



## Ohio Attorney General's Office

# Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission and Academy









FISCAL 2011 Annual Report





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Dear Law Enforcement Colleagues and Fellow Ohioans,

The Ohio Peace Office Training Academy and Commission play a vital role in protecting Ohio families by ensuring that law enforcement agencies are well prepared for their work in communities across the state.

These two entities within the Ohio Attorney General's Office made significant gains during fiscal 2011, the period covered by this report. Among other accomplishments, the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA) earned Flagship Agency status from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement, an internationally recognized credentialing body.

In response to feedback from local law enforcement, the academy reached out to better serve agencies by making trainings even more convenient for time-strapped and budget-conscious departments across Ohio. OPOTA nearly doubled its free regional courses and worked toward making training available within an hour's drive of every Ohio law enforcement agency. The academy also increased the number of free courses available online through eOPOTA.

Meanwhile, the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC) and its staff began a comprehensive update of the state's basic peace officer training curriculum. This effort will make sure the substance of the training reflects best practices in law enforcement because it directly affects the safety of families and the lives of officers. To ensure the finished product also meets local agencies' needs, the commission surveyed more than 3,300 officers around the state and is working to incorporate their suggestions. These are just a few examples of how we are listening to our local law enforcement partners and tailoring our efforts to meet their needs.

This annual report details our work to provide the best possible training and resources to Ohio's law enforcement community. I welcome your feedback, and I encourage you to share your suggestions with Robert Fiatal, executive director of the commission and academy, at 740-845-2700 or Robert.Fiatal@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov.

Very respectfully yours,

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Mike DeWine

Ohio Attorney General

#### **Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission Overview**

The Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission advises the Attorney General and provides direction to the executive director on training, eligibility, and service standards for Ohio law enforcement and other public safety professionals. The commission's ultimate goal is to ensure the highest level of safety for the citizens of Ohio.

OPOTC has worked to improve the professional capabilities of Ohio's law enforcement and public safety professionals since 1965. With the assistance of 65 dedicated employees and the executive director, the commission's nine members play a pivotal role in helping the Ohio Attorney General shape training and compliance standards for more than 33,000 peace officers and their 978 respective agencies.

The commission also is responsible for academic policies and professional standards for tens of thousands of corrections officers, bailiffs, jailers, private security officers, adult parole officers, probation officers, humane agents, public defender investigators, and law enforcement canine units.

Commission members are appointed by the governor and approved by the Ohio Senate. The Ohio Attorney General provides administrative oversight for the commission.

To fulfill its statutory responsibility and improve law enforcement training in Ohio, the commission's role is to recommend:

- Rules for approving peace officer, private security, humane agent, jailer, corrections, public defender investigator, bailiff, canine, and firearms training and certification
- The curriculum, minimum attendance, equipment, and facility requirements necessary for approval of training programs
- Minimum qualifications required for instructors at approved training sites
- Categories or classifications of advanced in-service training programs for peace officers
- Minimum requirements for the certification of canine units utilized by law enforcement agencies

The commission also is authorized to:

- Recommend studies, surveys, and reports designed to evaluate its own effectiveness
- Visit and inspect Ohio peace officer training schools
- Establish fees for commission services
- Make recommendations to the Attorney General or General Assembly on the commission's statutory responsibilities

#### **Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission Members**

Sheriff Vernon Stanforth, OPOTC chair Fayette County Sheriff's Office Washington Court House, Ohio

Special Agent in Charge Stephen Anthony Federal Bureau of Investigation Cleveland, Ohio

