized, low-cost scenario-based training to law enforcement agencies statewide in November 2017.

The Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy Scenario Training Equipment Program (STEP) aims to increase the level of force-on-force scenario-based training in a cost-effective method of bringing scenario-based training – which replicates real-world, high-stress situations – to law enforcement agencies throughout the state. Scenario-based training helps officers sharpen their decision-making, teamwork, communications, de-escalation, and force-on-force and first-aid skills in a safe training environment. A wide range of situations can be addressed in scenario-based training, such as how to safely de-escalate a situation through verbal skills or non-lethal force and tactics for responding to a hostage situation, an active shooter, an ambush, or a mass-casualty incident.

Local training officers who complete the instructor-level training are able to borrow (free) any equipment needed to safely bring this training back to their agencies. Agencies are allowed one deployment per year. Notable deployments in 2019: Two kits were combined for Cleveland Heights Police Department, which conducted active-shooter training for 94 officers. One kit was deployed to the Mount Vernon Police Department, which trained 96 officers from eight agencies.

Our STEP program is the only one that fosters a continuing relationship between the Law Enforcement Training Officers (LETOs) and agency instructors after students become certified.

For more information on OPOTA courses, visit www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/OPOTACourses.

Scenario Training-Warden's House

In January 2018, the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy acquired the Warden's House and work began to update the property. The Warden's House is used primarily for advanced-training crime scene courses to include Crime Scene Photography I and II, Evidence Technician and CSI Academy. The garage and apartment are used for Tactical Medical Professional-Decision Making, Building Search Instructor, SORAT-I, SWAT-Basic, SWAT-Advanced and Scenario Based Training Instructor.

Commission and Academy Financial Report

In fiscal year 2019, the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission and Academy expenditures totaled \$9.14 million.

Spending by Category

Category	Spending
Payroll, Overtime, Fringe, etc.	\$6,907,866
Purchased Personal Services and Contracts	\$326,927
Supplies and Maintenance	\$1,745,009
Equipment	\$134,502
Subsidy and Shared Revenue	\$1,128
Reissued Voided Warrants	\$16,600
Refunds	\$9,801
Total	\$9,141,832

Spending by Program Area

Program Area	Spending
Advanced Training	\$5,455,511
Certification and Standards	\$1,582,660
Education and Policy	\$788,271
Administration and Operations	\$1,315,390
Total	\$9,141,832

Commission and Academy Statistics

State Certification Exams	Number
Corrections Students Tested	542
Corrections Students Retested	15
Corrections Students Tested - Special Accommodations	5
Corrections Students Retested - Special Accommodations	1
Jailer Students Tested	0
Jailer Students Retested	0
Peace Officer Basic Students Tested	1,457
Peace Officer Basic Students Retested	69
Peace Officer Basic Students Tested - Special Accommodations	16
Peace Officer Basic Students Retested - Special Accommodations	2
Peace Officer Refresher Students Tested	193
Peace Officer Refresher Students Retested	7
Peace Officer Refresher Students Tested - Special Accommodations	0
Peace Officer Refresher Students Retested - Special Accommodations	0
Private Security Students Tested	247
Private Security Students Retested	40
Private Security Students Tested - Special Accommodations	34
Private Security Students Retested - Special Accommodations	7
Total Tests Administered	2,635

Peace Officer Basic Open Enrollment Letters Issued	745
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Instructors	Number
Peace Officer Basic Amendments	315
Corrections Amendments	41
Jailer Amendments	0
Court Officer Amendments	0
Private Security Amendments	40
Total Amendments	396

Renewals	Number
Peace Officer Basic Renewals	372
Corrections Renewals	44
Jailer Renewals	0
Court Officer Renewals	0
Private Security Renewals	46
Total Renewals	462

Unit Certifications	Number
Peace Officer Basic Unit Certifications	372
Corrections Unit Certifications	58
Jailer Unit Certifications	0
Court Officer Unit Certifications	3
Private Security Unit Certifications	53
Total Unit Certifications	486

Special Certifications	Number
Peace Officer Basic Special Certifications	62
Corrections Special Certifications	29
Jailer Special Certifications	0
Private Security Special Certifications	9
Total Special Certifications	100

Updates and Prior Equivalency Evaluations	Number
Peace Officer Basic Update Determinations	3,246
Court Officer Update Determinations	0
Total Update Determinations	3,246

Prior Equivalency Determinations	Number
Peace Officer Basic Prior Equivalency Determinations	26
Corrections Basic Prior Equivalency Determinations	22
Court Officer Basic Prior Equivalency Determinations	9
Total Prior Equivalency Determinations	57

Decertifications /Revocations	Number
Commanders	1
Instructors	3
Peace Officers	10
Total Decertifications/Revocations	14

K-9 Certification	Number
Unit Examinations Approved	401
Unit Examinations Completed	387
Unit Special Purpose Certifications	759
Unit Patrol-Related Certifications	630
Evaluator Special Purpose Certifications	37
Evaluator Patrol-Related Certifications	34

Firearms Requalification	Number
Instructor Requalifications	285
Instructor Amendments	102
Instructor Renewals	776

OPOTA Advanced Training	Number
OPOTA Courses	1,170
OPOTA Students	19,502
Training Days	1,326
Student Training Days	21,655
Site Use Courses	116

Schools (excluding K-9)	Number
Court Officer Basic Training Schools Opened	34
Court Officer Basic Training Schools Closed	32
Court Officer Basic Training Schools Canceled	0
Corrections Basic Training Schools Opened	48
Corrections Basic Training Schools Closed	44
Corrections Basic Training Schools Canceled	2
Jailer Basic Training Schools Opened	0
Jailer Basic Training Schools Closed	0
Jailer Basic Training Schools Canceled	0
Peace Officer Basic Training Schools Opened	88
Peace Officer Basic Training Schools Closed	98
Peace Officer Basic Training Schools Canceled	0
Peace Officer Refresher Course Training Schools Opened	8
Peace Officer Refresher Course Training Schools Closed	11
Peace Officer Refresher Course Training Schools Canceled	0
Private Security Academic Plus Firearms Schools Opened	4
Private Security Academic Plus Firearms Schools Closed	3
Private Security Academic-Only Schools Opened	24
Private Security Academic-Only Schools Closed	21
Private Security Academic-Only Schools Canceled	8
Private Security Firearms Basic Schools Opened	213
Private Security Firearms Basic Schools Closed	183
Private Security Firearms Basic Schools Canceled	20
Private Security Firearms Requalification Schools Opened	281
Private Security Firearms Requalification Schools Closed	228
Private Security Firearms Requalification Schools Canceled	14

2019 Ohio Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony

Perhaps the best way to understand the magnitude of these commission and academy activities is by visiting the Ohio Fallen Officers' Memorial Wall, located at OPOTA's London campus.

There, the names of 799 Ohio peace officers killed in the line of duty since 1823 are etched in the memorial walls, a permanent reminder of the importance of training to the brave men and women who wear the badge.

The annual Ohio Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony takes place on the first Thursday in May to honor officers who gave their lives in the line of duty the previous year.

The honorees in May 2019:

- Officer Eric Joering, Westerville Division of Police. End of watch: Feb. 10, 2018
- Officer Anthony Morelli, Westerville Division of Police. End of watch: Feb. 10, 2018
- Patrolman Mathew Mazany, Mentor Police Department. End of watch: June 24, 2018
- Officer Vu Nguyen, Cleveland Division of Police. End of watch: July 6, 2018

The historical inductions:

- Deputy George Rockwell, Logan County Sheriff's Office. End of watch: May 1, 1878
- Chief Deputy Martin Myers, Tuscarawas County Sheriff's Office. End of watch: May 23, 1940
- Special Officer Joseph Mumford, East Liverpool Police Department. End of Watch: Nov. 16, 1956
- Officer Clark Teeple, Napoleon Police Department. End of watch: March 19, 1931

2019 Ohio Distinguished Law Enforcement Awards

In recognition of their outstanding achievements and dedication, these individuals and groups received Distinguished Law Enforcement Awards at the Ohio Attorney General's 2019 Law Enforcement Conference:

Distinguished Law Enforcement Lifetime Achievement Award

Chief Kimberly Jacobs, Columbus Division of Police

Retired Chief Jacobs was the first woman to serve as chief of the Columbus Police Department. In her 39-year career, she emphasized excellence in striving to open doors not only for herself but also for future officers from underrepresented populations. In her first four years as chief, violent crime and resident complaints fell. In 2018, the department cited proactive policing for a nearly 30% drop in homicides from the previous year. Jacobs also strongly emphasized authenticity and communication so that officers and residents could better understand one another.

Distinguished Law Enforcement Civilian Leadership Award

Yvonne Pointer, Activist and Philanthropist

After her 14-year-old daughter, Gloria, was violently killed in 1984, Ms. Pointer vowed that she would work to save other children so that her daughter's death would not be in vain. Ms. Pointer served as a liaison with local law enforcement's Stranger Danger Program and started groups such as Parents Against Child Killing and Positive Plus to support families and mothers who had experienced violence. She also became a member of Cleveland's crisis intervention team and partnered with local police departments to comfort crime survivors.

