



MIKE DEWINE

★ OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL ★

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



Chief Robin Lees Youngstown Police Department

*Mark Losey Distinguished Law Enforcement
Service Award*

When Youngstown's new mayor had the opportunity to select a new police chief earlier this year, he knew who to call: Robin Lees, who had spent 33 years with the department and earned widespread respect among community members and colleagues.

Lees joined the Youngstown Police Department in 1978 and rose through the ranks from patrolman to a lieutenant before retiring in 2011. He rejoined the YPD in January as chief, a position that gives him responsibility for directing the department and managing its 152 sworn officers and 40 civilian employees.

Detective Sergeant Zaida Miranda, who nominated Chief Lees for this award, said the chief's biggest impact has been in "providing the community with the knowledge of being in safe hands."

"[He is] a leader who has excelled in all of his assignments at the Youngstown Police Department with tenacity [and provided] the community with protection and service to the best of his abilities," Detective Sergeant Miranda wrote in her nomination.

Among those assignments: commanding the Mahoning Valley Law Enforcement Task Force, operated through the Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission (OOCIC); the YPD Vice Squad; and the Mahoning Valley Crisis Response Team. In addition, he spearheaded through Project Homesafe the distribution of gun locks to Youngstown residents, and he served as coordinator for the city's first V-Grip (Violence-Gun Reduction and Interdiction) project, which resulted in a nearly 50 percent reduction in murders.