Chief Paul Denton Ohio State University Police Department Columbus, Ohio

Col. John Born Ohio State Highway Patrol Columbus, Ohio

Stephen Schumaker Ohio Attorney General's Office Columbus, Ohio

Sheriff Thomas Maurer Wayne County Sheriff's Office Wooster, Ohio

Linda O'Connor Ohio Department of Education Columbus, Ohio

Sgt. Troy Mineard Akron Police Department Akron, Ohio

Chief Ronald Ferrell Mason Police Department Mason, Ohio

## **Basic Training Programs**

Topic	Ohio Administrative Code	Hours Required
Peace Officer Basic Training	109:2–01	582
Peace Officer Refresher Training	109:2-01	16
Private Security Basic Training a. Academic Portion Only b. Revolver c. Semi-Auto d. Shotgun	109:2–03	132 20 20 5
Bailiff/Deputy Bailiff Basic Trainin	g 109:2–05	40
State Public Defender Criminal Investigator Basic Training	109:2–06	N/A
Canine Unit and Evaluator Basic Tra. Canine Evaluator, Core b. Canine Evaluator, Special Purp c. Canine Evaluator, Patrol-Relate	ose	11 8 3
Corrections Officer Basic Training	109:2–09	142
Jailer Basic Training a. Jailer, 12-Day Facility b. Contact Training, 12-Day Facil c. Sworn Officer, 12-Day Facility d. Jailer, 12-Hour Facility	109:2–11 ity	48 16 8 16
Firearms Requalification	109:2–13	N/A
Humane Agent Basic Training	109:2–15	20

#### **Commission Highlights**

#### Updating basic training curricula

In fiscal 2011, OPOTC and its staff undertook the first-ever comprehensive review and revision of the state's basic peace office training curriculum. Implemented in 1966, Ohio's standard approach to training new peace officers has grown from 120 hours originally to 582 hours today. While OPOTC added topics and incorporated changes through the years, until now it has not conducted an in-depth evaluation and update of the curriculum.

The goal is to update the entire curriculum by late 2013 — with new lesson plans taking effect regularly each Jan. 1 and July 1 — and to review and revise it continuously after that.

More than 2,300 officers who graduated from basic training in the past six years and 1,000 of their front-line supervisors participated in a survey that preceded the curriculum overall. The survey listed all tasks an officer might need to perform and asked respondents whether instruction should be provided in basic training, advanced training, or on the job.

Results of this job task analysis, which drew responses from more than 800 of the state's approximately 978 law enforcement agencies, are guiding the curriculum revisions. A 19-member Law Enforcement Advisory Panel, representing all types and sizes of agencies around the state, helped prepare the survey and validated its findings.

The end result will be a curriculum that is not only more current, but reflects the advice of the local law enforcement and is more consistent and engaging for students and instructors.

OPOTC also oversees the curricula for private security officers, corrections officers, jailers, bailiffs, adult probation officers, parole officers, state public defender investigations, canine officers, and humane agents. Those lesson plans also are being reviewed and updated.

#### Providing resources electronically

The commission provides many of its resources electronically to allow agencies greater access to services and information.

The OPOTA Course Catalog at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/OPOTACourses lists classes available around the state and at the London and Richfield OPOTA campuses. Users can search by subject matter for full details of available classes.

Peace officers throughout Ohio can access the academy's online courses 24/7 through eOPOTA, which is available on the Ohio Law Enforcement Gateway at **www.OHLEG.org**. Some courses of a general interest also are offered to the public via the Ohio Attorney General's website at **www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov**.

The peace officer basic training and private security academic curricula and instructional resources also have been placed on OHLEG to provide easy access for commanders and instructors.

The commission also took steps to introduce a convenient electronic Law Enforcement Directory, which provides contact information for Ohio police chiefs and sheriffs and links to the Ohio State Highway Patrol, state agencies, and correctional facilities. The directory can be found at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/LawEnforcementDirectory. The online directory was launched in the fall of 2011. Law enforcement officers throughout the state can update their contact information at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/OPOTAUpdate to ensure they receive electronic communications from the academy and commission.

In addition to our website features, constituents also can e-mail OPOTA directly with general, certification, or training questions (askOPOTA@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov); to register for or seek information on courses (OPOTARegistration@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov); and to transmit agency changes of officer status or new appointments (SF400@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov).

#### Supporting local drug education programs

The Attorney General's Office awarded \$4.2 million to 201 Ohio law enforcement agencies in May 2010 through the national Drug Use Prevention Grant program, which supports the salaries of officers who offer drug use prevention education in Ohio public schools.

The funding allowed 380 Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) and school resource officers to reach more than 400,000 students statewide with anti-drug messaging. The grant also provides DARE workbooks to officers at no cost and supports the DARE Officer Training and School Resource Officer Basic Training Programs.

During the fiscal 2011, 81 officers were trained as new DARE and school resource officers at the OPOTA London and Richfield campuses.

#### Updating firearms qualification standards

OPOTC assembled a panel of experts to review and recommend revisions to Ohio's firearms qualification standards for law enforcement officers. The goal is two-fold: to make certain the requalification program required annually of all Ohio peace officers authorized to carry firearms is in line with best practices and to ensure that the peace officer basic training qualification standard taught in academies statewide reflects that of active officers. The commission is now considering these important recommendations.

