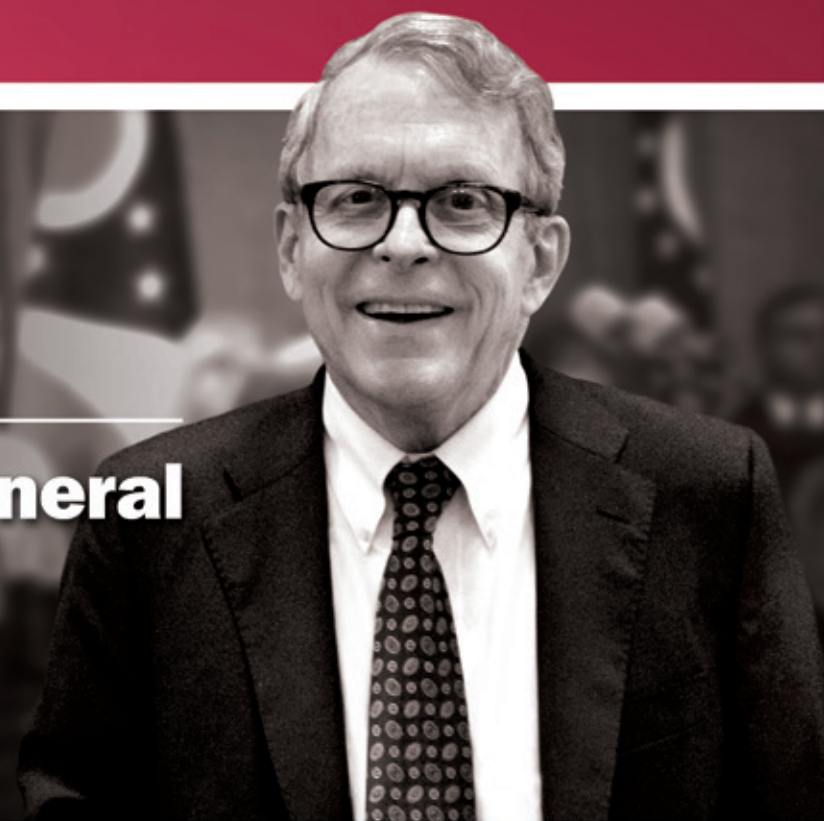




 *Protecting Ohio's Families*

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine



"We remain committed to protecting Ohio's families. That core mission drives everything we do in the Ohio Attorney General's Office."

– Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine

ANNUAL REPORT | 2016



INSIDE

Supporting Economic Growth	2
Protecting Consumers	4
Safeguarding Children	10
Fighting Crime	14
Battling Drug Abuse	20
Supporting Law Enforcement	24
Assisting Crime Victims	28
Protecting Seniors	30
Fighting Health Care Fraud	32
Representing Ohio	34
Year in Review	40



Attorney General DeWine and his wife, Fran

Dear Friends,

The past year was one of continued partnerships and progress at the Ohio Attorney General's Office — where we remain dedicated to our mission of protecting Ohio's families. Among the partnerships, my office worked with global research and development organization, Battelle, to bring Next Generation Sequencing — enhanced DNA technology — to the Ohio Attorney General's Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI). On another front, my office joined with OhioHealth's Sexual Assault Response Network of Central Ohio to launch a statewide sexual violence helpline, **844-OHIO-HELP (844-644-6435)**. Additionally, my office gathered industry experts and business leaders to create an advisory board to provide cybersecurity guidance to Ohio companies. Those initiatives are just a small sampling of my office's wide-ranging activities in 2016. Other highlights of the past year:

- The Ohio Attorney General's Sexual Assault Kit Testing Initiative: As of Dec. 31, 2016, 294 law enforcement agencies had submitted 13,931 previously untested kits to be tested as part of our initiative. Forensic scientists with BCI have completed testing on 12,000 of the kits, resulting in 4,367 hits in the Combined DNA Index System. All of the nearly 5,000 kits that law enforcement in Cuyahoga County submitted have been tested, resulting in more than 500 indictments.
- Efforts to fight the state's opiate epidemic: My office's outreach specialists conducted community meetings and promoted drug-awareness activities throughout the state and beyond. "Taking Back Our Communities" conferences provided the faith-based community, law enforcement

and others with insight and resources to share in their neighborhoods to assist those affected by addiction. My office also encouraged first responders and others in a position to save lives to carry and administer naloxone to those suffering overdoses. We pushed for rebates and lower prices on the lifesaving medication, and offered free training on how to administer it. At BCI, our chemists identified drug trends, and our office issued warnings to law enforcement to keep them safe at drug crime scenes. In 2016, the Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission (OOCIC) worked with task forces statewide to seize more than \$33 million worth of drugs and break up trafficking operations.

- Improvements to law enforcement training: In 2014, my office asked an advisory group to look at how Ohio trains its peace officers. In April 2015, the group offered recommendations. In 2016, the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission continued to make changes in response to the report.

Looking back at 2016, I'm proud of the accomplishments of our staff. Going forward, we will keep our focus on protecting Ohio's families.



Very respectfully yours,

Mike DeWine

Mike DeWine
Ohio Attorney General

The Attorney General's Office helps protect small businesses and others from fraud, scams, deceptive behavior, and unfair business practices. In 2016, the office received 788 complaints and helped adjust, recover, or save \$307,710 for small businesses and nonprofits through dispute-resolution.

→
Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine speaks to members of Leadership Adams, an organization that strives to make Adams County a better place to live and work.



Protecting Ohio's Families

SUPPORTING ECONOMIC GROWTH

The Ohio Attorney General's Office supports economic growth by looking out for businesses. In 2016, the Attorney General's Office advocated for business interests in court; protected small businesses from fraud, scams, and unfair practices; and helped organize a seminar on fostering business growth.

Improving cybersecurity



In September, Attorney General DeWine launched CyberOhio, a collection of initiatives aimed at helping Ohio businesses fight data security threats. The goal of CyberOhio is to help foster a legal, technical, and collaborative cybersecurity environment to help Ohio businesses thrive. DeWine announced five initiatives his office would undertake:

- The creation of a Cybersecurity Advisory Board composed of industry experts and business leaders.
- The exploration of draft legislation to improve the legal cybersecurity environment in Ohio.
- The provision of cybersecurity training opportunities for small businesses.
- The expansion of the Consumer Protection Section to assist businesses with cybersecurity and data privacy.
- The creation of collaborative internship opportunities.



Nurturing development

To help current and prospective business owners, local governments, and economic development practitioners better understand the legal landscape of economic development in Ohio, the Attorney General's Office created the *Ohio Economic Development Manual*. The manual is a resource for anyone with questions about the legal framework for economic development. Since it was posted online, it has been downloaded almost 1,400 times and over 1,000 printed copies have been distributed as well. It is available free at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/EconomicDevelopment.

Protecting jobs



Following an effort led by Attorney General DeWine, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in April rescinded language within a proposed regulation that sought to prohibit the sale and use of many performance auto parts in racing vehicles. The rescinded language sought to prohibit vehicle modifications "even if they are used solely for competition." DeWine sent comments to the EPA detailing the negative effects on Ohio's economy, as the racing industry provides thousands of Ohio jobs and Ohio is home to the nation's two largest specialty automotive retailers: Summit Racing Equipment and JEGS High Performance. DeWine was joined by seven attorneys general in sending a letter emphasizing that the language was inconsistent with the Clean Air Act, which does not regulate vehicles used solely for competition.

Offering workshops

The Attorney General's Office is committed to educating business owners on Ohio laws through free workshops. Workshops in 2016 covered topics such as employment law, workers' compensation law, civil rights, antitrust issues, and more. One section's example:

- In 2016, the Attorney General's Workers' Compensation Section presented small-business workshops at the Zanesville/Muskingum County Chamber of Commerce, the Sharonville Chamber of Commerce, and the Eastern Maumee Bay Chamber of Commerce.



DID YOU KNOW?

The Attorney General's Office and The Ohio State University presented the "Growing Your Business" conference in November. Attendees learned about partnership opportunities between businesses and Ohio's colleges and universities. Panel discussions focused on sponsored programs and development, raising capital, workforce development, and technology transfer and commercialization.

In 2016, the Consumer Protection Section guarded consumers from scams, achieved multimillion-dollar settlements, and served tens of thousands of consumers who contacted the Attorney General's Office for help.

→
Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine shopping at a grocery store in Cincinnati.



Protecting Ohio's Families

PROTECTING CONSUMERS

The Consumer Protection Section of the Ohio Attorney General's Office guards the public from fraud, deception, and unfair business practices. The section helps resolve complaints, enforces consumer protection laws, assists identity-theft victims, and investigates and prosecutes cases.

Informing Ohioans

On June 3, the Attorney General launched a multimedia outreach initiative to increase Ohioans' awareness of scams, fraud, and identity theft and how they can protect themselves. The "Ohio Protects" campaign features a dedicated microsite, www.OhioProtects.org, which helps educate consumers on a variety of consumer protection topics, and also directs them to the Ohio Attorney General's Office for additional help. The campaign includes three, 30-second videos that are featured on the website and were shown on television and in theaters. The videos use humor to convey messages about contractor fraud, computer repair scams, and IRS scams. They also alert Ohioans about how their personal information can be compromised, underscoring the importance of identity theft protection.

Educating the public

To make the public aware of consumer protection trends, the Attorney General's Office conducted 216 free events that reached 9,200 attendees in 2016. The events covered such topics as consumer privacy, bankruptcy, elder abuse, charitable fraud, and cybersecurity.



Helping students manage loans

To help prospective, current, and former college students understand and manage student loans, the Ohio Attorney General's Office developed an online student loan center in January 2016. The Attorney General's Student Loan Center, www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/StudentLoans, offers information and resources to explore careers, choose a school, apply for loans, and repay loans. The center provides tips on how to reduce the cost of attending college. The site also offers two calculators to help students budget their expenses and plan their loan repayment. The online center has had 3,584 unique hits since going online.

Tracking complaints



Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine's Consumer Protection Section fielded 24,154 consumer complaints from individuals, small businesses, and nonprofits in 2016.

The year's top complaint-generating areas were:

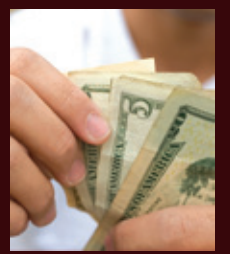
1. Motor vehicles
2. Other (potential scams)
3. Professional services
4. Shopping, food, or beverages
5. Collections, credit reporting, or financial services
6. Utilities (phone, Internet, TV)
7. Home or property improvement
8. Identity theft

Visit www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/ConsumerComplaint or call 800-282-0515 for help with a consumer issue.

Anyone who suspects a scam should contact the Ohio Attorney General's Office at 800-282-0515 or www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov.

Issuing scam warnings

In 2016, the Attorney General relayed timely warnings about scams including those involving taxes, computer viruses, home repairs, charitable solicitations, online dating, ticket sales, and gift cards.



DID YOU KNOW?

The Ohio Attorney General's Constituent Services Section fielded 106,247 phone calls and 14,789 online inquiries to the Help Center in 2016.



A consumer educator with the Ohio Attorney General's Consumer Protection Section answers questions during a conference.

Raising awareness

To build awareness of consumer protection among Ohio's youth, the Education Unit conducted its 2016 Take Action High School Video Contest. In March, first, second, and third places were awarded to the individuals who submitted the best 60-second videos on cybersecurity, identity theft, or student loans. The most recent contest drew 217 videos from more than 370 participants representing more than 40 schools. The winners received \$5,000 in scholarships.



Clearing up charges

Attorney General DeWine established the Identity Theft Unit in summer 2012 to help victims clear up the mess caused by identity theft, such as fraudulently opened accounts or credit-report errors that resulted from the theft. In 2016, the Identity Theft Unit helped victims resolve \$893,280 in fraudulent charges. The unit also cleared up 22 complaints received from minors in foster care, who are particularly vulnerable to this crime.

Going after scammers

In 2016, the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Section opened 290 investigations; filed 44 lawsuits for unfair, deceptive, or unconscionable business practices; and obtained 53 judgments and compliance agreements. A few cases of note that were investigated and/or prosecuted by the Attorney General's Economic Crimes Unit (a division of the office's Consumer Protection Section), during the past 12 months include:

- In February, a Cincinnati man was sentenced to serve 19 years in prison and ordered to pay restitution for running an \$816,000 scam that defrauded car dealerships and financial institutions in Ohio and Kentucky. He used aliases, fictitious names, a dummy corporation, the identities of others, and false financial documents to secure trucks, equipment, and checks.
- In August, a Mansfield man was charged with bilking customers out of about \$40,000 after offering to sell them cars, car parts, or auto repairs. The suspect allegedly used auto websites to advertise that he had classic cars or car parts available for sale. He encouraged customers to pay via wire transfer but never delivered the promised goods. He also allegedly offered car repairs through a body shop, but kept vehicles illegally after accepting them for repairs. The case was investigated by the Economic Crimes Unit with assistance from the Richland County Sheriff's Office and the National Insurance Crime Bureau.