Distinguished Law Enforcement Community Service Award

Officer Roy Tittle, Alliance Police Department

In 1998, Officer Tittle co-founded an after-school martial-arts programs that gives children and teenagers constructive options, positive role models and a sense of pride in an effort to help them resist drugs and gangs. Since the start of Kick Drugs Out of Alliance 21 years ago, thousands of at-risk kids have benefited from having a safe place to go, building both self-confidence and self-control. The program teaches taekwondo, jujitsu, and aikido. Officer Tittle, who has been heavily involved throughout the program's history, teaches himself, recruits teachers and raises money to ensure that the program remains free for all Alliance City School students. He also writes grant applications and solicits donations from local groups to help other nonprofit organizations – including the St. Baldrick's Foundation, which funds childhood-cancer research.

Distinguished Law Enforcement Training Award

Gregory Perry, Marion Technical College

The firearms expert and former prosecutor leads the basic training academy at Marion Technical College and helps make law officers and civilians safer in their daily lives. As commander of Marion Technical College's Law Enforcement Academy and director of criminal justice and law, Perry devotes himself to helping law enforcement officers become better officers, basic-training cadets become strong officers, and people of all kinds become more proficient with their firearms. Officers and civilians alike respond to Cmdr. Perry's approach to teaching. His classes have covered firearms, defensive tactics, court testimony, undercover narcotics investigations, coordinated active-shooter response, crisis intervention, self-defense and more. Perry was named Instructor of the Year at the Marion Technical College in 2008, 2009, 2011 and 2012. He also was honored by the Buckeye State Sheriff's Association in 2008, 2009 and 2017. In December 2018, he was recognized for excellence in teaching by Ohio Magazine.

Mark Losey Distinguished Law Enforcement Service Award

Officer Kenneth Lawson, Columbus Division of Police

Officer Lawson has been called "a one-man movement to raise awareness and mobilize the community" against human trafficking. In 2003, Officer Lawson, who spent 16 years investigating sexual assaults and kidnappings, began to push for hospital and law enforcement training and laws to address the issue and engagement from community activists and social workers. He has presented human trafficking trainings more than 300 times to police officers, foster children, educators and many others. Officer Lawson has also conducted 174 six-hour sessions for 3,600 caseworkers.

Distinguished Law Enforcement Group Achievement Award

Metropolitan Richland County Drug Enforcement Task Force

The Metropolitan Richland County Drug Enforcement Unit took down a multilayered drug trafficking organization, an investigation that resulted in significantly less violent crime and illegal drugs in the Mansfield area. As part of Operation Hadley's Hope METRICH dismantled a complex drug trafficking organization that was importing heroin, fentanyl, cocaine, and prescription pills into the Mansfield area. The organization, which also trafficked in stolen firearms, was responsible for multiple fatal overdoses and shootings. The operations targeted more than 150 people. In February 2019, an arrest operation was conducted involving more than 300 law enforcement officers, including seven tactical teams in other states. Almost 120 criminals were indicted on federal and state drug charges and other violent felony cases, dozens of weapons were seized, and the organization was completely dismantled.

Distinguished Law Enforcement Group Achievement Award

Central Ohio Violent Crime Working Group

The Central Ohio Violent Crime Working Group shut down one of the most violent criminal enterprises in Columbus' history and ensured that justice will be served for scores of victims. Fed up with violent crime inflicted on the King-Lincoln neighborhood, Columbus Police Department officers and task force members initiated an investigation. Their goal was to give the neighborhood back to its residents and end the suffering inflicted by a gang known as the Trevitt and Atcheson Crips. The investigation, which lasted more than two years, tied 19 gang members to dozens of crimes, including murders and felonious assaults. As a result of the operation, a federal grand jury indicted 19 men on charges, including aiding and abetting, conspiracy, racketeering, murder in aid of racketeering, and drug trafficking. Nine of the gang members face the death penalty. In addition, \$35,000 in cash and 71 firearms were seized, as were large amounts of drugs, essentially shutting down the Trevitt and Atcheson Crips.

Distinguished Law Enforcement Valor Award

Troopers James Davis, Charles Gannon and Jason Hutchison and Sgt. David Robison, Ohio State Highway Patrol

The State Highway Patrol officers saved the life of a pregnant woman trapped in a crashed school bus that had caught fire on Interstate 75. On Dec. 14, 2018 in Montgomery County, a small school bus carrying just the driver and a school aide slowed to avoid a crash between a semitruck and a pickup truck when another semitruck failed to stop and struck the school bus, pushing it into the pickup. Troopers responding to the original crash rushed to the bus as it caught fire. The officers removed the school aide from the bus, but the driver, with one of her feet pinned, could not get out. The officers continued to work on putting out the fire with extinguishers until firetrucks arrived and the driver was extracted from the bus.



OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION AND ACADEMY

2019 FISCAL YEAR ANNUAL REPORT

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