#### **Commission Statistics**

In fiscal 2011, the commission and its staff oversaw 526 basic training school openings, issued about 5,700 basic training certificates and administered more than 2,700 final examinations. They approved nearly 700 Canine Unit certifications, processed about 1,000 firearms requalifications, made some 4,000 prior equivalency determinations, and maintained compliance for approximately 5,500 academy instructors across Ohio.

#### **Administrative Action Overview**

State certification exams	2,764
Academies opened	526
Academies closed	598
Certificates issued	5,710
Open enrollment letters issued	1,231
Instructor certificates issued	2,281
Peace officers decertified	17

#### 2011 Ohio Peace Officer Profile

**Total Ohio Peace Officers** 

Ohio agencies commissioned 33,149 peace officers in fiscal 2011. Here is a breakdown by agency type and appointment status:

Full-Time Peace (	Officers:	23,733
	Sheriffs' Offices:	5,389
	Police Agencies:	18,344
Part-Time Peace (	Officers:	3,599
	Sheriffs' Offices:	186
	Police Agencies:	3,413
Special Appointm	ents:	2,835
1 11	Sheriffs' Offices:	2,633
	Police Agencies:	202
Auxiliary Peace O	fficers:	1,864
,	Sheriffs' Offices:	313
	Police Agencies:	1,551
Reserve Peace Of	ficers:	1,086
	Sheriffs' Offices:	544
	Police Agencies:	542
Seasonal Peace O	fficers:	32
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33,149

#### Ohio's Concealed Carry Weapons Update

OPOTC maintains a database of statistics related to Ohio's concealed handguns law and issues an annual report highlighting the stats, which are reported quarterly by Ohio sheriffs.

During fiscal 2011, the sheriffs reported issuing 48,289 new concealed carry licenses, 9,455 license renewals, 798 license suspensions, 236 license revocations, 690 concealed carry license applicant denials, and 93 license process suspensions. They also issued 71 temporary emergency licenses, two temporary license suspensions, and one applicant denial.

### Commission and Academy Financial Report

The fiscal 2011 Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission and Academy budget totaled more than \$12 million.

Fund Name	Fund Use and Purpose	Ex	penditure
Attorney General Claims	Pays operating expenses such as payroll, utilities, travel, and equipment.	\$	5,416,653
Drug Abuse Resistance Education	Pays Drug Use Prevention Program grant awards and associated costs. Funding comes from driver's license reinstatement fees.	\$	4,188,715
Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy	Pays instructor payroll and guest instructor personal service contracts. Most funding comes from tuition fees.	\$	1,857,755
Law Enforcement Assistance	Pays Continuing Professional Training (CPT) reimbursement requests.	\$	457,880
General Reimbursement	Pays costs associated with Attorney General's Law Enforcement Conference.	\$	125,343
Private Security	Pays partial salaries for employees administering the private security program. Funding is generated from private security fees established by ORC 109.78.	\$	54,123
Anti-Drug Abuse	Funding source is grants managed by OPOTC staff.	\$	18,948
Law Enforcement Improvement Trust	Pays law enforcement-related capital projects.	\$	18,000
Total		\$	12,137,416

#### Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy Overview

Groundwork was laid for OPOTA's establishment in 1970 when then-Gov. James Rhodes signed House Bill 1160, authorizing the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission to launch its own training academy. The academy opened in 1976 and has since become recognized as a national leader in advanced training for law enforcement.

OPOTA utilizes the latest research and instructional methods to develop outstanding training programs that meet the needs of law enforcement professionals and the communities they serve. Courses are offered at the academy's main campus and Tactical Training Center, both in London, at a satellite campus in Richfield, at regional trainings throughout the state, and online through eOPOTA.

Courses cover a wide array of topics pertinent to today's law enforcement community — from latent fingerprint development, shooting reconstruction, and instructional skills to report writing, criminal investigation, and first-line supervision.

The academy is committed to:

- Providing outstanding instruction to the Ohio law enforcement community
- Promoting rapid student development through the use of superior training methods
- Continually upgrading course content by incorporating the latest research and recommended professional practices
- Stimulating inquiry and providing fresh perspectives within the law enforcement profession

#### **Academy Highlights**

#### Expanding regional trainings

OPOTA is making its training opportunities even more convenient and cost-effective for law enforcement agencies across Ohio by taking more courses on the road. These courses cover a wide array of valuable topics and are available at no cost to local departments.