Guarding children's credit



The Attorney General's Identity Theft Unit worked with Rep. Ron Maag (R-Lebanon) in the development of Ohio House Bill 317 to allow parents or guardians to "freeze" a child's credit record to help stop identity thieves from opening accounts in the child's name. The bill passed the Legislature on May 24 and became effective on Sept. 28.

Examining student loan debt collection

In September, Attorney General DeWine announced the formation of the Attorney General's Advisory Group on Student Loan Debt Collection. The 15-member group, made up of students, lawyers, college representatives, financial institutions, and government officeholders is looking at all aspects of student loan debt collection to make sure Ohio's practices are thorough, transparent, and fair.



The Ohio Attorney General's Office publishes the "Consumer Advocate Newsletter," an online monthly source on the latest scams, valuable training resources, consumer rights, and more. To sign up to receive the free newsletter, visit www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov.



Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine prepares for the launch of the "Ohio Protects" outreach initiative to increase consumer awareness of scams, fraud, and identity theft.

Resolving disputes

The Consumer Protection Section's dispute resolution process — through which staff members help individuals, businesses, and nonprofits resolve disputed charges — resulted in more than \$3.6 million returned to, or adjusted for, consumers in 2016. The average amount per consumer was \$1,592. Among those helped in 2016:

- A consumer who had purchased a vehicle for more than \$14,000 from a used-car dealership that went out of business asked for help in removing a lien from the title. The Attorney General's Office worked with the lien holder and made a payment from the Title Defect Recision Fund to obtain the title for the consumer. The office then worked with the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles to get the title transferred to the consumer.
- A consumer contracted with a home-improvement store to install a new bathtub. The work was not completed to industry standards and needed to be redone. Repairs were attempted, but the work wasn't done properly, so the consumer contacted the Attorney General's Office. After receiving a letter from the Attorney General, the store's corporate office investigated the transaction and refunded the consumer \$8,846 and gave the consumer \$500 to hire another contractor to remove the tub.

Providing oversight

In 2016, the Charitable Law Section — which regulates and provides oversight to Ohio charities to make sure that donations are not misappropriated and that proceeds are used for charitable purposes — provided training to 4,377 people about board governance best practices, bingo record keeping, wise giving, and related topics. For information on trainings on charitable topics, call **614-466-3181**.

The section also provides oversight of professional solicitors paid to raise funds for charitable organizations. Solicitors must be registered annually and provide notice of every Ohio fundraising campaign and the results. Information on solicitor campaigns can be found on the Attorney General's website. In 2016, the section handled the registration of 114 professional solicitors who conducted 630 campaigns.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Ohio Attorney General's Office maintains a charitable registration system, with information about specific charities. At year's end, there were 42,170 active charitable organizations in the system. The information is available to the public on the Attorney General's website, www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov.



Bidders check out a donated item during the Support Our Troops Auction hosted by the staff of the Ohio Attorney General's Office to benefit Operation Buckeye, a group that sends care packages to troops.



Protecting donations

In 2016, the Charitable Law Section issued 1,697 licenses for charitable organizations to conduct bingo at 2,954 locations. Additionally, the section issued licenses to 18 bingo manufacturers and 39 bingo distributors. For more information on licensed organizations, visit www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/Business-and-Non-Profits/Bingo-Operator.

Among the section's investigations of note in 2016:

- In May, Attorney General DeWine announced a settlement with a Virginia-based professional solicitor that conducted phone and mail solicitations in Ohio on behalf of charities. Under an assurance of discontinuance, Public Interest Communications Inc., of Virginia, agreed to pay \$50,000 to the Attorney General's Office and to comply with Ohio's Charitable Organizations Act. The assurance resolves a 2014 lawsuit filed by the Attorney General in Franklin County Common Pleas Court. An investigation by the Attorney General's Charitable Law Section alleged that the company had failed to file timely solicitation notices or timely financial reports for multiple Ohio campaigns and had violated previous agreements with the Attorney General.
- In February, an Indiana charity agreed to stop operating in Ohio after an investigation by the Attorney General's Charitable Law Section found that the organization misled potential donors by using charitable donations for personal or unlawful purposes, failed to properly register with the Ohio Attorney General's Office before engaging in charitable solicitations in Ohio, and failed to file required financial reports. Following a tip from a concerned donor, the section's

investigation found that America Funding Communities Inc. misled Ohioans and misused charitable donations meant to help support active-duty military members.

- In March, the Attorney General, along with law enforcement partners throughout the country and the Federal Trade Commission, reached a settlement to dissolve two sham cancer charities and ban their president from profiting from any charity fundraising in the future. Two related charities were already shut down in May 2015. The four sham charities allegedly bilked more than \$187 million from consumers throughout the country.

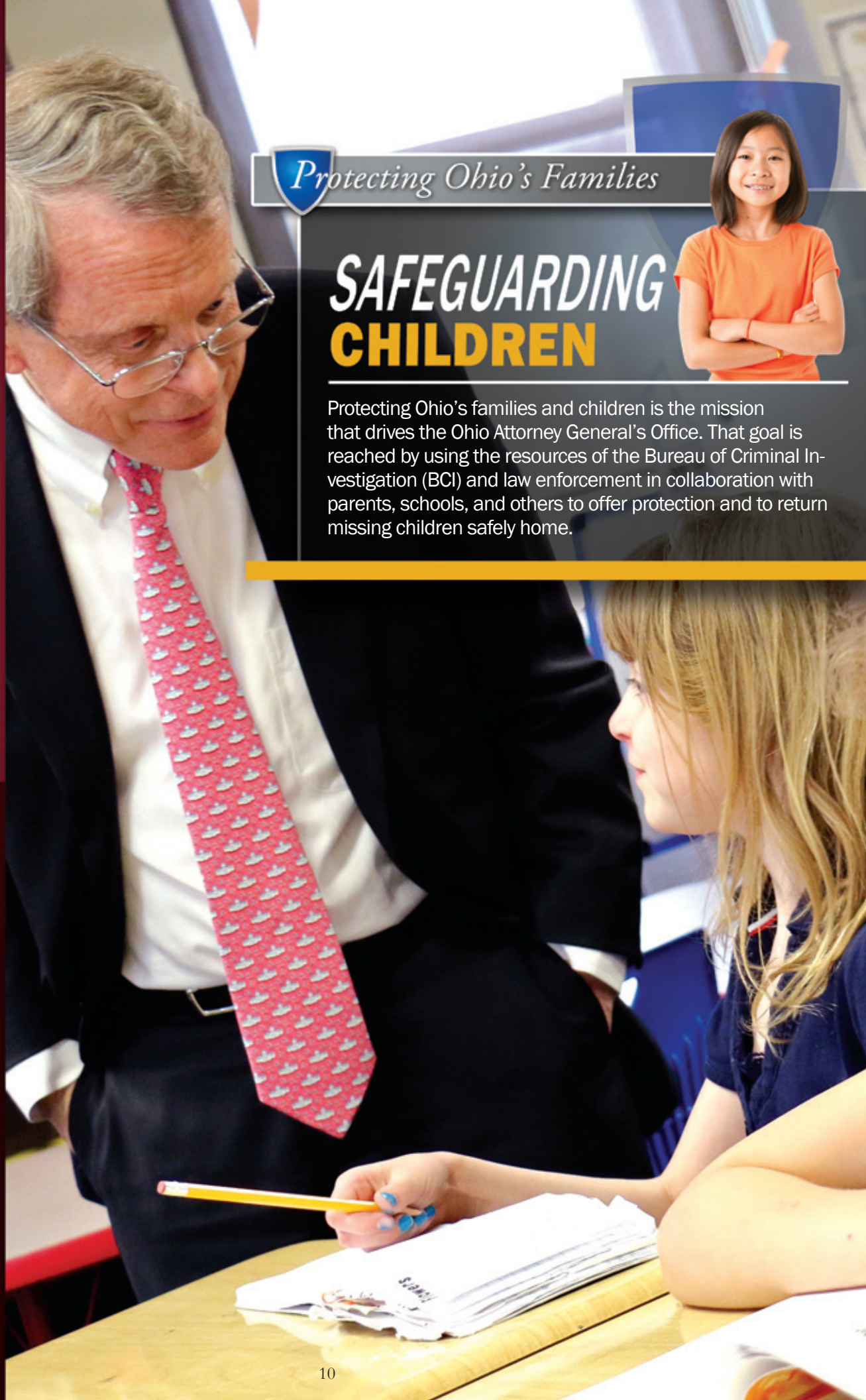


Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine meets a worker at the Ohio Pork Council's stand at the Ohio State Fair.



Help us protect charities and donors

*If you learn that a charity is misusing resources, or you know of fraudulent solicitations, visit www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov or call **800-282-0515**.*



Protecting Ohio's Families

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN



Protecting Ohio's families and children is the mission that drives the Ohio Attorney General's Office. That goal is reached by using the resources of the Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) and law enforcement in collaboration with parents, schools, and others to offer protection and to return missing children safely home.

In 2016, the Crimes Against Children Unit assisted **98** law enforcement agencies in **161** cases. The unit also participated in nine Amber Alerts and **13** Endangered Missing Alerts.



Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine visits a classroom at the Richland School of Academic Arts in Mansfield.



Reaching out to schoolchildren

Attorney General DeWine's Human Trafficking Commission and the University of Dayton's Human Rights Center released a free manual in November that can be used by Ohio schools, youth counselors, after-school programs, and anti-human-trafficking organizations to assist in developing anti-human-trafficking education for children. *The Human Trafficking Prevention Education Guidance for Implementation of Youth Programs* can be presented by educators or counselors. The manual is available under "Publications" at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/Individuals-and-Families/Victims/Human-Trafficking-Commission.



Since 1996, Amber Alert programs have helped save the lives of **857** children nationwide.

To receive Amber Alerts, visit www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/Law-Enforcement/Local-Law-Enforcement/Ohio-Missing-Persons/Ohio-Amber-Plan.

Remembering the missing

To coincide with National Missing Children's Day in May, the Attorney General's Office published its "2015 Ohio Missing Children Clearinghouse Report," which documents that 18,688 children were reported missing in Ohio in 2015 and 18,099 were recovered safely. The Missing Persons Unit within BCI operates the Ohio Missing Children Clearinghouse. For the report, the unit compiles state data on missing children, assists law enforcement and families, and works with the Ohio departments of Education and Job and Family Services to train and provide resources for peace officers, teachers, parents, and children. The clearinghouse issues Ohio's Endangered Missing Child Alerts and Endangered Missing Adult Alerts, coordinates with law enforcement on Amber Alerts, and promotes awareness of issues related to abductions, human trafficking, and runaway children.



DID YOU KNOW?

There are about 700 missing children listed in the Ohio Attorney General's Missing Persons Database, www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/Law-Enforcement/Local-Law-Enforcement/Ohio-Missing-Persons/Missing-Children. To offer information about anyone in the database, contact the agency listed or call BCI's Missing Persons Unit at **855-BCI-OHIO (855-224-6446)**. Information about missing adults, resources related to missing persons, Ohio's AMBER Plan, and other related links are also available on the Ohio Attorney General's website, www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov.

Getting feedback from teens



Each year, the Attorney General's Office puts together a Teen Ambassador Board of high school juniors and seniors from public, private, charter

and online schools throughout Ohio. In 2016, members of the board continued to advise the office on issues relating to teens. More than 230 students currently serve on the board. These students represent more than 150 schools in over 50 counties. During the 2016 Law Enforcement Conference in October, members of the board took part in a discussion of the opiate epidemic, police/community relations, and human trafficking.

Fighting human trafficking

The Attorney General's Office continues its fight against human trafficking, which affects many children. The Central Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force, authorized through the Attorney General's Organized Crime Investigations Commission (OOCIC), includes officers and agents from the Department of Homeland Security, Ohio State Highway Patrol, Columbus and Powell police departments, and Franklin County Sheriff's Office. The task force is also assisted by BCI, the U.S. Attorney General's Office, the prosecutor's offices of Delaware and Franklin counties, and the Salvation Army. The Attorney General's Human Trafficking Commission — made up of elected officials, law enforcement, social service agencies, religious groups and schools — works to end trafficking. In 2016, Ohio law enforcement reported:

- Human trafficking victims identified — **151**
- Human trafficking investigations — **135**
- Suspected human traffickers identified — **170**

Among the cases of note:

- A 24-year-old Columbus man was sentenced to 15 years in prison for directing and distributing music videos depicting child pornography. An investigation was launched after his activities came to the attention of the Central Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force. He pleaded guilty on June 7 to one count of conspiracy to produce child pornography.



