

ON THE JOB

CRIMINAL JUSTICE UPDATE



DAVE YOST
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

Fall 2019
Vol. 11 | No. 4

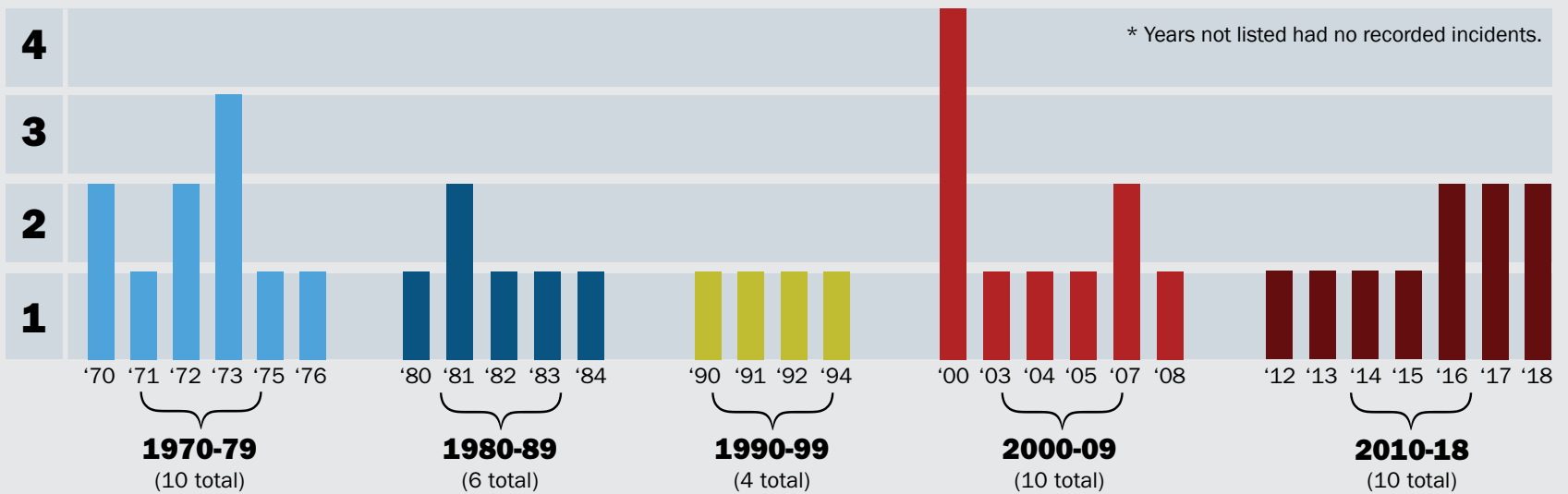
COVER STORY

Preventing school violence

New program will train police officers to help assess threats, academic buildings

Ohio school shootings

Gun violence at Ohio's K-12 schools through the years has included suicides, students or teachers targeted after arguments, and one incident of an indiscriminate mass shooting (Chardon in 2012). The number of school shootings by year*:



Notes: Shootings that took place on school grounds, such as in a parking lot after hours, but had no connections to students or staff members were not counted. It's possible that an incident occurred that did not get counted, especially if it wasn't reported by media.

Source: Naval Postgraduate School Center for Homeland Defense and Security database; Ohio Attorney General's Office staff research

One of the questions that inevitably arises after a school shooting is: *When the shooter clearly showed signs of trouble, why wasn't the attack prevented?*

"Prevention is the missing piece after every attack," Attorney General Dave Yost said. "And the safety of children across our state depends on us plugging that gap."

To that end, Yost and his team of school-safety experts have devised an initiative centered on the prevention of targeted violence. It will

send funding to both law enforcement officers and schools.

"Since a teen gunman killed three students at Chardon High School in 2012, Ohio has started a tip line and worked with schools to create emergency plans," the attorney general said. "Those are like bookends on a shelf, and what we still need are the books, which give meaning to the space in between."

"That's why we're asking law enforcement officers and school officials to team up to help prevent violence."

