



Ohio Attorney General's **Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy**

Advanced Training for Ohio Peace Officers

December 2015

[Ohio Gang Investigator Specialist Training](#)

Most gang activity is found in urban settings, both large and small. But gangs can exist in the suburbs and rural communities. That's why the OPOTA Ohio Gang Investigator Specialist Training course could be of interest to departments of many sizes throughout the state.

But no matter where they may be located, challenges to investigating gangs include knowledge of, and training in, accessible databases, awareness of the state's criminal statutes that can be used to fight gun violence and gang activities, and understanding the use of particular, sophisticated long-term investigation techniques. Participants will be exposed to all these during the free, two-day gang investigator course this coming January.

You will also learn about the use of search warrants, arrests, and Terry stops as they relate to gangs.

The class agenda includes insight into the benefits and capabilities of electronic surveillance, as in the use of cameras and tracking devices. Information gleaned from telephone and text transactional, or subscriber and billing, records and other communications can be vital.

Case studies detailing intelligence gathering to investigation through prosecution will be studied.

Just as gangs can be operating in communities of various sizes, the course instructors bring with them experience ranging from local, to state, to federal jurisdictions. They include investigators, intelligence analysts, and prosecutors, including members of the Cleveland Police Department Homicide and Gang Units.

[Regional Legal Update](#)

This free course, on Dec. 10 at the Worthington Division of Police, is a discussion of recent court decisions affecting law enforcement, as well as a review of legal concepts that law enforcement must be able to apply on a routine basis.

For example, when valid consent can be given by a third party was argued in a 9th Appellate District Court decision in *State v. Chojnowski*.

Can an officer shoot at a fleeing vehicle? If yes, then under what circumstances? The U.S. Supreme Court cases of *Plumhoff v. Rickard* and *Mullenix v. Luna* deal with these issues.

Rodriguez v. U.S. addresses whether an officer may extend a traffic stop to conduct a dog sniff.

These and other issues will be discussed in the course, which will also be offered Dec. 18 at Miami Valley Career Technology Center. Critical thinking skills are emphasized with real fact patterns and solutions. Topic areas will also include search and seizure, arrests, use of force, interrogations and any areas of interest to participants.

Narcotics Interdiction on Patrol; Field and Investigative Interviewing

Patrol officers are on the front line on a daily basis. [Patrol Drug Operations](#) focuses on narcotics interdiction and recognizing high risk zones. The January course addresses highway interdictions, as well as interdicting drugs moving right through the neighborhoods the officers patrol. The Officers are taught directed patrol strategies, along with search techniques, which include searching for hidden compartments. The use of canines and their deployment during traffic stops is also discussed.

A special emphasis on issues confronting patrol officers when encountering foreign nationals has been included in the course coverage. The course highlights the tactics and “smokescreens” used by domestic and foreign national criminals in their attempts to evade detection.

Attending [Interview and Interrogation](#) in April can only enhance your skillset whether it is for the field or in an investigative setting.

The cornerstone of the investigative process is the basis of solving criminal activity as well as determining guilt or innocence. The primary step of determining if Miranda warnings are needed can be crucial in particular when certain crimes meet thresholds for notification to the community via media.

Just having a possible suspect or witness to crime in a room can easily be misconstrued as an interrogation. There are rules a law enforcement officer adheres to and mirrors the code of ethics that we strive to live up to on a daily basis.

Even returning periodically every 4-5 years to review and perhaps gain new insights to more modern techniques will do wonders for your skills.

More from the OPOTA Course Catalog

[Instructional Skills \(80 Hours\)](#)

This two-week course prepares students to write and present lesson plans in a law enforcement setting. Topics include: instruction in the theories of adult education, teaching techniques, lesson plan development, student learning objectives, platform teaching skills, facilitative learning, evaluation and measurement, working with problem learners, and training aid usage. This is an academically challenging course merging theory and practice. Students will be required to develop and present a 15-minute lesson plan, a 30-minute lesson plan, and a 45-minute course of instruction. Participants will work an average of 20-30 hours outside of the classroom in the evening and weekends to prepare for classroom presentations.