Focusing on prevention

To recognize National Missing Children's Day, the Attorney General's Office and the Reynoldsburg Youth Human Trafficking Coalition sponsored a family event and candlelight vigil on May 21 in Reynoldsburg. Representatives from law enforcement agencies, fire departments, and BCI offered an inside look at their vehicles and demonstrated safety equipment. Information was provided on DNA collection and human-trafficking awareness.



Visitors look at public safety displays during National Missing Children's Day in Reynoldsburg.

Investigating crimes against kids

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine's Crimes Against Children Initiative, started in 2011, focuses on identifying, arresting, and convicting people who prey on kids. BCI formed a Crimes Against Children Unit, which receives assistance from other BCI units, and the Special Prosecutions and Crime Victim Services sections. The agents are assigned to the London, Bowling Green, Youngstown, and Richfield BCI offices. In 2016, the unit assisted 98 law enforcement agencies in 161 cases. It also participated in nine Amber Alerts and 13 Endangered Missing Alerts. Some recent cases involving the unit and handled by the Attorney General's Special Prosecutions Section include:

- A Coshocton County man was sentenced to seven years in prison in March for abusing his 2-month-old child last year. The defendant pleaded guilty to charges of felonious assault and endangering children. The father was under the influence of drugs and alcohol when he harmed the child and did not immediately seek medical attention for the infant.
- In the early hours of Aug. 1, the Abduction Response Unit coordinator with BCI's Crimes Against Children Unit was contacted by the Loveland Police Department about a missing 4-month-old girl. With the assistance of BCI's Special Investigations, Cyber Crimes and Criminal Intelligence units, along with other agencies, it was determined that the infant's father had killed his daughter, and had made up the claim of her abduction. The infant's body was recovered and the father was arrested for her murder 18 hours after the initial 911 call. He pleaded no contest to aggravated murder and was sentenced to life in prison without parole.



Attorney General DeWine visits with students at Marion-Franklin High School, where he introduced a free series of five educational videos produced by his office on topics including state public policy and citizen engagement.

Raising awareness

In June, the Attorney General's Office, the Collaborative to End Human Trafficking, and members of Greater Cleveland's Coordinated Response to Human Trafficking unveiled a new human trafficking awareness campaign. The "Human Trafficking Happens Here Too" campaign was launched in time for the Republican National Convention in Cleveland. Messages were displayed on billboards, at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport, and on Cleveland Regional Transit Authority Buses. The new www.HappensHereToo.org website provided residents and visitors with detailed information on how to identify human trafficking and how to get help. A portion of the campaign was funded through a Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant awarded to the collaborative by Attorney General DeWine as part of the "Ohio Attorney General's Expanding Services and Empowering Victims Initiative."



310

The number of tips received in 2016 by the OOCIC's human trafficking task forces. To offer a tip, call **855-BCI-OHIO (855-224-6446)**.

Getting kids involved

Fifth-graders from throughout Ohio participated in the 2016 National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice. In Ohio, the AMBER Alert Steering Committee and the Attorney General's Missing Persons Unit coordinate the program. The Ohio winners were honored at the Two Days in May Conference on Victim Assistance.

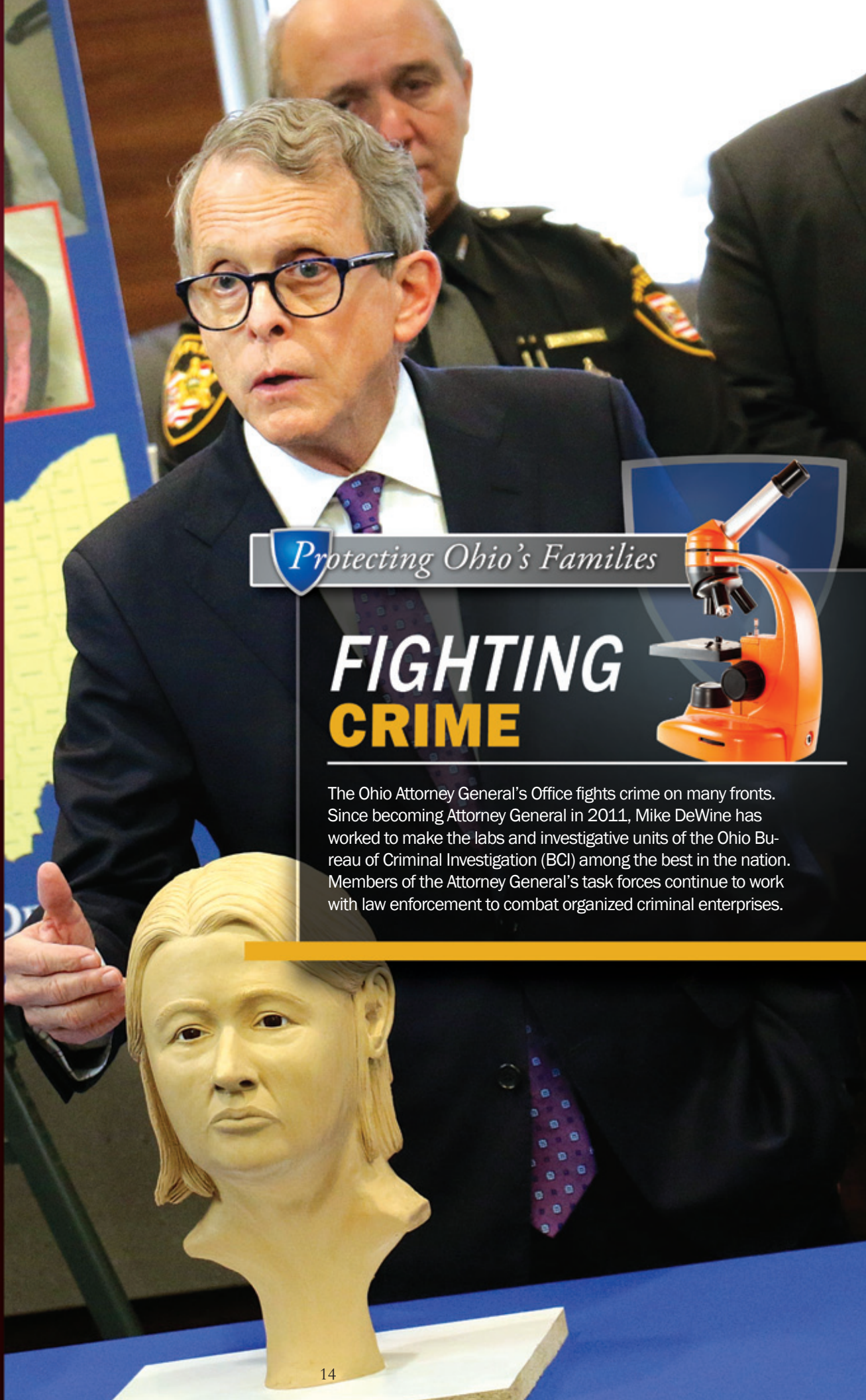


DID YOU KNOW?

The Ohio Child Abduction Response Team (CART) program offers administrative and operational assistance to law enforcement agencies in anticipation of, and in the event of, the abduction of a child. It has been used in Ohio since 2006 and was reorganized in 2014. CART promotes preparedness, including identifying staffing, offering training, and locating resources. For more information, call **855-BCI-OHIO (855-224-6446)**, or send email to OhioCart@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov.

The volume of evidence processed by the Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) continues to climb. DNA, for example, has increased from **6,761** samples tested in 2010 to **57,587** samples in 2016.

→
Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine unveils a facial reconstruction created by a forensic artist from BCI to help the Greene County Sheriff's Office identify skeletal remains found in May. (The woman has since been identified.)



Protecting Ohio's Families
FIGHTING CRIME

The Ohio Attorney General's Office fights crime on many fronts. Since becoming Attorney General in 2011, Mike DeWine has worked to make the labs and investigative units of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) among the best in the nation. Members of the Attorney General's task forces continue to work with law enforcement to combat organized criminal enterprises.

Conducting research

In 2014, BCI opened a new crime lab on the Bowling Green State University (BGSU) campus. The partnership also led to the creation of the Attorney General's Center for the Future of Forensic Science at BGSU. Among the activities in 2016:

- Agents from BCI helped instructors set up a mock crime scene at BGSU's Forensic Investigation Scenario House so students could learn how to collect and analyze evidence.
- The first research paper produced at the center was published in *Forensic Science International*. In total, the center published seven peer-reviewed manuscripts in 2016.



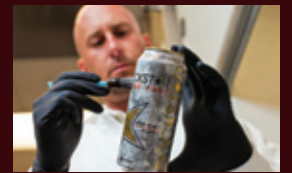
Working together

In July, Attorney General DeWine and Battelle President and CEO Jeffrey Wadsworth announced a joint venture between BCI and the global research and development organization headquartered in Columbus. Forensic scientists from both organizations are working together at the BCI lab in London to run tests on Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) technology and will seek FBI approval for the use of NGS to solve missing persons cases. With NGS at BCI, the lab will soon be able to generate faster DNA results and obtain an expanded range of DNA information to help investigators make identifications.

Improving SAK process



Bowling Green State University and the Ohio Attorney General's Office were awarded a grant of almost \$440,000 to identify ways to streamline the analytical process of testing Sexual Assault Kits (SAKs). The joint project, the "Use of Statistical Modeling to Optimize Sexual Assault Kit Analysis," will employ data mining of the results of the SAKs processed by BCI as part of the Attorney General's SAK testing initiative in order to develop best-practice models for analysis. BGSU President Mary Ellen Mazey and Attorney General DeWine announced the Laura and John Arnold Foundation grant in July.



In August, the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) reaccredited BCI under its Gold Standard Assessment program. BCI also received the Accreditation With Excellence Award, the Advanced Accreditation designation and the Meritorious Award. BCI's laboratories were reaccredited by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors.



DID YOU KNOW?

Attorney General DeWine recently called for the use of a new tool, familial DNA, at BCI to track down a suspected serial predator. On Dec. 2, authorities arrested a 29-year-old Lorain man in connection with the abduction and sexual assault of a 6-year-old Cleveland girl in May. He is also a suspect in the attempted abduction of a 10-year-old Elyria girl in February 2016. A familial DNA search is useful when DNA found at the scene of the crime has no match in the state's database. A familial DNA search aims to identify any genetic near-matches: a brother, father, or son. The use of familial DNA is limited to the most serious unsolved crimes or serial cases with a public safety component and cases in which all other leads have been exhausted.

Testing sexual assault kits

After taking office, Attorney General DeWine learned that thousands of sexual assault kits that had never been submitted for DNA testing — some associated with crimes going back decades — were still on the evidence shelves of law enforcement agencies throughout the state. Late in 2011, the Attorney General acted upon the recommendation of a task force formed to study the problem and urged law enforcement agencies throughout Ohio to send their previously untested kits to BCI for free lab analysis if they believed a crime had occurred. As of Dec. 31, law enforcement agencies had answered his call and submitted 13,931 kits for testing. Of the 12,000 kits processed as part of Attorney General DeWine's Sexual Assault Kit (SAK) Testing Initiative, 4,367 hits to DNA already in the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) have been obtained. In related news:

- In June, Attorney General DeWine joined Cuyahoga County Prosecutor Timothy McGinty to announce the 500th defendant indicted through the work of the Cuyahoga County Sexual Assault Kit Task Force.
- In November, the SAK testing initiative reached a milestone in Cuyahoga County by clearing the last of the county's backlog of 4,996 kits. As of Dec. 1, 548 defendants had been indicted in Cuyahoga County as a result of the testing and follow-up investigations conducted by members of the Cuyahoga County Sexual Assault Kit Task Force. Ninety-three percent of Cuyahoga County cases that have reached a final disposition have ended in a conviction.

- A project conducted by researchers at Case Western Reserve University and released in 2016 showed that the SAK testing initiative not only brings criminals to justice, but also saves communities money in the long run. A researcher with the Begun Center for Violence Prevention Research and Education at Case Western said the study of cases in Cuyahoga County indicated that each conviction that results from the initiative amounts to a savings of \$40,866.



Agencies urged to submit kits

Law enforcement agencies wishing to submit untested kits, or in need of more information about the initiative, should call **855-BCI-OHIO (855-224-6446)**.



Attorney General DeWine talks about Project LINK during a news conference.

Providing answers

The Attorney General's Project LINK (Linking Individuals Not Known) helped resolve 17 cases in 2016. The program, which is free to police, coroners, and families of missing individuals, helps match unidentified remains with DNA submitted by relatives of missing people. A case of note from the past year:

Skeletal remains found on March 22 in Lorain County were identified through Project LINK. Angela Marie Hall, a 25-year-old mother of four from Lorain County, was last seen in August 1997. Her remains were discovered on farmland in Huntington Township. The clothes and jewelry found at the site provided little information about the woman's identity, but on June 20, the DNA from one of Hall's family members was provided by the sheriff's office to BCI. The lab compared the sample to DNA from the remains and a match was made. The Lorain County Sheriff is investigating Hall's death.