Continued on Page 4

Editor's note: Because of the overwhelmingly positive response to this editorial written by Attorney General Dave Yost and published by the *The Vindicator*, *On the Job* is reprinting it here.

I wish Julia Roberts and Richard Gere had never made “Pretty Woman.”

That movie, a Cinderella story about a prostitute who finds love and a good man in the course of her working life, begs a question: Why should society tell two adults that one cannot pay the other for sex? Why should the government be able to set rules about what happens in private in a bedroom, or a hotel room?

The answer lies in the shadows of American society, among the unnoticed lives of the slaves.

Yes, slaves. Women — sometimes men, sometimes boys, but mostly women — are “groomed” by older men who wish to sell them as sex slaves. These slave masters look for vulnerable girls they can exploit, usually in their early to mid-teens, who are often already marginalized or traumatized by their own childhood experiences.

Enticing them at first — with attention, kindness, money, food, clothing — these modern slave masters eventually introduce the girls to addictive drugs, and use their dependency or an outright threat of violence to coerce them into selling themselves for sex.

The slave master gets the money, of course — they call the women “ATMs.” The women get to keep their addiction. This is what human trafficking looks like. It was conspicuously absent in “Pretty Woman” — Julia Roberts’ character may have been the master of her own fate, but she is far and away the exception, not the rule.

Not all prostitution is human trafficking, of course. What turns the selling of sex into human trafficking in persons is whether the money stays with the seller or her slave master. But as it turns out, that difference isn’t a good basis to distinguish the crimes.

Here is the rub: The buyer of sex doesn’t know whether she keeps the money or not. When a man — it almost always is a man — asks for a sex act in exchange for money, he has no idea whether the “yes” he gets is real. The seller of the sex act might be a free spirit, making a deliberate, rational decision to get money.



Human trafficking initiative

Attorney General Dave Yost is building a team to fight human trafficking by strengthening state law, empowering law enforcement and helping victims. Yost is pleased to announce that the principals are now on board. **Jennifer Rausch**, a longtime leader at the Franklin County Prosecutor’s Office, will be legal director, and **Jomel Aird**, from the Central Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force, will direct victim services.

But the seller’s “yes” probably is not real. Usually it’s “yes” because the slave master is waiting in his car outside in the parking lot, with a dose of heroin, a baseball bat or a knife.

You will never know.

A key idea in our system of criminal justice is notice: that you must be able to know that you’re committing the prohibited act. But there’s no way to know if the thing you’re doing is a minor crime

— prostitution — or the major crime of human trafficking.

When we’re talking about slavery, “I didn’t know” isn’t even an excuse. It’s an admission — an admission you took the risk that you were having sex without consent, the risk that your money was helping to keep another human being in slavery, no better than property. That’s why prostitution should not only remain illegal; it’s why we should up the ante on the buying of sex.

Currently, the buying and selling of sex are the same crime — a low-level misdemeanor — in spite of the fact that many women who are convicted of selling sex are doing so because they are forced into it, and are victims themselves.

The buyers of sex are never forced into it, and are never victims. They are sating their own appetites at the expense of another human being, predators who take what they want without regard to the costs of their feeding. Without their money, there is no market for sex; without a market, there is no human trafficking.

This fall, I will ask the General Assembly to split the buying and selling of sex into separate offenses, with buying being the more serious crime.

Slavery is a deep evil that we thought we had slain 140 years ago. It warrants a bright-line prohibition. Even if there is a Julia Roberts out there somewhere selling herself because she wants to, there are so many others enslaved that society can and should draw a bright line that says “no.” Julia and Richard will have to find each other without money changing hands.

Yours,

Dave Yost
Ohio Attorney General



Bio box

Hometown: Columbus
Family: married with a 13-year-old son

Education: graduated in 1999 from The Ohio State University with a double major in political science and history; graduated in 2002 from the OSU Moritz College of Law

Previous roles: Franklin County Prosecutor’s Office: director, Special Victims Unit, 2013-August 2019; assistant prosecuting attorney, Special Victims Unit, 2004-13; assistant prosecuting attorney, Grand Jury Unit, 2004; assistant prosecuting attorney, Juvenile Division, 2003-04; special assistant U.S. attorney, 2013-present

JENNIFER RAUSCH

LEGAL DIRECTOR, AG’S HUMAN TRAFFICKING INITIATIVE

What does your new job entail?

