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★ OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL ★

Jill Del Greco
Public Information Officer
Office 614-728-4946
Cell: 614-301-1827
jill.delgreco@ohioattorneygeneral.gov



Mark Losey Distinguished Law Enforcement Group Achievement Award

**Ohio Organized Crime Investigations
Commission Task Force 14-7 Hamilton
County, Ohio:**

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Hamilton County Sheriff's Office
Cincinnati Police Department
Woodlawn Police Department**

Task Force 14-7 of the Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission was formed in September 2013 to address violent crime in northern Hamilton County. In its first year, it closed 10 homicide cases, including three cold cases.

The task force also uncovered a murder-for-hire plot that earned the man responsible a 20-year prison sentence, investigated outlaw motorcycle gangs, and assisted in tracking down subjects of interest in outside murder investigations. All of these cases have brought media attention to other departments while the task force remained in the background to protect its covert mission.

Arrests have not come easy. Many involved foot pursuits and traffic interventions, and two required barricades and SWAT teams. The officers all went home uninjured — a testament to their experience and training.

Task force members served 197 search warrants and were responsible for 119 indictments. And while not a drug task force, the group seized 31 pounds of marijuana, 10 grams of cocaine, and 406 grams of heroin in the course of its work. Members also assisted many agencies with intelligence, surveillance, investigative expertise, jail access, and technology.

“The task force has done all of this in a covert way without drawing a significant amount of media attention,” said Major Mike Horton of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, who nominated the task force for this award. “The targets of the operations are routinely heard on

jail calls trying to figure out what happened to them, not knowing the investigative team assembled to beat them.”

“This is an elite group of hand-selected, experienced detectives who have shown that interagency cooperation in action is effective where individual efforts have failed,” Horton added.