By the Numbers*

- 255** – Total number of LINK cases opened at BCI
- 92** – Cases closed
- 163** – Active LINK Cases

* Remains and missing persons

Increasing demand



Turnaround times for the analysis of DNA evidence by BCI have dropped significantly since Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine took office in 2011. BCI analyzed DNA evidence in an average of 27.53 days as of Dec. 31. That is down

from the 125-day turnaround times recorded in December 2010. Meanwhile, the volume of evidence continues to climb. BCI received 23,145 chemistry assignments in 2016 compared with 14,565 in 2011. DNA has increased from 6,761 samples tested in 2010 to 57,587 samples tested in 2016. BCI's lab analyzed 204,151 pieces of evidence for Ohio law enforcement in 2016, up from 105,280 in 2011.

Solving cold cases

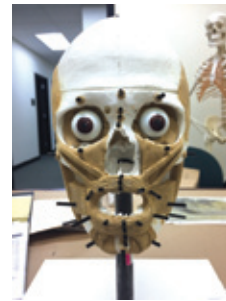


In 2012, Attorney General DeWine asked law enforcement agencies to submit any cold case information to BCI to be included on an online database.

Today, there are 1,893 cases in the Ohio Unsolved Homicides database. The database can be viewed at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov. The goal of the initiative is to bring visibility to unsolved cases, increase the possibility for tips, and help jurisdictions compare details of unsolved crimes. Local agencies often call upon BCI to assist with the cases, as well. Since its inception, 22 of the cold cases have been resolved. Those with tips on any unsolved homicide may submit the information through the website or by calling **855-BCI-OHIO (855-224-6446)**. Among the cases in 2016:

- In March, a former deputy with the Washington County Sheriff's Office, was found guilty of aggravated murder in the 1981 death of Lt. Ray "Joe" Clark, who had fired the deputy for using excessive force. The former deputy was sentenced to life in prison. The case is believed to be one of the oldest, successfully prosecuted cold cases involving a murdered law enforcement officer in the United States. The Attorney General's Special Prosecutions Section handled the case.

Making identifications



On Dec. 8, Attorney General DeWine unveiled a facial reconstruction performed at BCI to seek the public's help in identifying a woman whose skeletal remains were found in Greene County. It was the first reconstruction done combining 3-D technology and the work of a BCI forensic artist. Sheriff Gene Fischer requested BCI's assistance in identifying the woman when no leads resulted from the publication of photos of her clothing. DNA was extracted and compared to state and national databases with no matches. Using a CT scan of the skull, the artist worked with The Ohio State University to print a 3-D plastic replica. The artist created a clay reconstruction



on the replica. The forensic artist at BCI was asked to reconstruct the woman's face in hopes that someone from the public would recognize her. BCI is offering facial reconstruction as a last resort when DNA and other leads don't produce results. (The subject of the facial reconstruction was later identified as a missing Florida woman.)



Prosecuting cases

Attorneys in the Ohio Attorney General's Special Prosecutions Section can act, upon request of the appropriate local authority, as lead prosecutors in cases in which there is a conflict of interest. In addition, local prosecutors can call upon those in the section to serve as assistant prosecutors in cases. In 2016, the section opened more than 306 criminal matters at the request of prosecutors or courts in 60 Ohio counties. Of the section's 24 trials in 2016, 19 ended with guilty verdicts, four not guilty, and there was one hung jury. Here are a few Special Prosecutions Section cases of note from the past 12 months:

- In June, the last of 11 defendants who operated and led a drug-trafficking ring transporting heroin and cocaine from Columbus and distributing it in Circleville were sentenced to prison. Sixty-one others, many of whom were drug-users rather than traffickers, were also indicted and received lighter sentences because of their cooperation. They were also given assistance toward their recovery from addiction.
- In June, the last of 35 co-defendants were sentenced in a Mahoning County heroin-trafficking and money-laundering operation.
- In November, the former director of the Pickaway County Veterans' Service Commission was sentenced to three years in prison. She was found guilty of theft in office, grand theft, and unauthorized use of property after evidence showed that she made unauthorized charges with a county credit card and stole a historic World War II flag donated to the agency by a Pickaway County veteran who had been a prisoner of war. As part of her sentence, she was also ordered to pay more than \$19,200 in restitution.

Going after organized crime



Attorney General DeWine's Office oversees the Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission (OOCIC), which provides structure and support to local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies that uncover organized criminal enterprises within their jurisdictions. Some OOCIC cases of note in 2016, include:

- In March, a 42-year-old Columbus man who forced at least two women into prostitution through physical abuse and exploitation of their drug addictions was sentenced to seven years in prison. A 34-year-old woman who helped run the operation, pleaded guilty to promoting prostitution. The Columbus Division of Police conducted the investigation with the Central Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force and the OOCIC.
- In September, soon after the formation of the Mahoning Valley Human Trafficking Task Force, five suspected "johns" were arrested during a solicitation sting in Mahoning County. They responded to an online ad and were charged with misdemeanor counts of solicitation.

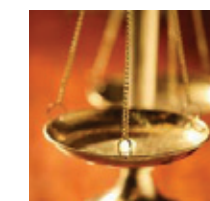


Seeking justice

On April 22, eight members of the Rhoden family were found shot to death in four homes in Pike County. Pike County Sheriff Charles Reader requested the assistance of BCI. Immediately, 10 crime scene agents and a supervisor responded to begin processing the crime scenes. BCI staff from Athens, Bowling Green, Cincinnati, Columbus, London, and Richfield converged on Pike County to offer help. Investigative work on the case continues.



A Criminal Intelligence/Missing Persons analyst at BCI reconstructs the face of a woman whose remains were found in the woods of Greene County.

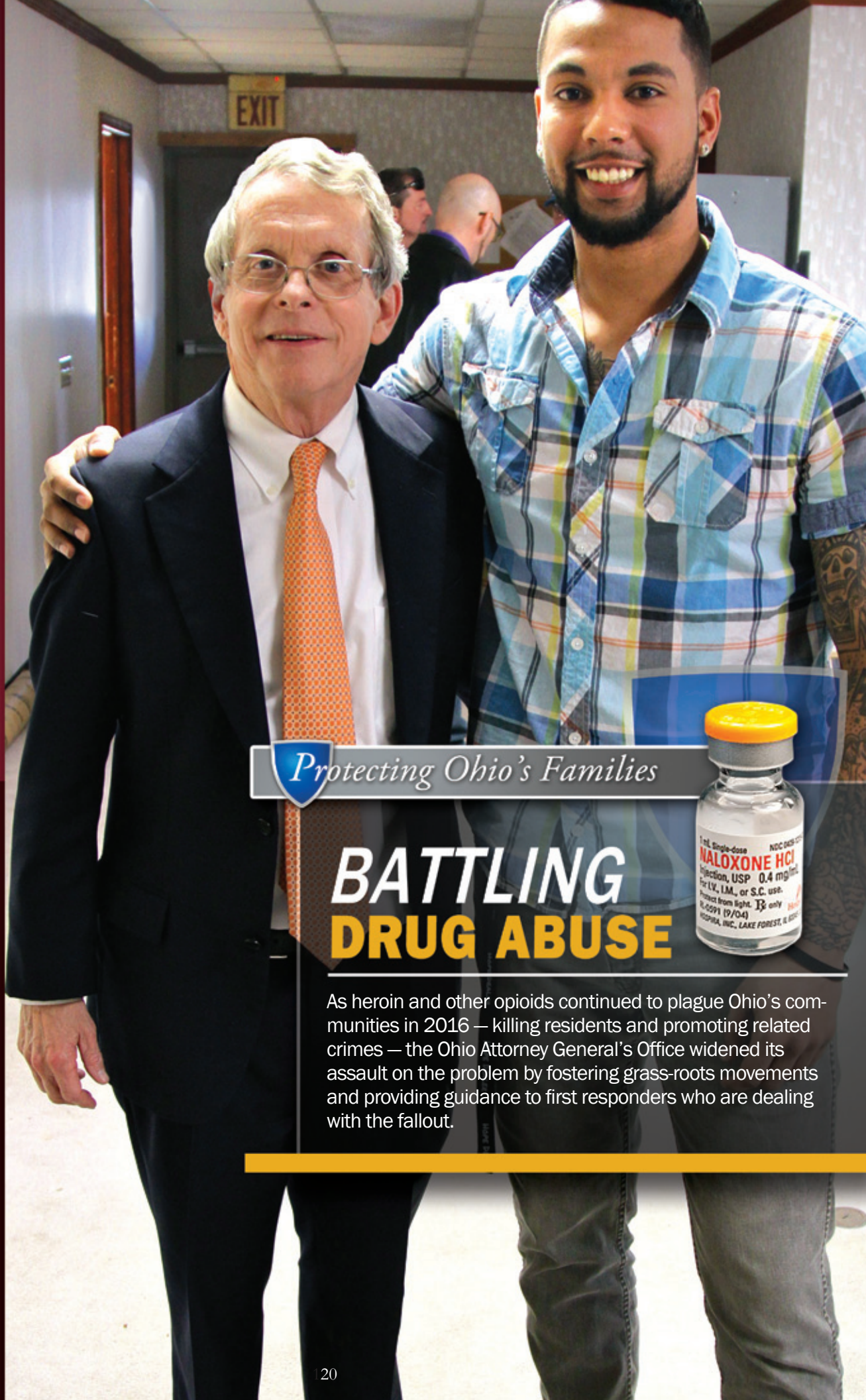


97.5%

The conviction rate (excluding one hung jury) achieved by the Ohio Attorney General's Special Prosecutions Section in 2016

The Ohio Attorney General's Office continues to work to take down drug traffickers, aid community efforts to deal with the heroin crisis, and keep law enforcement apprised of the ever-changing drug trends. In 2016, the Chemistry Unit at BCI reported 5,768 cases involving heroin and 2,396 cases involving fentanyl.

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine visits Lucas County to receive an update on the Drug Abuse Response Team (DART), which is supported, in part, by a grant from the Attorney General's Office. The team, which was created by Sheriff John Tharp, works with people who have overdosed to guide them to resources for long-term recovery.



Protecting Ohio's Families

BATTLING DRUG ABUSE



As heroin and other opioids continued to plague Ohio's communities in 2016 — killing residents and promoting related crimes — the Ohio Attorney General's Office widened its assault on the problem by fostering grass-roots movements and providing guidance to first responders who are dealing with the fallout.

Setting up disposal kiosks

In August, Attorney General DeWine, state Rep. Jeffrey Rezabek, and Walgreens executives gathered at a Walgreens pharmacy to announce that 18 medication-disposal kiosks would be set up at Walgreens throughout the state for use by Ohioans to dispose of unneeded, unwanted, or expired medications. The goal is to remove drugs that could be abused from medicine cabinets.



Targeting the drug trade

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine's Heroin Unit prosecuted 113 opiate-related criminal cases in 2016. The unit combines the skills of the Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission (OOCIC), the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI), the Special Prosecutions Section and drug abuse outreach specialists. Recent cases of note:

- In June, the last of 11 defendants who operated and led a drug-trafficking ring transporting heroin and cocaine from Columbus and distributing it in Circleville were sentenced to prison. Sixty-one others, who were less integral members of the ring, were also indicted. Where appropriate, the lesser members of the ring were given help toward recovery from addiction.
- In August, 11 people were charged in connection with a heroin and cocaine trafficking ring in Pickaway County. The arrests came after a six-month investigation by the Pickaway County Sheriff's Office, Circleville Police Department, the Attorney General's Heroin Unit, and members of BCI's Special Operations and Criminal Intelligence units.



Exploring prevention education

Attorney General DeWine, Senate President Keith Faber (R-Celina), and House Speaker Clifford Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) announced in August the formation of the Ohio Joint Study Committee on Drug Use Prevention Education. The committee is examining the status of drug-use-prevention education in Ohio schools and plans to issue recommendations on options for implementing updated, age-appropriate drug education across all grade levels.

Providing resources

The Attorney General's Office provides assistance and resources for communities dealing with drug problems. Contacts include:

- Heroin Unit: **614-644-5808** or **HeroinUnit@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov**
- Prosecution assistance: **614-629-8340**
- BCI Tip Line: **855-BCI-OHIO (855-224-6446)**
- Law enforcement training: **740-845-2696**



DID YOU KNOW? The Ohio Attorney General's Office produced a video about Cole Smoot, a New Carlisle teenager who died of an accidental overdose after taking a methadone pill he received from a friend. The video is shown throughout the state as part of the office's outreach efforts. To view Cole's Story, visit www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov and click on "Videos."

Working with law enforcement

BCI has special agents assigned regionally to assist local law enforcement with heroin-related investigations. BCI criminal intelligence analysts also gather data on cases that can be used to combat opioid abuse. Their work includes assisting in the preparation of cases for trial and naloxone mapping to pinpoint areas where the opioid overdose drug is being used, which indicates heroin hot spots.