The attorney general has set four priorities to fight human trafficking, and it’s my job to help him accomplish them. They are:

- Focusing on prevention and education to stop some of the inflow of victims.
- Creating legislative policy to make sure Ohio is doing what it can to fight trafficking.
- Assisting and training task forces and prosecutors to build human trafficking cases and developing more task forces in the state.
- Streamlining victim services so that victims don’t have to go to so many different places to get the help they need.

Even though it was sort of scary to leave the Franklin County Prosecutor’s Office, where I basically grew up, I love those goals, so I’m excited to build this new initiative.

How did your work at the prosecutor’s office prepare you?

I worked there for 19 years, starting in law school. I worked in the Special Victims Unit for 15 years, and I was the (unit) director for

six years. We handled child sexual assaults, online exploitation of children, child abuse and child homicide cases, domestic homicide and human trafficking. We figured out, through trial and error, how to develop a better response to human trafficking and how to work those cases. I’ve been handling human trafficking cases on the ground for seven years.

What do you hope to accomplish with the AG’s human trafficking initiative?

My hope is we can make a better safety net for victims so they can exit dangerous situations. That’s such a huge part of it — getting victims to a place where they have access to help and they’re willing to take the help. That’s the specialty of my new colleague Jomel Aird.

I love training and teaching, and so I’m excited to share the things I’ve learned while trying and indicting trafficking cases. Just as much, I want to learn from other people who handle these cases throughout the state. We all want to get a better court response.

And then I want to help task forces build the strongest cases possible. It’s hard to convince

victims to cooperate if they’re worried about us not being successful and their trafficker getting right back out of jail.

What legislative plans do you have?

The attorney general is pushing to separate the sale of sexual services from the buying, and that would be a great start to decrease demand.

I’d also like to push to get a felony strangulation statute in Ohio. Forty-eight other states have one.

The law would make strangling someone a felony of a third degree — traffickers have a lot of control through physical violence — and it would give prosecutors one more felony to charge in these cases. So many times we’re focused on the human trafficking charge — and we should be — but there are more charges we can pursue to ensure victims get justice for everything that happened to them.

What first got you interested in a career in criminal justice?

I always wanted to be a lawyer, but in college I volunteered with the Sexual Assault Response Network of Central Ohio as a helpline advocate and a hospital advocate. Once I discovered there was a specialized unit at the Franklin County Prosecutor’s Office that would allow me to pursue both passions, I knew that’s where I was meant to be. I loved my time there, but am excited to join the AG team.



ON THE JOB
CRIMINAL JUSTICE UPDATE

On the Job (Criminal Justice Update) is typically published four times a year by the Ohio Attorney General’s Office.

To offer story ideas, contact Editor Jenny Applegate at 614-995-0328 or Jennifer.Applegate@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov. Sign up for the electronic edition at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/EmailUpdates.

Volume 11, Issue 4
FALL 2019

Copyright 2019
by Ohio Attorney General’s Office
30 E. Broad St., 17th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/Media/Newsletters/

Continued from Page 1

Such teamwork is essential, said John Hartman, a school resource officer with the Delaware City Police and vice president of the Ohio School Resource Officers Association.

“The overall safety of any school building is dependent on everyone,” said Hartman, who consulted on the initiative. “It is not just law enforcement. It’s teachers, administrators, students, parents and officers all working together to be aware and involved.”

That is why the AG’s plan calls for the creation of multidisciplinary teams to evaluate threats or any concerning behaviors to determine whether they pose a risk.

The teams would focus on getting help for the student (or other individual) whose behavior is concerning, ideally well before the person thinks about planning an attack, said Mark Porter, who, as a former U.S. intelligence official and Yost’s director of law enforcement operations, helped craft the initiative.

Said Hartman: “The key is having the training and resources in place beforehand, so threats can be identified and the proper individuals can receive intervention prior to acting.”

The program works hand-in-hand with training provided to schools and students by the Ohio Department of Education and the nonprofit Sandy Hook Promise, created after a gunman killed 20 schoolchildren in Connecticut in 2012.

“I don’t think anyone believes you’re going to prevent every bad thing in the world from happening,” said John Born, a former Ohio public safety director and former superintendent of the State Highway Patrol, who also served as a consultant on the new initiative.

“But you can prevent many bad things from happening,” he said. “And that’s why, when fully implemented, this will be the most significant thing we’ve done in Ohio to prevent potential violence in schools.”

How the initiative works

The initiative has two segments, said Porter, who previously led the U.S. Secret Service’s Protective Intelligence and Assessment Division, which includes the National Threat Assessment Center.

In the first segment, every school district will be encouraged to create one or multiple Behavioral Assessment Teams, safety-minded groups that some Ohio districts, including Dublin City Schools and South-Western Schools, already are experimenting with. House Bill 123, introduced this year and still pending, would make the teams mandatory for schools with grades 6-12.

These teams, consisting of five to eight members

Assessment framework

One of the tasks for Behavioral Assessment Teams will be to set up an analytical approach to determine the seriousness of threats made by students or others. For a case involving a student, the suggested framework, based on recommendations from the Secret Service’s National Threat Assessment Center, would have the team consider:

- 1 What are the student’s motivations or goals?
- 2 Have there been communications suggesting the intent of the threat?
- 3 Has the student shown an interest in something the team deems inappropriate? (An earlier task for the team involves defining prohibited and concerning behaviors.)
- 4 Does the student have access to weapons?
- 5 Have stressful events recently taken place in the student’s life?
- 6 Does the student experience emotional or developmental issues?
- 7 Is the student experiencing hopelessness or desperation?
- 8 Does the student see threats or violence as a way to resolve problems?
- 9 Are other people concerned about the student’s behavior?
- 10 Does the student have the capacity to carry out a threat?
- 11 Is there evidence of planning for an attack?
- 12 Are the student’s actions consistent with his or her words?
- 13 Does the student have positive or prosocial influences?

Threat determinations

The actions a Behavioral Assessment Team takes to help and/or discipline a student, and to protect other students and staff members, are guided by where the threat falls on this scale:

- Not a threat
- Not a threat, but an expression of humor, rhetoric, anger or frustration
- Transient threat that does not involve a real intent to harm anyone
- Serious substantive threat
- Very serious substantive threat

(including the school superintendent or a designee and a police officer), will deal with reports of concerning behavior.

Threats at schools happen somewhat regularly, but few rise to the level of a potential shooting. So the team will more often examine less serious, more transient reports, seeking to ward off problems before they escalate into something dangerous.

The framework for how teams respond will be laid out in operational training provided online through the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy.

“The program is built on best practices developed by Dr. Dewey Cornell, a clinical psychologist noted for his work on school violence, and the Secret Service — the experts at threat assessments, whether assassinations or school violence,” Porter said. “We built off systems proven to work.”

In a case involving a student, a team would look at what is going on in the teen’s life, the setting in which the threat was made and the choice of target.

“This isn’t just a criminal case,” Porter explained. “The main focus is the behavior. We want to identify this student’s issues from a 360-degree perspective and look for what triggered the behavior: Is it a death at home? Is it abuse? This is the legwork that will help you identify that.”

Once the team develops a full picture of the student’s circumstances, members will use a prescribed evaluation process to assess whether the student poses a risk. In situations that do pose a risk, the team will then:

- Develop intervention strategies to help the student and mitigate any risk.
- Follow up to make sure the help is working.

“This training will get the same best practices out to all communities across Ohio,” Yost said, “so that when schools need them, they have the tools to act.”

What the teams will not conduct is:

- Broad surveillance. Cases are brought to the team through the reporting of threats to

Ohio’s Safer School Helpline (844-723-3764) or to teachers or other school officials.