Note: There is a pre-course assignment which will be assigned approximately 30 days prior to the start of the course. This course meets one of the requirements for certification as a unit instructor in commission-approved programs

Jan. 25-Feb. 5, 2016 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
OPOTA Main Campus
1650 St. Rt. 56 SW
London, OH
Cost: \$450

[Regional Legal Update](#)

This half-day legal update training will cover recent case and statutory law in the areas of search & seizure, Miranda warnings, and laws of arrest. Hypothetical fact patterns will be utilized to facilitate instruction.

Dec. 10, 2015 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Worthington Division of Police
6555 Worthington-Galena Rd.
Worthington, OH
Cost: Free

Dec. 18, 2015 | 8 a.m. -12 p.m.
Miami Valley Career Technology Center
Adult Education Building
6801 Hoke Rd.
Clayton, OH
Cost: Free

[Stops & Approaches Instructor Update](#)

The Stops & Approaches Instructor Update is intended to provide Stops & Approaches instructors with the changes to the updated lesson plan for the 8-5 topic of the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission's Peace Officer Basic Training Program. This update is required for all certified instructors of the 8-5 section of the OPOTC Peace Officer Basic Training in order to maintain their instructor certification in this topic. A pre-course assignment, written test, and practical assessment must be successfully completed in order to pass the course and retain certification.

Prerequisite: Applicants must be currently certified as a Peace Officer Basic Training instructor for the 8-5 Stops & Approaches topic of the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission's Peace Officer Basic Training Program.

Dec. 17, 2015 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
OPOTA Main Campus
1650 St. Rt. 56 SW
London, OH
Cost: \$65

Jan. 19, 2016 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
OPOTA Main Campus
1650 St. Rt. 56 SW
London, OH
Cost: \$65

Jan. 21, 2016 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
OPOTA Main Campus
1650 St. Rt. 56 SW
London, OH
Cost: \$65

[Corrections Basic Training](#)

This course fulfills the training requirement per Ohio Administrative Code for new or newly assigned correctional staff. The training covers all topics and training hours mandated by the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission.

*Prerequisite: Students must be sponsored by an agency to attend this training (i.e., no open enrollment permitted).

Note: Some courses will require tests of the students' physical skills and abilities. Students should also be prepared for homework as upkeep of a notebook is required to pass the course.

Jan. 4-29, 2016 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
OPOTA Main Campus
1650 St. Rt. 56 SW
London, OH
Cost: \$350

[Policing in the 21st Century](#)

This course will satisfy eight hours of CPT training for 2016. It will include topics on police-community relations, de-escalation of persons in crisis, and constitutional use of force.

Jan. 4, 2016 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
OPOTA Main Campus
1650 St. Rt. 56 SW
London, OH
Cost: Free

Jan. 11, 2016 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
OPOTA Richfield
4055 Highlander Parkway
Richfield, OH
Cost: Free

[Patrol Drug Operations](#)

This course is designed for all patrol officers. Topics include: development of street informants, recognition of high risk zones, search methods (single and double), probable cause and search, search warrants, surveillance methods, and directed patrol strategies.

Featured London instructor: James Roy Jr.

Featured Richfield instructor: Sgt. Michael Gerardi, Willoughby Hills P.D.; Sgt. Neil Laughlin & Trooper Michael Trader, Ohio State Patrol

Jan. 12-13, 2016 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
OPOTA Richfield
4055 Highlander Parkway
Richfield, OH
Cost: \$100

[Marijuana Identification](#)

This course is for peace officers involved in narcotics investigations or who require training in marijuana identification. This purpose is to develop or improve skills in the scientific identification of marijuana using chemical and microscopic techniques. Instruction covers the use of the modified Duquenois-Levine test,

the effervescence test and NIK field testing procedures. Skills in microscopic examination are developed. Students participate in hands-on testing and conduct more than 50 microscopic and chemical tests.

Jan. 12-13, 2016 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
OPOTA Main Campus
1650 St. Rt. 56 SW
London, OH
Cost: \$250

[Ohio Gang Investigator Specialist Training](#)

This training will include presentations on Ohio gang statutes, search-and-seizure issues, state and federal forfeiture, crime mapping and intelligence, electronic evidence collection and preservation, discovery, electronic surveillance issues, and open source networks. Case studies will be presented from intelligence gathering to investigation through prosecution. Assisting in the training are former and current state and federal prosecutors, experts from the Cleveland PD Homicide and Gang Units, and intelligence experts from the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation.

Jan. 12-13, 2016 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
OPOTA Richfield
4055 Highlander Parkway
Richfield, OH
Cost: Free