Sharing information

The theme of the Ohio Attorney General's 2016 Law Enforcement Conference, conducted in October, was "Protecting Ohio: Fighting the Drug Epidemic." The event included the Ohio Attorney General's Opioid Response Strategies Symposium, a meeting of experts to talk about the investigation and prosecution of overdose cases and the use of community resources.



DID YOU KNOW?

The Heroin Unit's outreach team assists communities with strategy efforts to combat the drug epidemic and connect them with much needed resources. For more information, visit www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/DrugAbuse.



Encouraging grass-roots efforts

Ohio Attorney General DeWine's outreach specialists conducted community meetings and other presentations and promoted drug-awareness activities during the past 12 months including town hall meetings in Belmont, Clermont, Coshocton, Franklin, Montgomery, Pickaway, Putnam, and Richland counties; and community meetings in Adams, Allen, Ashtabula, Clark, Clinton, Fayette, Franklin, Greene, Hancock, Highland, Lawrence, Lorain, Marion, Monroe, Pike, Portage, Richland, Seneca, Summit, and Wayne counties. Other activities include:

- In January, the Attorney General called an emergency meeting attracting public safety officials from across the state to exchange ideas about dealing with the drug scourge.
- "Taking Back Our Communities" conferences were held in Beachwood, Ohio, and Huntington, Wheeling, and Williamstown, W. Va. In October, Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine, Kentucky Attorney General Andy Beshear, and West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey united to host a tri-state opiates conference.

Supporting school programs

To educate students about drug abuse and give them the tools to make smart decisions, the Attorney General's Drug Use Prevention grants provided \$3 million in funding to 162 local law enforcement agencies in 2016. The fund supports school-based programs such as Botvin LifeSkills, D.A.R.E. — Keepin' It Real, Prevention Through Alternative Learning Styles, Too Good for Drugs, Reach Out Now, and Stay on Track.



"Now, people are listening. There's a lot of collaboration going on in the community. It's great, and I hope it continues to keep happening."

— Valerie Brodbeck, the director of advocacy for Families of Addicts, in Dayton, is in long-term recovery from drug addiction.

Promoting naloxone

Naloxone is a life-saving medication that reverses the effects of an opiate overdose. Attorney General DeWine encourages first responders and others in a position to save lives to carry and administer the medication when necessary. To help with the cost and availability of naloxone, in 2016:

- The Attorney General extended an agreement with Amphastar Pharmaceuticals, the manufacturer of naloxone, saying the company will provide a \$6 rebate for each naloxone syringe purchased by a nonfederal public entity until March 2, 2017. Those interested in applying for the naloxone rebate should visit www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/NaloxoneRebate.
- Representatives from the Ohio Attorney General's Office, the Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services operated a series of phone banks to inform local agencies about the availability of naloxone.
- In February, CVS Health announced that starting in March, it would make naloxone available without a prescription at all CVS locations in Ohio. Through CVS, law enforcement agencies in Ohio can apply to receive a drug-collection unit to help communities dispose of unwanted medications.
- Attorney General DeWine reached an agreement in November with Adapt Pharma to freeze the public interest price of its naloxone nasal spray for Ohio law enforcement, first responders, state and local government agencies, and community-based organizations.
- The Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA) continued to offer free online training on the administration of naloxone. In 2016, 2,542 peace officers took the training course.



Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine watches a naloxone demonstration in Lucas County.

2016 OOCIC TASK FORCES'

NARCOTICS SEIZURES



Drug Seized	Amount Seized	Street Value
Heroin	77.7 pounds	\$3,527,580
Fentanyl	27 pounds	\$1,225,800
Cocaine	300.2 pounds	\$13,629,080
Methamphetamine	42.9 pounds	\$1,947,660
Marijuana	7,083 pounds	\$10,624,500
Opioid Pain Pills	2,638 pills	\$26,380
Other prescriptions	12,680 pills	\$63,400
Crack Cocaine	1.5 pounds	\$14,500
Miscellaneous Drug Seizures (Grabba, THC, Hash, GHB, MDMA, Synthetics)		\$2,398,011

TOTAL DRUG VALUE.....\$33,456,911

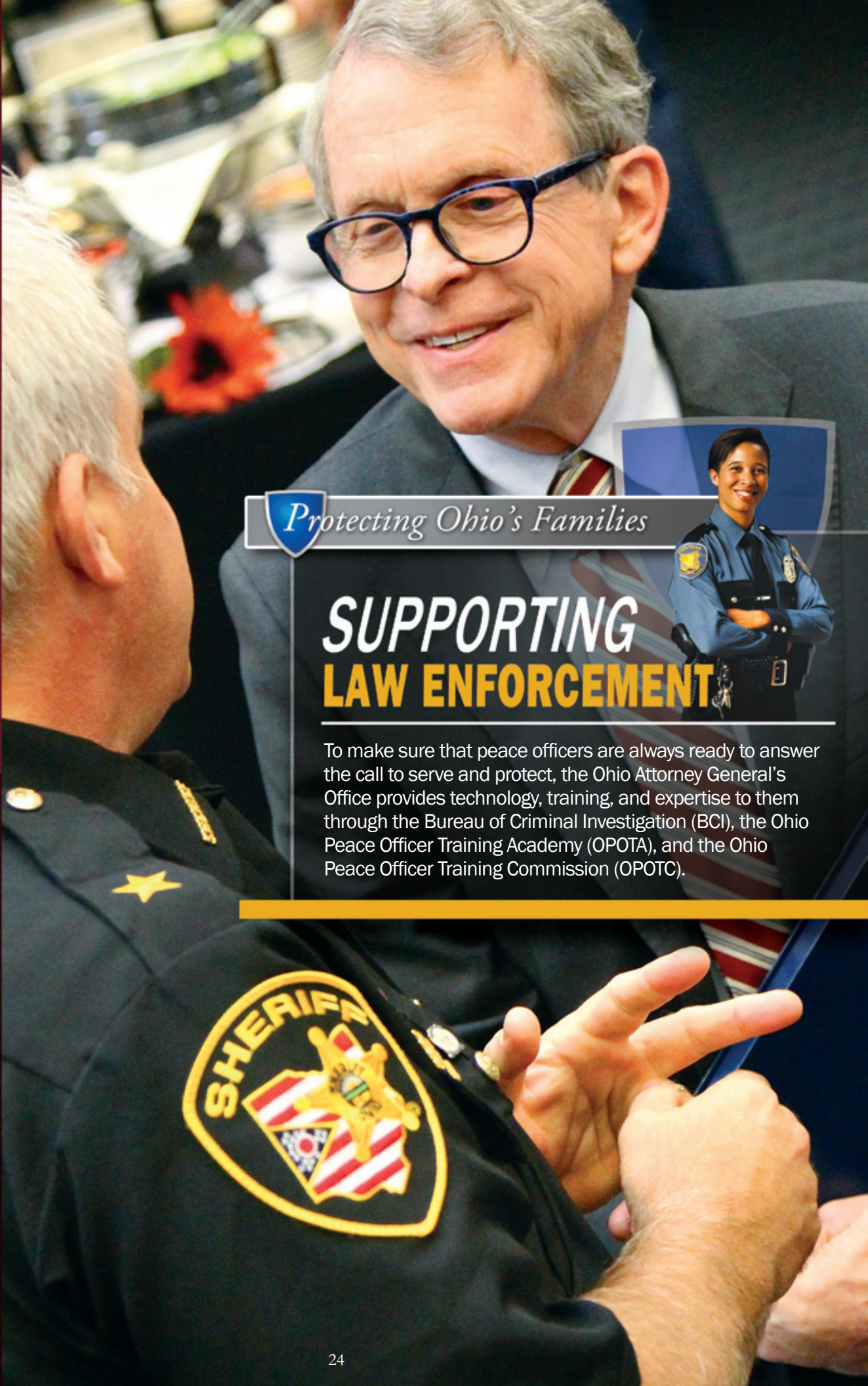
Cracking down on traffickers

The Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission (OOCIC) assists local law enforcement agencies in combating organized crime and corrupt activities. The commission is made up of members of the law enforcement community and is led by the Attorney General. In 2016, authorities working in the OOCIC task forces throughout the state seized more than \$33 million worth of drugs. A case of note in 2016:

- In February, the Central Ohio Bulk Currency and Package Interdiction Task Force made numerous arrests after an investigation resulted in the seizure of 3,600 pounds of marijuana and more than \$1.3 million in U.S. currency. BCI, the Columbus Division of Police, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Franklin County Sheriff's Office, Gahanna Division of Police, IRS, and the Ohio National Guard are all part of the task force.

The Attorney General's Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA) continues to provide excellent courses for law enforcement. In August, OPOTA received reaccreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) after undergoing the Gold Standard Assessment process.

→
Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine talks with Montgomery County Sheriff Phil Plummer after a meeting in Dayton.



Protecting Ohio's Families

SUPPORTING LAW ENFORCEMENT

To make sure that peace officers are always ready to answer the call to serve and protect, the Ohio Attorney General's Office provides technology, training, and expertise to them through the Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI), the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA), and the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC).

Examining vehicle pursuits

Troubled by the deaths that have resulted from law enforcement vehicle pursuits, Attorney General DeWine formed an advisory group in May to examine the issue and create a model policy to help guide agencies throughout the state. The advisory group included representatives from law enforcement, government, and the public. Members reviewed National Highway Traffic Safety Administration statistics, consulted the Ohio Revised Code, considered civil liability, examined pursuit policies from Ohio's law enforcement agencies, and discussed pursuit dynamics. The group's findings are contained in a 16-page special report available at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov.

Staying mobile



OPOTA's Mobile Academy provides free training at an agency's doorstep. The firearms and driving courses use state-of-the-art simulators. In 2016, the academy conducted 291 courses using the driving and judgmental use of force simulators, training more than 3,833 officers. OPOTA's portable training facilities were used to train more than 860 officers in the past year in building-clearing techniques. The 10 mobile subject-control courses trained and refreshed 369 in force-on-force skills.



Gathering to learn

OPOTA provides education for peace officers and other criminal justice professionals through the Attorney General's annual Law Enforcement Conference. The 2016 event drew 789 people to attend 30 workshops and hear from experts in public safety and criminal justice. The theme of the two-day event was "Protecting Ohio: Fighting the Drug Epidemic." The conference speakers included Chuck Rosenberg, acting administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), retired Col. Danny McKnight, commander of the 75th Ranger Regiment during the "Black Hawk Down" battle, and Gordon Graham, a risk-manage-

ment consultant. The event included the Ohio Attorney General's Opioid Response Strategies Symposium, a meeting of experts to talk about combating the state's drug problem.

Resources for law enforcement
Many services and tools for law enforcement can be found at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/Law-Enforcement.

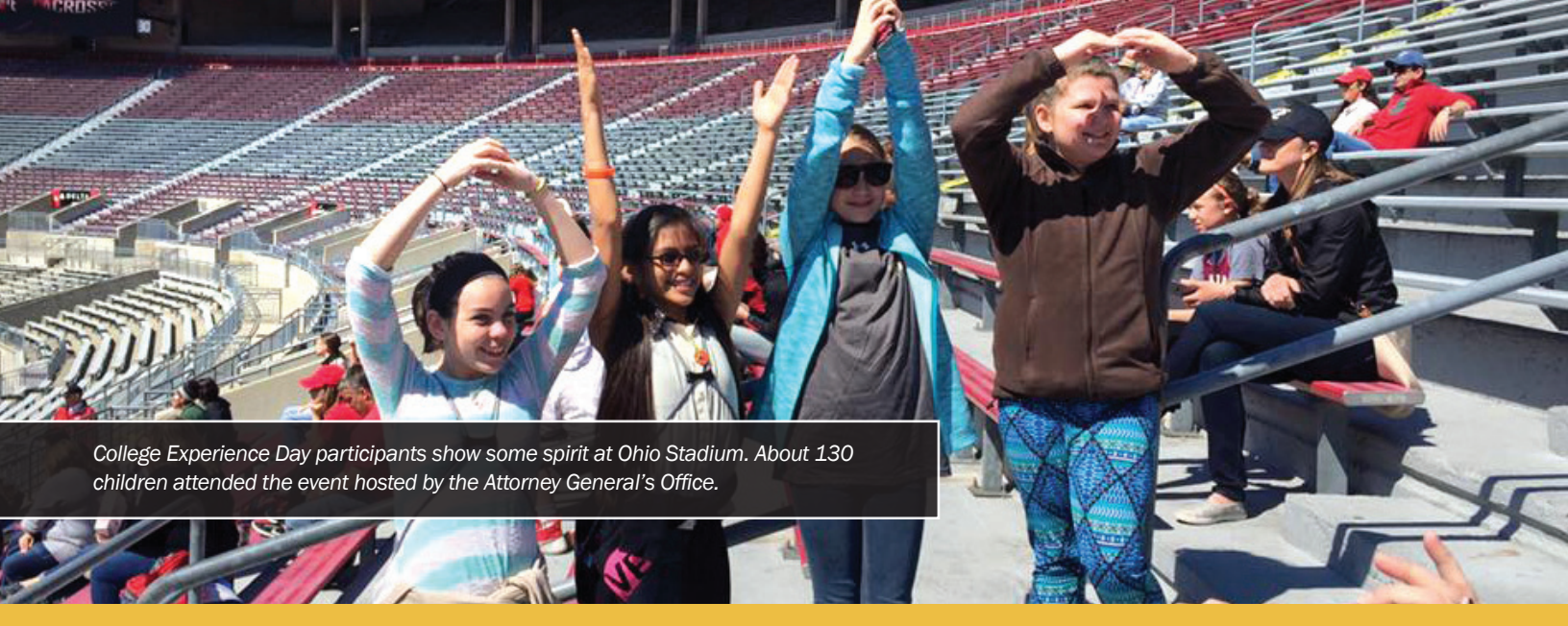
Welcoming Blue Courage



In 2016, Ohio became the first state to fully immerse its law enforcement community in the Blue Courage program. The nationally recognized program was developed to teach officers how to manage stress, increase engagement with others, and to fight cynicism. The program focuses on wellness; discretion and practical wisdom; respect; positive psychology; and the impact law enforcement has on others. During the past 12 months, 83 instructors were created along with five master trainers. In all, 36 officers have attended the OPOTA two-day course, and 272 law enforcement executives have attended the overview training.

Looking out for police

In July, OPOTA added extra training sessions related to ambush-style assaults after five law enforcement officers were killed in an attack in Dallas. Counter Ambush Tactics for Law Enforcement was offered at OPOTA's London facility and at the Summit County Sheriff's Training Facility. The course covered strategies and techniques to avoid being ambushed and to increase chances of survival during an ambush. Live-fire drills focused on surviving ambushes from close-range and far-range, and students learned how to rescue injured officers and bystanders and how to administer self-aid. Critical Survival Skills for Patrol Officers, a three-day course with exercises and scenarios to teach the tactics and skills needed to survive surprise violent attacks, was also taught.



College Experience Day participants show some spirit at Ohio Stadium. About 130 children attended the event hosted by the Attorney General's Office.

Going to bat for kids



New players joined the roster in 2016 for Ohio's Badges for Baseball program. Sponsored by the Attorney General's Office and the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation, the program pairs local law enforcement and children to help build character and teach critical life lessons through an academic leadership program and the game of baseball. The program also provides additional events for the kids, including a statewide tournament, College Experience Day, and a weeklong summer camp in Maryland. In April, about 130 children from throughout Ohio visited The Ohio State University to experience college life and sports during a daylong event hosted by the Attorney General's Office and the foundation. The annual summer camp in Baltimore hosted 40 kids and 10 mentors from Ohio. Since its inception in Ohio, the Badges for Baseball program has reached 3,290 young people ages 10 through 12 in Canton, Dayton, Hamilton, Lima, Lorain, Springfield, Youngstown, and Zanesville. Toledo is the newest member of the Ohio Badges for Baseball program. In partnership with the Lucas County Sheriff's Office, the Toledo Boys & Girls Club will officially kick off the program during the 2016-17 school year.

Issuing timely warnings

In July, the Attorney General's Criminal Intelligence Unit at BCI issued bulletins to law enforcement warning them of the dangers of field-testing drugs as carfentanil, an elephant tranquilizer, began to show up in more cases. Because drug absorption can occur through mucus membranes or broken skin, BCI recommended that any suspected heroin or fentanyl not be field tested as it could contain potent synthetic opioids.



Targeting repeat offenders

In the past year, the Attorney General continued to use his Safe Neighborhoods Initiative to help communities address violence caused by repeat offenders. The initiative assists local authorities in identifying individuals responsible for the most crime in their community. Then, "call-in" meetings are held with those individuals as part of their probation or parole. The communities included are Akron, Ashtabula, Euclid, Fostoria, Hamilton, Lima, Sandusky, Steubenville, and Warren. At each meeting, offenders meet with law enforcement, religious leaders and medical professionals who outline the consequences of continued acts of violence. The attendees are also given the opportunity to take part in job training, alcohol and drug rehabilitation, and other social services to assist them in leaving the cycle of crime. In 2016, 11 group intervention sessions were provided to individuals at risk of committing gun violence.

Boosting accessibility

OPOTA offers courses in various formats and locations to meet the diverse training needs of law enforcement. Through regional courses, OPOTA conducted 217 trainings with a total enrollment of 4,929 officers in 2016. The academy also provided 105 courses online through its free eOPOTA lineup, with about 21,194 law enforcement officers and others completing 126,754 course sessions. OPOTA also offers a wide range of courses at its facilities, which include a campus in Richfield and a main campus and Tactical Training Center in London. In 2016, the 978 classes offered in London drew an enrollment of 5,793 students, while Richfield's 251 classes drew 4,048 students. In January, OPOTA began using a webcast live streaming service for courses. The webcast provides a user-friendly, interactive platform that enables OPOTA to present Web-based courses to up to 3,000 students at a time. The service provides a training platform that is economical for agency budgets while still incorporating participation through personal interaction with a live instructor. In 2016, 27 live courses were also provided via Webcast, training 16,814 individuals.



To learn more

Law enforcement can arrange for on-site firearms, driving, and subject-control courses. Send an email to AskOPOTA@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov.

Improving training

In 2014, Attorney General DeWine asked an outside group to review the state's system for peace officer training. He appointed an advisory group of 16 people with diverse personal and professional backgrounds to look at how Ohio trains its law enforcement officers and to make suggestions for improvement. In April 2015, the Advisory Group on Law Enforcement Training completed its report. Since then, the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC) has been working to fulfill the recommendations. So far, 23 of the recommendations have been completed, and two more are in progress.

Increasing CPT hours

In September, the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC) set new peace officer and trooper Continuing Professional Training (CPT) reimbursement requirements for 2017. The critical subject CPT requirements follow recommendations made by the Attorney General's Advisory Group on Law Enforcement Training. Peace officers and troopers are required to complete 20 hours of CPT, the most ever required in a single year and up from 11 hours. To be eligible for reimbursement, the CPT must include the critical subjects of:

- Trauma-Informed Policing (6 hours), which will include how to effectively engage those suffering from mental illness, post-traumatic stress disorder, and substance-abuse disorders.
- Practical Application of Force (4 hours), which will use scenario-based exercises to sharpen decision-making skills regarding use of force.
- Officer and Community Wellness (4 hours), which will focus on self-awareness and strengthening the legitimacy of law enforcement in communities.
- Legal Update (2 hours), which will provide an update on changes to Ohio law.
- A choice of general law enforcement topics (4 hours).

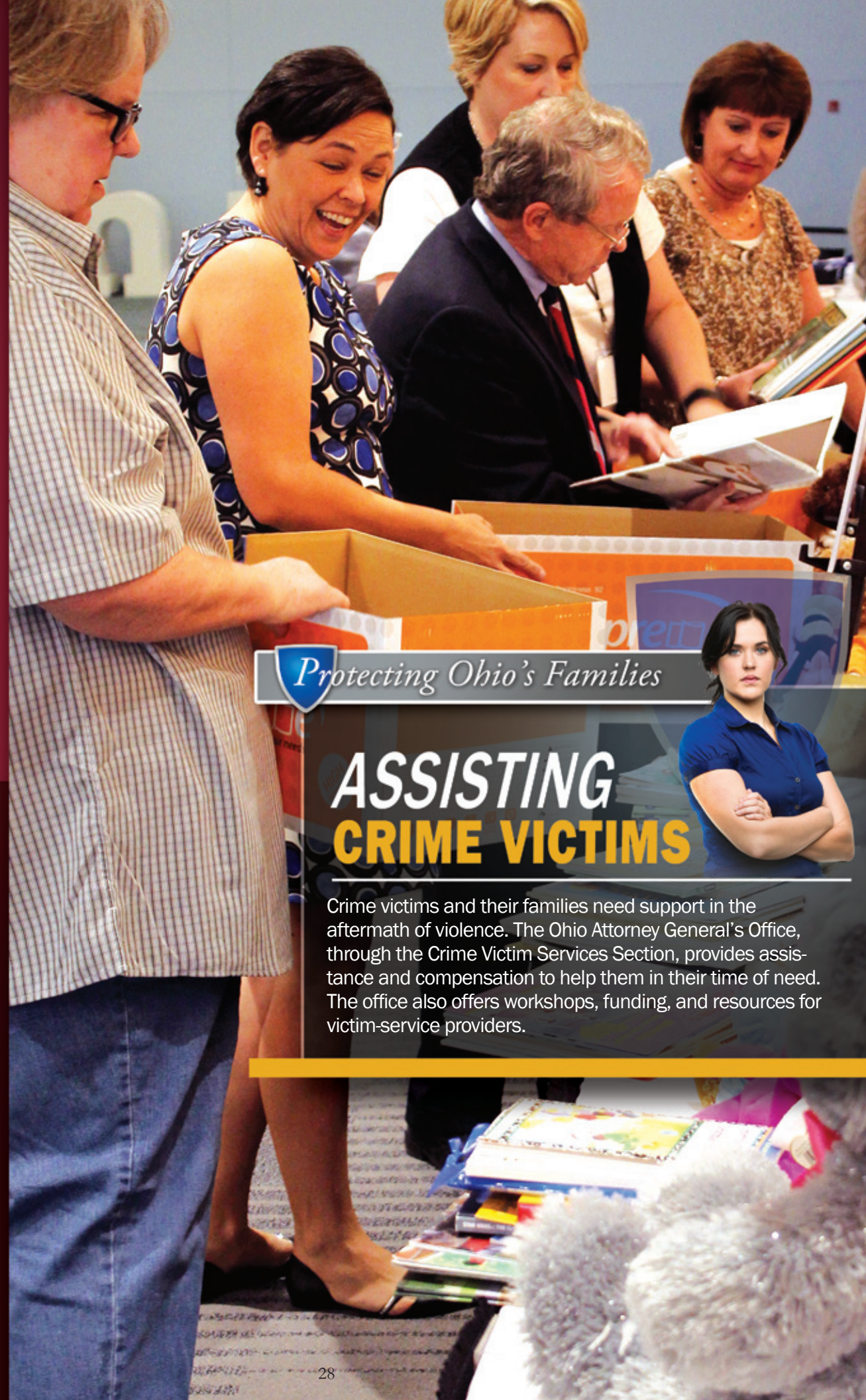


The number of searches conducted by the 27,000 users of the Ohio Law Enforcement Gateway (OHLEG) in 2016.

In 2016, the Attorney General's Two Days in May Conference on Victim Assistance celebrated its 25th anniversary and attracted 1,200 victim advocates to Columbus from throughout the state for presentations and workshops focusing on the theme "Advocacy Through the Years: Past, Present & Future."



Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine and other volunteers pack comfort items for abused children who seek services from the Ohio Network of Children's Advocacy Centers. The items were donated by attendees of the Attorney General's Two Days in May Conference on Victim Assistance and area businesses.



Protecting Ohio's Families
ASSISTING CRIME VICTIMS

Crime victims and their families need support in the aftermath of violence. The Ohio Attorney General's Office, through the Crime Victim Services Section, provides assistance and compensation to help them in their time of need. The office also offers workshops, funding, and resources for victim-service providers.

Providing support

The Attorney General's Office awarded 325 Ohio crime victim services agencies with \$82.9 million in grants in 2016. Domestic violence shelters; human-trafficking outreach centers; aged-out foster youth initiatives; sexual-, elder-, and child-abuse programs; legal-aid initiatives; and court-appointed special advocate programs received the money. The grants are from the federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) fund and/or the State Victims Assistance Act (SVAA). Among the recipients:

- In October, Attorney General DeWine awarded \$79.5 million in VOCA grants to crime victim service providers as part of the "Ohio Attorney General's Expanding Services and Empowering Victims Initiative." As part of separate grant funding announced the same day, the Attorney General's Office awarded 195 crime victim service agencies with \$3.4 million in grants from the SVAA.



Establishing a hotline

The Attorney General's Office started a statewide sexual violence helpline in April operated by OhioHealth's Sexual Assault Response Network of Central Ohio (SARNCO). The helpline, **844-OHIO-HELP (844-644-6435)**, is for survivors of sexual and relationship violence. The 24/7 phone center is being paid for with a \$1.2 million grant provided by the Attorney General's Office.



Helping colleges respond to sexual assaults

In 2016, the Ohio Attorney General's Office continued to work with Ohio's colleges and universities as they improve their response to sexual assaults. The Attorney General's Education Section participated in February in a panel discussion at the Campus Sexual Assault Summit, made a presentation, "Campus Sexual Assault: Advocacy and Legal Implications," at the Two Days in May Conference, presented a Title IX investigation and adjudication seminar in June at Kent State University, and participated in panel discussions at three regional response trainings on building relationships with law enforcement and creating campus and community memorandums of understanding.

Offering training

The Crime Victim Services Section provides training and helps develop policies to serve crime victims. In 2016, the section trained 2,876 criminal justice professionals, advocates, and community members on victim-related issues.



"This work is life-changing. If you have a passion for the work, then everything else will come."

— Nancy Grigsby, legal assistance program director at the Ohio Domestic Violence Network and recipient of the 2016 Robert Denton Special Achievement Award



DID YOU KNOW?

The Sexual Assault Services Expansion Program, established in 2013 by the Attorney General to fill gaps in Ohio's sexual assault response capabilities, continues to make progress. When the program started, only 36 counties offered direct, comprehensive services for sexual assault survivors and eight had few or no services. Today, 80 counties report providing all core services. In 2016, the office awarded almost \$530,000 in grants to expand services in counties without core services.



Among other outreach events in 2016, the Ohio Attorney General's Elder Justice Initiative conducted free Elder Financial Exploitation Symposiums in Dayton and Richfield. The events addressed the warning signs of elder financial exploitation, examined legal interventions, and discussed tools to assist victims.



At a meeting of the Rotary Club of Dayton, Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine wraps up a speech about protecting Ohio's families.

Protecting Ohio's Families

PROTECTING SENIORS



The Elder Justice Initiative is a collaborative effort among several sections of the Attorney General's Office and BCI. The team helps communities with elder abuse-related investigations, forensic analyses, case presentations and prosecutions, and training and technical assistance.



Providing training

The Elder Justice Initiative impacted over 2,000 professionals at trainings the Ohio Attorney General's Office either hosted, or during which Elder Justice personnel made presentations, during the past year. Also in 2016, the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy offered Elder Abuse — It Is Not a Civil Matter for investigators. Among other presentation highlights:

- A Community Forum on Elder Abuse and Domestic Violence in Later Life presented in October by the Elder Justice Initiative and the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging
- Presentations at the conferences of the National Adult Protective Services Association and the Illinois Department on Aging.



Supporting free legal help

To mark Elder Abuse Awareness Day, in June, the Attorney General announced a \$738,000 grant to support a statewide project of Pro Seniors and Ohio's legal aids to provide free legal assistance to older Ohioans. The funding supports a legal hotline and directs civil legal guidance and assistance to Ohioans age 60 and older. Pro Seniors, as the lead organization and coordinator, receives referrals from the Ohio Attorney General's Office. In partnership with Ohio's legal aids, they provide legal assistance to seniors, their family members, and individuals.

Investigating cases

Attorney General DeWine established the Elder Justice Initiative to increase the investigation and prosecution of elder abuse cases and improve victims' access to services in Ohio. Among the cases in 2016:

- In August, the son and ex-daughter-in-law of a professional golfer were sentenced to 2½ years in prison for stealing from his estate. The pair pleaded guilty to taking \$315,000 from the estate of the elderly man, who died in February at age 92. The investigation was conducted as part of Attorney General DeWine's Elder Justice Initiative by BCI agents, with assistance from Cuyahoga County Adult Protective Services, the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Office, and the IRS.
- In November, a McArthur man was sentenced to four years in prison for stealing more than \$2 million in timber from property owned by an elderly Grove City resident. The logger was also ordered to pay restitution. He removed the trees from the victim's property and sold the timber to sawmills. Attorneys from the Attorney General's Special Prosecution Section prosecuted the case.

To learn more about elder abuse or the Ohio Attorney General's Elder Justice Initiative, call **614-728-8461** or visit **www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/ElderAbuse**.

DID YOU KNOW?

Since its inception, the Elder Justice Initiative has assisted more than 900 older Ohioans and their family members to better understand and address elder abuse and exploitation.



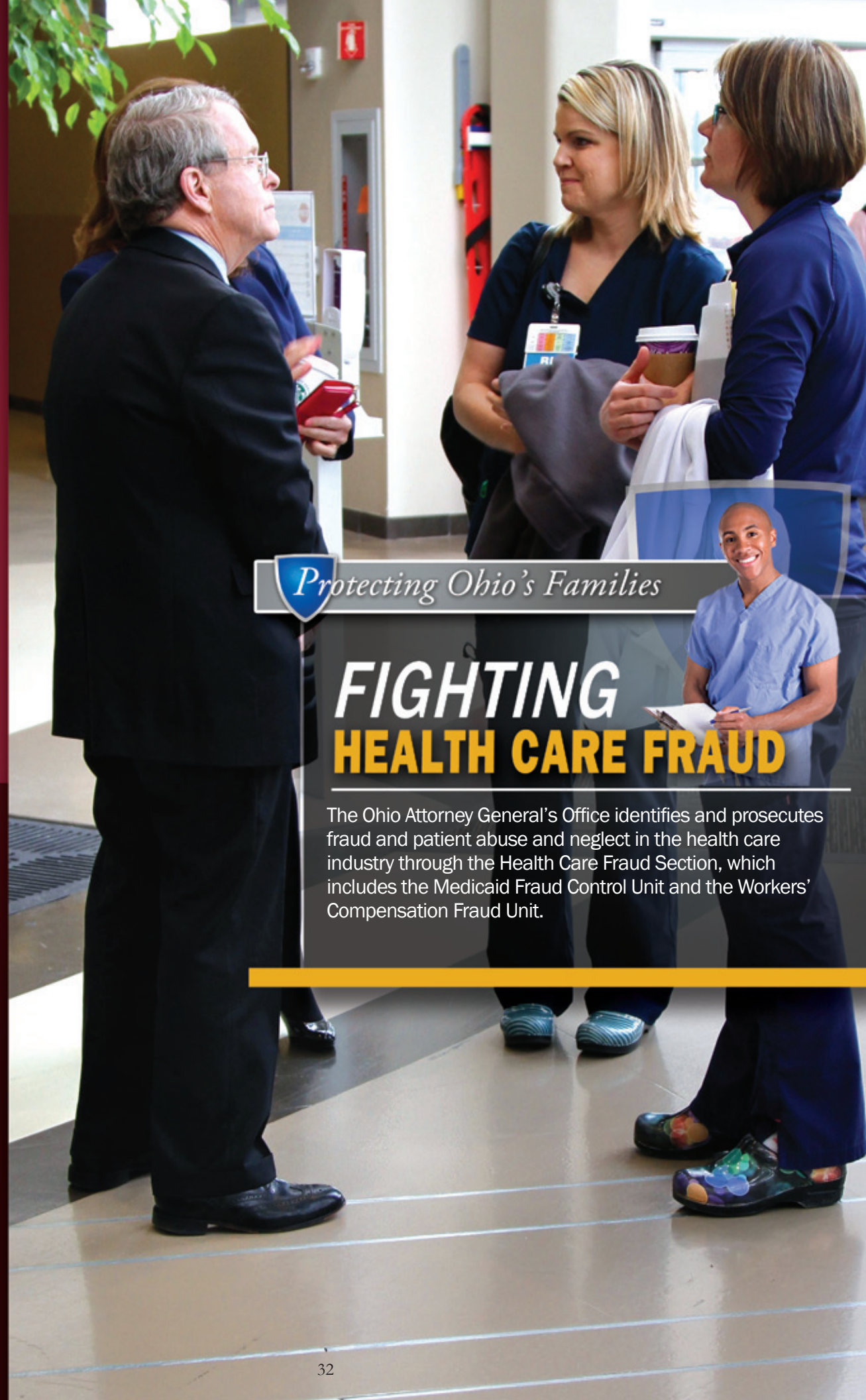
DID YOU KNOW?

The Ohio Attorney General's Elder Abuse Commission raises awareness, advances research, and improves policies related to elder abuse.



The Ohio Attorney General's Office protects long-term care facility residents through its Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, which for the past three years has ranked at the top nationally for indictments and convictions. Staff members investigate allegations of patient abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation, and prosecute those responsible.

→
Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine talks to medical professionals at Ohio-Health Dublin Methodist Hospital.



Protecting Ohio's Families

FIGHTING HEALTH CARE FRAUD

The Ohio Attorney General's Office identifies and prosecutes fraud and patient abuse and neglect in the health care industry through the Health Care Fraud Section, which includes the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit and the Workers' Compensation Fraud Unit.

Protecting patients



The Medicaid Fraud Control Unit posted 137 indictments and 134 convictions and recovered more than \$55.2 million in Medicaid fraud, patient

abuse and neglect, and care facility misappropriation cases in 2016. Among the Medicaid fraud cases of note in 2016:

- In August, the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit played a pivotal role in the investigation and conviction of the owner of a clinic for special needs children in Cleveland who was found guilty of submitting false claims to the Department of Medicaid. The defendant submitted

claims for medical laboratory testing and speech therapy services that were never provided to 32 children with learning disabilities. She was sentenced to 120 days in jail and ordered to pay more than \$120,000 in restitution to the Ohio Department of Medicaid.

- In September, a Cleveland dentist was sentenced to a year in prison and ordered to pay more than \$340,000 in restitution for billing Medicaid for filling teeth for patients who never had the work done.
- In May, a Greene County doctor was sentenced to 20 months in prison after pleading guilty to charges of Medicaid fraud, drug trafficking, and permitting drug abuse. He ran a "pill mill" at his office and knowingly deviated from accepted prescribing rules and regulations.



Looking out for workers, taxpayers

The Workers' Compensation Fraud Unit is responsible for prosecuting employers, providers, and claimants who defraud the Ohio Workers' Compensation Program. That unit posted 83 indictments and 71 convictions and recovered more than \$1.2 million in workers' compensation fraud cases in 2016. A case of note:

- A Franklin County woman was placed on probation and ordered to repay more than \$51,000 to the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) for collecting benefits after she returned to work.

Educating others

The Medicaid Fraud Control Unit offers presentations and workshops for health care providers, law enforcement agencies, Medicaid advocates and others. In the past year, the unit made 63 such outreach and training presentations.



DID YOU KNOW?
The Medicaid Fraud Control Unit's staff includes special agents, analysts, nurses, and attorneys who investigate and prosecute cases.

Fighting corruption

The Ohio Attorney General's Health Care Fraud Section helps ensure Medicaid and Workers' Compensation dollars go to heal the ill and injured rather than pad the pockets of others. In 2016, the section was responsible for 220 indictments and 205 convictions. It also recovered \$56.5 million in settlements for Ohio.

To report fraud and abuse

To report possible Medicaid fraud or patient abuse in a care facility, call **800-282-0515** or visit www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/ReportMedicaidFraud or www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/ReportPatientAbuse.

The Ohio Attorney General's Office protects the interests of Ohio citizens at all levels of the legal system.

At the Statehouse, Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine announces the formation of a study committee to examine drug use prevention education in Ohio schools and recommend strategies to implement such education in all grade levels across the state.



Protecting Ohio's Families

REPRESENTING OHIO

The Ohio Attorney General's Office represents the state and its many agencies, offices, boards, and commissions in a variety of legal matters. This effort ranges from cases in county common pleas courts to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Preparing for public service



The Attorney General's Public Service Mock Trial Competition offers students insight into a public sector legal career. In November, students took part in the two-day competition, pre-

senting a mock employment-discrimination lawsuit. Each team was coached by litigators from the Attorney General's Office and other public service offices. The winning team was from The Ohio State University's Moritz College of Law.

Maintaining teacher standards

The Attorney General's Education Section handles litigation for the Ohio Department of Education and the State Board of Education. The section works to revoke or suspend the licenses of educators whose actions fail to meet professional obligations. Additionally, the section provides legal counsel to Ohio's universities and colleges.

At the close of 2016, the section was handling 107 administrative cases, 124 court cases and 69 cases before the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, or U.S. Department of Education.



Standing up for taxpayers

The Attorney General's Court of Claims Defense Section represents the state in the Ohio Court of Claims, Tenth District Court of Appeals, and Ohio Supreme Court. In 2016, the section worked on important cases including:

- A case in which St. Marys City School District Board of Education in Auglaize County and the Ohio School Facilities Commission filed suit against a construction company after the exterior of a new school building began to stain. After mediation, the trial team was able to achieve a \$950,000 settlement on behalf of the plaintiffs.



DID YOU KNOW?

The Attorney General's Public Utilities Section represents the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio and the Ohio Power Siting Board. The section successfully litigated 85 percent of cases in 2016, placing unsafe drivers and unfit commercial motor vehicles out of service and improving public safety on Ohio's highways while collecting civil forfeitures totaling tens of thousands of dollars for safety-related violations.

Collecting debts



The Ohio Attorney General's Office is the agency that is required to collect debt for state government and public colleges and universities. The Attorney General's Office also has agreements

with more than 130 political subdivisions in Ohio to do their debt collection as well. The work of the Attorney General's Office to collect debts owed to Ohio government agencies resulted in the recovery of more than \$452 million in fiscal year 2016.

Providing opinions

The Attorney General provides legal opinions upon request to public officials and government agencies. In 2016, he offered 39 opinions on topics, including:

- An opinion issued to the Hamilton County prosecutor advised that a city may not enact an ordinance prescribing the payment of an hourly minimum wage by employers within the city that exceeds the statewide minimum hourly wage enacted by the General Assembly.
- An opinion issued to the Auditor of State confirmed the agency's authority to audit private, nonprofit foundations that are affiliated with state-supported colleges or universities.



A view of the Statehouse featuring a display of Ohio flags

Representing state boards

The Attorney General's Executive Agencies Section provides counsel to more than 80 state boards and departments. In 2016, the section successfully represented these clients in various administrative, state, and federal court proceedings. The section opened 1,093 matters, of which 631 were administrative-related, and closed 1,082 of them. The section includes the Tobacco Enforcement Unit, the Workers' Compensation Defense Unit and the Business Counsel Unit. During the past 12 months, the Workers' Compensation Defense Unit addressed 749 Industrial Commission hearings and appeals. The Business Counsel Unit reviewed and approved 2,352 contracts. In 2016:

- Attorneys in the section won a case that resulted in a license revocation for an investment adviser that preyed on elderly clients. The adviser had placed his elderly clients in investments involving risky financial instruments, and they lost hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Guarding workers' interests



The Attorney General's Workers' Compensation Section provides legal counsel and advice to the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation and the Industrial Commission of Ohio. Typically, the cases center on whether the claimant is entitled to participate in the workers' compensation fund for an injury or occupational disease. A case of note in 2016:

- In a case before the Ohio Supreme Court, *State ex rel. Aaron's, Inc. v. Bur. of Workers' Comp.*, Slip Opinion No. 2016-Ohio-5011, the Workers' Compensation Section successfully argued that the employer had misclassified employees. The misclassification led to an underpayment of workers' compensation premiums. As a result of the court's decision, the employer must pay more than \$1.6 million in back workers' compensation premiums.



Advancing highway improvement

The Attorney General's Transportation Section represents the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) in all litigation in state and federal trial and appellate courts in Ohio, except for the Ohio Court of Claims. Most of the cases involve the acquisition of real estate through eminent domain for highway construction or improvement projects. Of note in 2016:

- The section assisted ODOT with the acquisition of the rights of way for several highway construction projects, including the Opportunity Corridor in Cleveland, the North Side Fix in Columbus, and the Portsmouth Bypass in southern Ohio, allowing those construction projects to proceed on schedule. The section also provided legal advice and assistance to ODOT on numerous smaller road-widening/resurfacing and bridge-replacement projects, to provide infrastructure improvements to Ohio's highways. The section also represented ODOT in environmental litigation, contracting and bid-dispute cases, and administrative licensing hearings, protecting the interests of Ohio taxpayers.

Protecting clients, saving money

The Attorney General's Employment Law Section provides legal advice and representation regarding an array of employment matters to state departments, agencies, bureaus, commissions, elected officials, and public colleges and universities. In 2016, the section prevailed in numerous cases brought against clients in federal courts, state courts, and administrative boards. The legal services provided by the section save state resources by protecting the treasury against unsupported legal claims and reduce legal fees by avoiding the use of outside counsel. In one 2016 case of note:

- The Attorney General's Office successfully defended the governor's office and the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction in an emergency action brought by a labor union attempting to halt the sale of cows and farm equipment. The union's lawsuit was in reaction to the Kasich administration's decision to phase out farming operations at Ohio's prisons and to reinvest the proceeds and budget allocation to increased security forces and rehabilitation programming. The section succeeded in getting the lawsuit dismissed and the client was able to move forward with its operational decision.



The Appeals Section of the Ohio Attorney General's Office was awarded a Best Brief Award from the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG) for its work on *Sheriff v. Gillie*.



Safeguarding natural resources

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine’s Environmental Enforcement Section investigates and prosecutes those who violate environmental laws, and it represents state agencies that safeguard Ohio’s natural resources. In 2016, the Attorney General’s Office filed dozens of enforcement cases in state and federal courts. These cases included enforcing laws protecting Ohio’s air and water and regulations guiding the proper disposal of waste. The section obtained judgments requiring the payment of more than \$6.7 million in fines, penalties, or restitution for environmental violations, and collected more than \$2.4 million from previously ordered fines and penalties. Among cases of note in 2016, the section:

- Sued the owner of an abandoned solid waste and construction and demolition debris landfill in Jefferson County to allow the state to enter the property to complete scrap tire removal of about 1.5 million tires.
- Filed emergency lawsuits to force two different mobile home park owners in Montgomery County to provide safe, clean drinking water to residents dependent on tap water controlled by the owners.

Promoting a fair marketplace

The Ohio Attorney General’s Antitrust Section promotes competition in the marketplace by enforcing state and federal anti-trust laws. The section also provides free assistance to public entities in Ohio to detect possible anti-competitive activity. Ohio public entities can sign up for the Attorney General’s Partnership for Competitive Purchasing to take advantage of this assistance. A case of note in 2016:

- In response to a case brought by Attorney General DeWine and 32 other states and territories accusing Apple of conspiring with top U.S. publishers to artificially raise the price of e-books between 2010 and 2012, Apple began in June 2016 paying eligible consumers a \$400 million consumer compensation distribution.

Enforcing civil rights laws

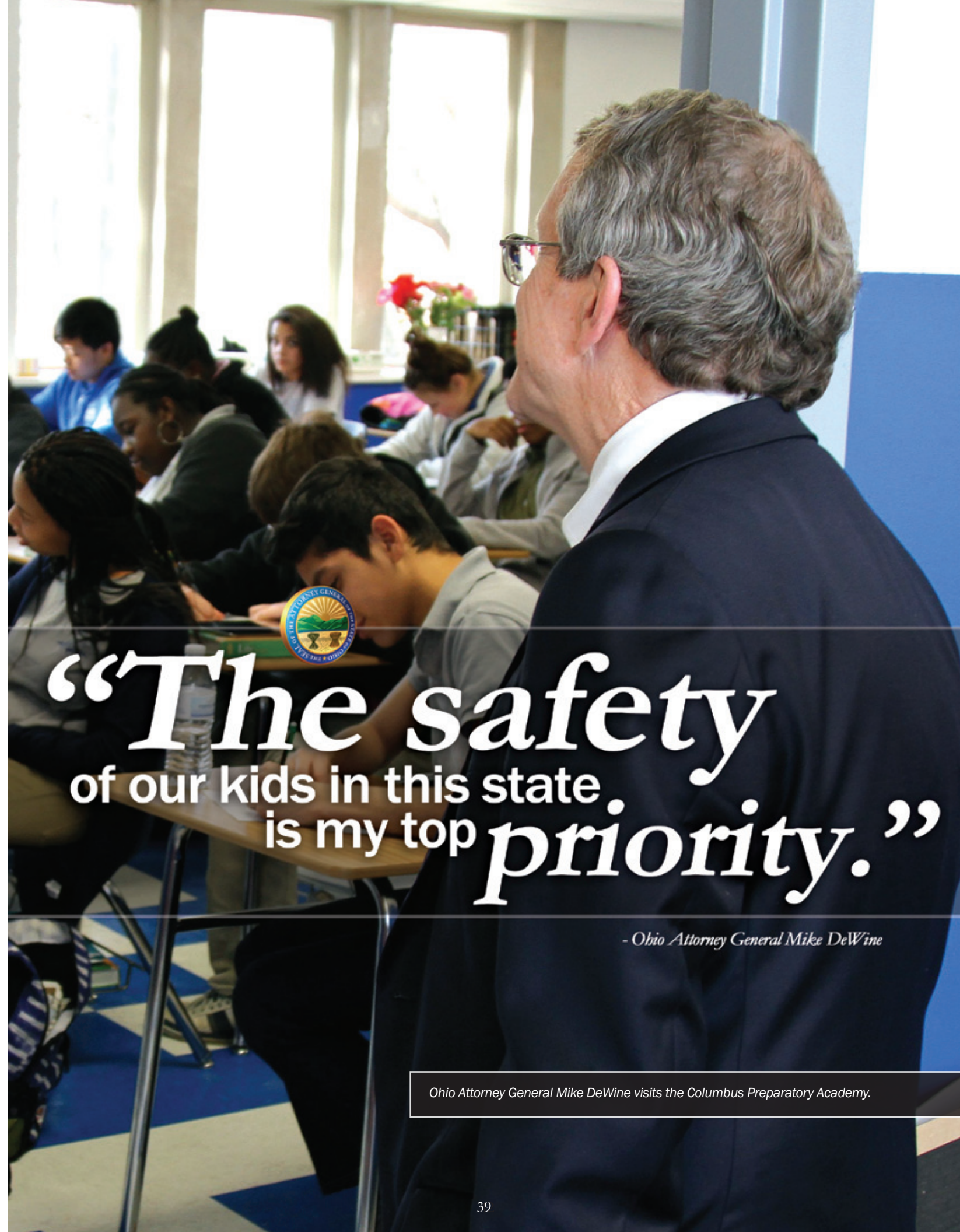
The Civil Rights Section of the Attorney General’s Office represents the Ohio Civil Rights Commission and prosecutes cases on the commission’s behalf. The section also conducts free training for employers, human resources professionals, landlords, condominium associations, and small businesses throughout Ohio to promote compliance with fair employment and fair housing laws. In 2016, assistant attorneys general with the Civil Rights Section conducted 43 free, fair housing and fair employment trainings, reaching more than 1,577 small-business landlords, employers, supervisors, and others. The trainings also allowed attorneys and real estate professionals to earn continuing education credits. The section obtained \$125,272 in damages for victims of discrimination. A 2016 case of note:

- The section enforced Ohio’s fair employment laws in the case of an employer who retaliated against an employee who complained of being sexually harassed. The supervisor fired the employee after her complaint, accusing her of poor work performance. However, other employees who were accused of the same infraction were only mildly disciplined. The commission’s judge determined that the supervisor fired the employee in retaliation for reporting the sexual harassment. On judicial review, the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas affirmed the ruling and awarded the employee more than \$62,000 in back pay.



Additional resources

For more information about civil rights laws or issues, visit www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/CivilRights.



“The safety of our kids in this state is my top priority.”

- Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine visits the Columbus Preparatory Academy.

Year in review

2016



Jan. 21:

In order to discuss the innovative methods being used to fight the heroin epidemic, Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine calls an emergency meeting of law enforcement and public safety officials.



April 8:

The Attorney General's Office and OhioHealth's Sexual Assault Response Network of Central Ohio (SARNCO) start a statewide sexual violence helpline, **844-OHIO-HELP** (844-644-6435).



May 23-24:

The Attorney General's 2016 Two Days in May Conference on Victim Assistance celebrates its 25th anniversary and attracts 1,200 victim advocates to Columbus from throughout the state for presentations and workshops focusing on the theme "Advocacy Through the Years: Past, Present & Future."



June 3:

The Ohio Attorney General's Office unveils the "Ohio Protects" campaign, a multimedia initiative to raise awareness about scams, fraud, and identity theft.



July 14:

Attorney General DeWine and Battelle President and CEO Jeffrey Wadsworth announce that their agencies are working together on Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) DNA technology.



Aug. 19:

BCI and the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA) receive re-accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). The BCI crime laboratories also achieve a renewal of the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB) International accreditation.



Sept. 29:

The advisory board of CyberOhio, a collection of cybersecurity initiatives aimed at helping Ohio businesses fight data security threats, is convened by Attorney General DeWine.



Oct. 4-5:

The Ohio Attorney General's Law Enforcement Conference draws 789 people to attend 30 workshops and hear from experts in public safety and criminal justice. The theme of the two-day event is "Protecting Ohio: Fighting the Drug Epidemic."



Nov. 16:

DNA testing has been conducted on all of the nearly 5,000 sexual assault kits submitted by law enforcement in Cuyahoga County as part of Attorney General DeWine's Sexual Assault Kit Testing Initiative.



Dec. 5:

The Attorney General talks about the first-time use of familial DNA on an Ohio case. BCI used the procedure to help identify a suspected serial predator.

FOR ASSISTANCE

The Ohio Attorney General's most frequently requested services:

Reach our Help Center

800-282-0515
www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/Contact

File a consumer complaint

800-282-0515
www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/FileAComplaint

Submit a law enforcement tip

855-BCI-OHIO (855-224-6446)
www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/LETips

Report a scam

800-282-0515
www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/ReportAScam

Pay a debt to the state

877-607-6400
www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/PayOnline



Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine

ANNUAL REPORT
2016

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★ OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL ★

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