- Profiling. The team examines a person’s behavior and mind-set at the time that he or she made a threat, not stereotypes or race, religion or other such characteristics. Behavioral assessments identify potentially violent situations and resolve them; they’re not intended to predict violence.
- Labeling students. The team’s purpose is to resolve the problem, not forever label a student as a troublemaker. Any records kept will be for follow-up purposes, to ensure the help is resolving the student’s problems.

In the second segment of the initiative, law enforcement officers who have taken the OPOTA training will join with a school leader and emergency management official to conduct vulnerability assessments of school buildings. These assessments underscore where a school has weaknesses, and they differ from emergency plans,

which include an infrastructure map but focus on how to respond after a crisis has already begun.

“Doing risk and vulnerability assessments in a good way can be challenging,” Born said, “and it would be an expensive process for schools to handle on their own. That’s why a dedicated, funded program — taking advantage of the expertise of local law enforcement officers — makes sense.”

The initiative aims to ensure that all 5,200 of the state’s school buildings that host students undergo vulnerability assessments.

A 185-question form detailing the areas that should be evaluated will guide those conducting the assessments. The results will highlight any areas in need of strengthening.

The Attorney General’s Office is offering grants to fund those reinforcements — about \$10 million to schools in each year of the two-year program.

“The state now is basically blind on where schools’ risks and vulnerabilities are,” Born said. “For example, someone says we should put up ballistic materials on the windows; we should put up video cameras; we should hire security guards. Yet when you do the walk-through on the risk and vulnerability assessment, you find out a few employees have duct-taped the back door open so they can go out and smoke.

“With these assessments, local school officials will get immediate guidance on safety gaps that need to be fixed,” Born said. “And Ohio’s going to get a complete picture of where our priorities should be, where we should spend money and what we should do to fix the problems.”

Law enforcement and assessment teams

The Attorney General’s Office expects to pay individual school resource officers to take the online OPOTA training. After that, an officer will be paid per school vulnerability assessment.

“Empowering local law enforcement with the opportunity to do that makes sense for two reasons,” Born said. “One, they’re in the schools, they know the schools, and they’re going to respond to an incident. And two, it gets back to local control with general statewide guidance.”

That said, program leaders recognize some people, including officers, might be sensitive to the idea of bringing law enforcement into school decisions.

That is why the Behavioral Assessment Teams will be led by a school leader and include other members of the school community, such as teachers and guidance counselors. The presence of an officer is beneficial, in part, because decisions about whether a matter should be referred to local law enforcement can be made more efficiently.

Also, not all school threats come from students. For

example, the 20-year-old gunman who attacked Sandy Hook had no link to the elementary school.

The law gives police officers powers that it doesn’t give to school officials, and vice versa. Having members from both groups, then, lets the team cover a wider area without needing to find outside help, which can consume valuable time in a potentially dangerous situation.

“When does law enforcement get involved?” Born asked. “That is what this course tells you.”

A 20-page portion of the training details the framework for how to evaluate the seriousness of a threat. If the team determines it to be very serious and substantive, the law enforcement officer will act as the link between the team and his or her home agency. The local police or deputies will then investigate to determine whether the student or other person has started preparations for an attack, or committed other criminal acts.

“Look, every officer in Ohio has completed more than 700 hours of training to get certified,” Yost said. “And they specialize in addressing out-of-line behavior on a daily basis. For the times when a student is crossing into that area, having that expertise already on hand just makes sense.

“But, like everything in life, there has to be balance,” the attorney general continued. “These teams will work together on a regular basis, so they’ll find the balance that works for them. We’re laying out a framework, but flexibility and customization are essential. Every school is different; every situation is different.”

The plan is to have the training course available online in January; officers would have through June 30 to complete the course. Next, the officers will be asked to engage with school leaders to initiate the formation of a Behavioral Assessment Team, as laid out in House Bill 123.

Once the new fiscal year starts July 1, the school building vulnerability assessments could begin.

