

Ohio Attorney General's Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy

Advanced Training for Ohio Peace Officers



November 2019

[New Executive Director Appointed to the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy](#)

Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost announced on October 23, 2019 that Dwight A. Holcomb will serve as executive director of the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA).

“Chief Holcomb’s reputation of excellence in public service and organizational management speaks for itself,” Yost said. “I’m excited to see how OPOTA will be shaped by his leadership.”

A candidate for the OPOTA executive director position is recommended by the attorney general to the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission, whose members then vote to appoint the leader of the training academy. Holcomb starts as the OPOTA executive director today.

Holcomb served as the chief of police for the Upper Arlington Police Division for 27 years after rising through the ranks as a patrol officer, detective and sergeant. He then served as executive director of the Ohio Department of Public Safety’s Ohio Investigative Unit. Since 2006, Holcomb has served as vice president of corporate security for the Dispatch Printing Company and its affiliates.

[Registration Open for AGO Human Trafficking Summit](#)

Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost will host his inaugural Human Trafficking Summit to provide education and resources to help combat and end human trafficking.

The summit will provide an opportunity for attendees to learn what other areas of the state are doing, as well as the role of other disciplines throughout the state. It will also identify gaps in service and roadblocks that exist for investigators, advocates and victims. It will include a call to action for attendees, as well as an opportunity to discuss what they have learned and ask follow-up questions.

The summit will be held on January 9, 2020 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. The cost to attend is \$50. Registration is open now: <https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Individuals-and-Families/Victims/Human-Trafficking-Summit>.

Traffic Safety Grants Awarded to Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy

The Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA) has received two grants totaling \$280,000 to provide training for law enforcement officers on topics including identifying impaired drivers and investigating traffic collisions.

An Impaired Driving Training Grant award totaling \$200,000 will be used to reimburse the costs of tuition for Ohio law enforcement officers who attend the following OPOTA courses:

- [Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement \(ARIDE\)](#): helps officers identify alcohol- and drug-impaired drivers.
- [Standardized Field Sobriety Testing \(SFST\) Instructor](#): certifies participants to instruct courses on field sobriety testing.

A Traffic Safety Grant Program award totaling \$80,000 will be used to reimburse the cost of tuition for Ohio law enforcement officers who attend the following OPOTA courses:

- [Advanced Traffic Collision Investigation \(Level II\)](#): covers advanced techniques for investigating traffic collisions, including measuring, mapping and analyzing vehicle behavior.
- [RADAR and LiDAR Operator](#): teaches participants to operate radar and lidar devices (which measure speed) and includes field exercises, mock trial preparation and courtroom testimony practice.
- [RADAR and LiDAR Instructor](#): trains participants to provide instruction on the operation of radar and lidar devices, as well as trial preparation and giving courtroom testimony.
- [Traffic Collision Investigation \(Level I\)](#): covers techniques for investigating traffic collisions, including preparing field sketches and applying mathematical formulas to determine vehicle speed.
- [Vehicle Dynamics \(Level III\)](#): provides techniques and formulas for investigating traffic collisions, including instruction on vehicle systems, vehicle motion, hydroplaning and rollovers, as well as determining energy, speed and velocity.

Funding for the grants comes from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, made available through the Ohio Department of Public Safety.

Law enforcement officers may register for these and other OPOTA courses on [the Ohio Attorney General's website](#).

Upcoming Course: Human Terrain Mapping and Behavior Pattern Recognition

Hosted by: Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy

When: January 14-15, 2020 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Where:

OPOTA Richfield
4055 Highlander Parkway
Richfield, Ohio 44286

Cost: \$315

Course Information:

This course is designed for the 21st-century law enforcement professional. It focuses on advanced critical thinking using an understanding in human behavior patterns to articulate and defend decisions made by the officer in the course of their duties. It is designed to empower the law enforcement officer and limit department/organizational liability while simultaneously building community rapport and engagement.

Registration Link: bit.ly/37IkCVt

For more information: Contact Travis McCourt, Law Enforcement Training Officer, at Travis.McCourt@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov.