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Sgt. Donald Allen Shields Bellefontaine Police Department

*Mark Losey Distinguished Law Enforcement
Service Award*

Sergeant Donald Allen Shields knows how to pay it forward, and his Bellefontaine community has responded in kind. A good example is residents' response to his creation of a Citizens Police Academy that so far has graduated more than 25 community members.

In presenting Sergeant Shields with a Medal of Merit for his work in launching the 13-week academy, Police Chief Brandon Standley noted, "The graduates eagerly volunteer for a variety of functions. The success of the program under Sergeant Shields is evident through increased cooperation and volunteerism both within the department and in the public."

Sergeant Shields joined the Bellefontaine Police Department in 1989 after seven years in the U.S. Army and served as a patrol officer and detective before being promoted to sergeant and shift supervisor. He was a member of Logan County's first multidisciplinary Child Abuse Response Team and his investigative efforts led to the successful prosecution of many child predators.

Well-rounded in all types of investigations, he has received his department's Special Commendation Award and two Medals of Merit. He also serves as an adjunct instructor at Clark State Community College, where he has taught Juvenile Procedures, Constitutional Law, and Community Relations.

He pays it forward off the clock, too, serving as a longtime volunteer for the Logan County 4-H program and Boy Scouts of America and participating in a wide range of community organizations and events.