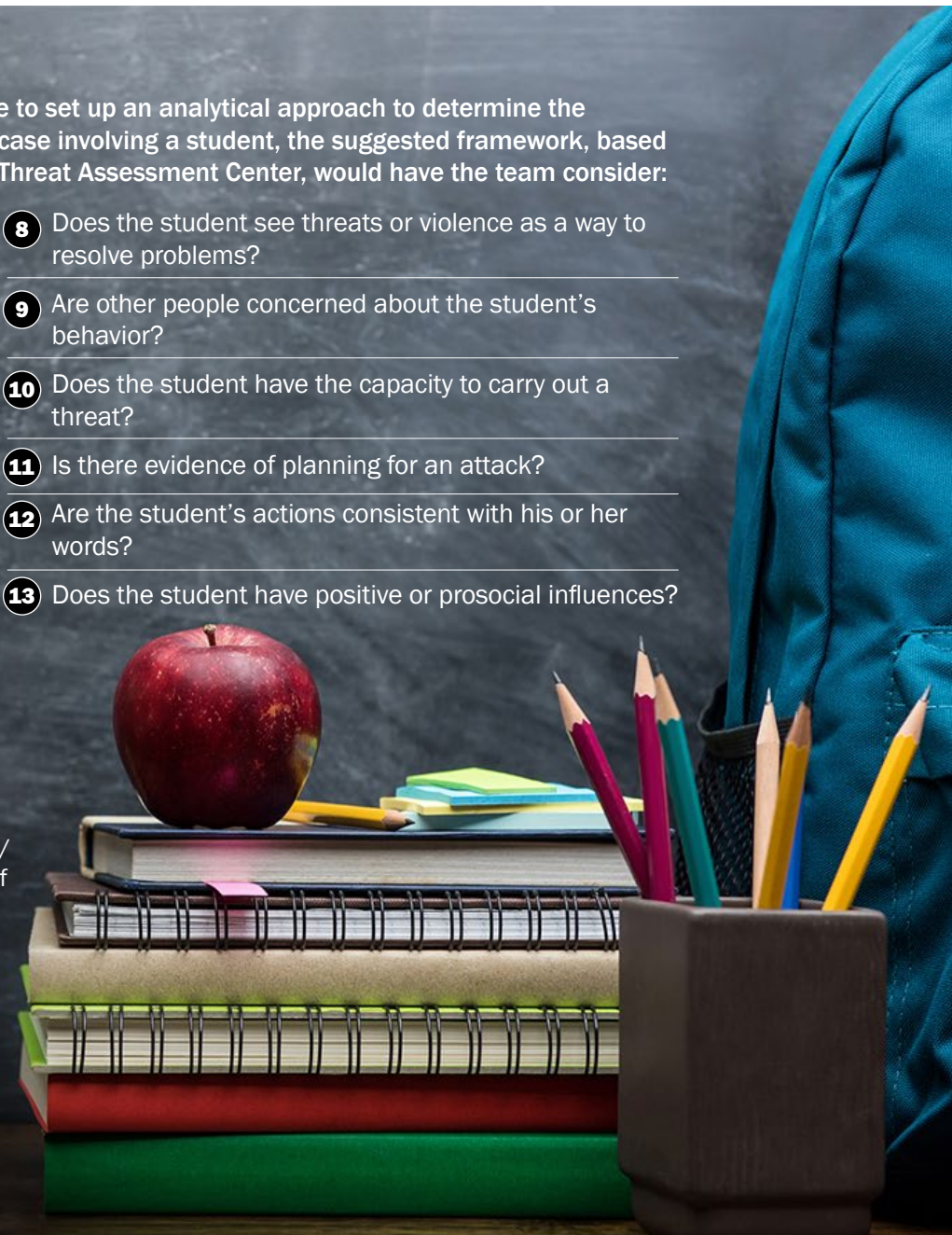
“This initiative sets forth a standardized, statewide framework to address prevention, intervention and training,” said Hartman, the school resource officer. “And it provides the much-needed funding to ensure all schools can benefit.”

The initiative stems from a promise Yost made in 2018 when he was running for attorney general.

“Local law enforcement and schools across Ohio have done the important work to get ready to save lives once a crisis begins,” Yost said.

“Now, what our state needs is the work that lets us stop the active aggressor the day before he gets to the school,” he said. “We want to stop him before he ever starts planning.

“We need to put just as much time and effort into preventing that.”



Building a better city, one child at a time

Alliance Police Officer Roy Tittle has spent 21 years teaching students martial arts, a bid to help them be their best

ALLIANCE, Ohio — When the transition from elementary to intermediate school proved difficult for Carter, he found a refuge in a martial arts program for kids run by Police Officer Roy Tittle.

Carter was 8 at the time, and school, which had always come easy for him, suddenly didn't.

"Every day before school, he didn't want to go because he was being picked on," said Staci Gurney, Carter's mom. "He was being punched and kicked. It was heartbreaking."

Her son immediately took to the Kick Drugs Out of Alliance program, begun more than two decades ago by Tittle and another officer. But Carter faced a big problem: One of his bullies was already enrolled.

"I went to Mr. Tittle right away," Gurney said. "And I said, 'I just need you to know that one of the kids who is picking on my son is in your class.'"

"Mr. Tittle talked to the kid, and he made an announcement in class: 'There is no tolerance for bullying in here, and if I find out it's going on at school, it's not going to be good.'"

Two years later, the program has helped Carter rediscover his self-confidence. He is a purple belt who is almost ready for his blue belt — a feat he accomplished by "continuously practicing and testing," he said after a recent class, held in the gym of Rockhill Elementary School.

"First, you start out with the white belt," said Carter, who recently turned 11. "Then you get the yellow belt, orange belt, green belt, purple belt."

"They make it hard to get to your next belt on purpose, so they know you're ready."

Along with his martial arts success, the youth has managed to turn that school bully into a friend.

"Carter came to the program shy and withdrawn," said Tittle, an Alliance officer for almost 26 years,



Police Officer Roy Tittle coaches students in the Kick Drugs Out of Alliance program. See more in a video at OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov.

"and now he's one of my best competitors."

Gurney is proud of her son's work and calls Kick Drugs Out of Alliance "an amazing program."

Indeed, throughout its 21-year history, KDOA has helped hundreds of youngsters find their self-confidence, develop self-discipline and learn martial arts. Any student in kindergarten through 12th grade in Alliance City Schools can attend the twice-weekly classes free year-round, thanks in large part to Tittle's fundraising.

The goal is to give children and teenagers, many of them from low-income families, the skills and self-worth to say no to drugs and gangs, said Tittle, who will be honored at the Law Enforcement Conference this month for his volunteer work.

Former Alliance Police Officer Jeff Helaney and Tittle started the program during a

particularly rough time for the city.

"Our narcotics units and SWAT teams were endlessly working to get drugs off the street," said Tittle, now 48 and a father of four. "So we were going to come into the schools and hit it from the other end by teaching kids a skill that teaches self-discipline and respect, and see if that would help in the community."

In 1998, the year the program began, Alliance — a city of 21,900 residents about 20 miles northeast of Canton — ranked fifth nationally for crime per capita, Tittle said.

younger kids, both in martial arts and life skills.

Parents are strongly encouraged to stay for classes and to volunteer with the program by, say, fundraising or planning holiday parties.

"We hand out pamphlets and stuff to the parents to give them ideas for how to stay involved with their kids," Tittle said.

"I love when parents bring a new student in," he said, "and they're like 'Oh, my kid has ADHD, good luck,' or 'He's very shy; I don't know if this is going to work for him.' And within a few months ... I've got them where they're doing everything they're told to do, (and) their grades are coming up in school, because they're starting to have that confidence and discipline."

"But the key is getting the parents involved."

Tittle, who grew up in Alliance, knows what martial arts can do for kids with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. He started training in jujitsu at the age of 6.

"I was — nowadays they would consider them ADHD kids, but back then they just called you hyper," he said.

His longtime teacher, George Saba, taught Tittle discipline and respect, and how to take care of kids in need.

"At one point, my dad was really sick and we couldn't afford to go anymore. Mr. Saba told me, 'You come and help clean the dojo, or the gym, and I'll train you.' And so I stayed with him — he died in 1986. By that time, I was a black belt."

Tittle went on to join the Army and then the Alliance Police Department. He has remained a leader of KDOA from the beginning; his two youngest children are current participants.

One of the longtime instructors, Benjamin Thompson, a fourth-degree black belt, admires Tittle's precise moves and his way with kids.

"People will say that the most advanced thing you can do is the basics consistently," Thompson said. "His grabs are perfectly consistent every time, and when you combine that level of skill with the fact that he is a phenomenal instructor, ... he can see where that student is, what they need to know and say it in a way that they can understand."

Put another way: "Mr. Tittle's fun," Logan said. Or, as Carter described him: "He's a really good instructor."

And Thompson's assessment: "He's the guy I want to be when I grow up."



Alliance Police Officer Roy Tittle will be honored with the Distinguished Law Enforcement Community Service Award on Oct. 9 at the Attorney General's Law Enforcement Conference in Columbus.

The 31-year-old said that only partly in jest. He has looked up to Tittle since joining Kick Drugs Out of Alliance as a 10-year-old a few months after the program started.

"He had every opportunity to do whatever he wanted as far as run the streets," Tittle said. "But he stuck with the program, and he's going for his master's rank soon, so he's got a lot of dedication."

Thompson, who also runs a martial arts school in Sebring, said, "The best thing I can do is pay forward what's been paid into me, largely by Mr. Tittle."

Seeing Thompson and other students succeed is the main reason that Tittle continues to dedicate multiple hours a week to the program.

"It's one of those things where, if you quit or you walk away, you're walking away from a bunch of kids," he said. "And I don't want to see us fall backward, into the kids doing irresponsible things because they don't have somebody to guide them."

Tittle and Thompson ended the recent class standing before the dozen or so kids on the competition team, some of whom would test for their next belt two days later.

"Have confidence in yourself, OK? Confidence is everything," Tittle told the kids. "Not too much confidence. Don't be ego-driven, but have confidence in your abilities. We watch you in class; you got this."

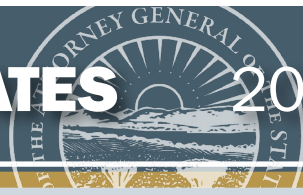
"Yes, sir," the kids responded.

"We got a bunch of new students today," Tittle went on. "So when you come in, make sure you're welcoming them to the program. When you see them standing off to the side, make sure you're getting them involved. ..."

"You're the role models. All I do is push papers and make sure that everything's paid for. All right? You guys are the ones who are going to be the examples for the new students. Got it?"

"Yes, sir!"

"You make us proud," he said. "Keep it up."



Now available

Marijuana testing grants for felony cases

Attorney General Dave Yost is offering the Major Marijuana Trafficking Grant Program to reimburse law enforcement agencies that tap a private lab for marijuana analysis in first-, second- and third-degree felony cases.

The Bureau of Criminal Investigation has new equipment to measure THC levels, which became a necessity when Ohio legalized hemp this summer, but those tools won't be ready until early next year.

In the meantime, agencies with major cases that rely on proving the confiscated drug is not hemp can apply for reimbursement for lab tests. Find out more through the link in OHLEG or at GrantsManagement@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov.

By the numbers

Some facts and figures from the Attorney General Office's special report on the state's facial-recognition database.* (To view the report, go to OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov.)

The special report was undertaken after national media raised alarms about federal misuse of state facial-recognition programs. The Attorney General's Office found no evidence that broad dragnets, mass surveillance or other illegitimate uses took place in Ohio.

But that doesn't mean facial recognition works perfectly. Special training is being developed on the limitations of the technology. For the time being, all facial-recognition searches must be conducted via the Bureau of Criminal Investigation. Follow the instructions in OHLEG to request a search.

* Special report released in August; time frame for data is 2017-July 31, 2019.



11,070

Total inquiries conducted in Ohio's facial-recognition system in the past three years, including 2,406 this year



418

Of those inquiries were made by federal officers



10,652

Of those inquiries were made by state and local officers

24M

Images in the database



21M

Driver's license images provided by the Ohio BMV in 2013

25,558

Active users in the Ohio Law Enforcement Gateway, the electronic information network used to share criminal justice data among law enforcement agencies