More than 143 regional training sessions were conducted across the state in fiscal 2011, up from 87 the previous year.

Attorney General Mike DeWine's goal is to greatly increase the number of trainings available regionally and to schedule them within an hour's drive of most law enforcement agencies. Whenever possible, trainings are held at large venues close to major interstates and with free parking. In addition to OPOTA instructors, the faculty includes law enforcement professionals, higher education instructors, medical personnel, and others who regularly practice what they teach.

#### **Bolstering online courses**

OPOTA also has revolutionized training delivery through the expansion of its free eOPOTA online courses, provided via secure Internet link through the Attorney General's Ohio Law Enforcement Gateway (OHLEG).

As local budgets continue to shrink, eOPOTA has allowed agencies to save travel and overtime expenses, thus reducing the financial burden on departments and taxpayers. Fifty-six eOPOTA courses were available in fiscal 2011, up from 48 in fiscal 2010. More than 10,000 Ohio peace officers took eOPOTA courses, completing 35,615 individual course sessions. The previous year, officers completed 20,102 course sessions.

#### Earning Flagship Agency status

OPOTA received word during fiscal 2011 that it had earned Flagship Agency status from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), an internationally recognized credentialing body. The award recognizes public safety agencies across the country that demonstrate success in the CALEA accreditation process and serve as a model for how best to address compliance, policy development, record maintenance, and other issues. Member organizations are assessed every three years.

CALEA assessment teams conduct site visits to determine agencies' compliance with standards, view facilities and records, and hold a public information session. Flagship Agency status is granted to academies and law enforcement agencies based on past accreditation records, the most recent assessment, and overall professional standing in the public safety community.

CALEA was created in 1979 by law enforcement's major executive associations. Its accreditation programs are designed to improve the delivery of public safety services and recognize professional excellence.

#### **OPOTA Statistics**

State Certification Exam	
Peace officer basic students tested	1,549
Peace officer basic students retested	262
Peace officer basic college academy students tested	53
Peace officer basic college academy students retested	11
Peace officer refresher students tested	177
Peace officer refresher students retested	3
Corrections students tested	162
Corrections students retested	6
Jailer students tested	16
Jailer students retested	2
Private security students tested	476
Private security students retested	47
Total tests administered	2,764

Schools	
Peace officer basic schools opened	106
Corrections schools opened	17
Jailer schools opened	2
Bailiff schools opened	2
Probation schools opened	18
Private security schools opened	378
Total schools opened	526
Peace officer basic schools closed	109
Corrections schools closed	16
Jailer schools closed	8
Bailiff schools closed	1
Probation schools closed	17
Private security schools closed	447
Total schools closed	598
Peace officer basic open enrollment letters issued	1,231

Instructors	
Peace officer basic amendments	210
Corrections amendments	8
Jailer amendments	1
Bailiff amendments	7
Private security amendments	25
Total amendments	251
Peace officer basic renewals	280
Corrections renewals	19
Jailer renewals	1
Bailiff renewals	1
Private security renewals	40
Total renewals	341
Peace officer basic unit certifications	274
Corrections unit certifications	33
Jailer unit certifications	3
Bailiff unit certifications	3
Private security unit certifications	83
Total unit certifications	396
Peace officer basic special certifications	86
Corrections special certifications	56
Jailer special certifications	1
Bailiff special certifications	2
Private security special certifications	20
Total special certifications	165

Updates and prior equivalency evaluations	
Peace officer basic update determinations	3,659
Corrections update determinations	5
Jailer update determinations	0
Bailiff update determinations	2
Total update determinations	3,666
Peace officer basic prior equivalency determinations	22
Corrections basic prior equivalency determinations	5
Jailer basic prior equivalency determinations	0
Bailiff basic prior equivalency determinations	7
Total prior equivalency determinations	34

Decertifications/Revocations	
Academies	0
Commanders	18
Instructors	0
Peace Officers	17
Total decertifications/revocations	35
Suspensions	
Academies	0
Commanders	0
Instructors	0
Peace Officers	2
Total suspensions	2

Canine certification	
Unit examinations approved	219
Unit examinations completed	237
Unit special purpose certifications	366
Unit patrol-related certifications	296
Evaluator special purpose certifications	26
Evaluator patrol-related certifications	25

Firearms requalification	
Instructor requalifications	291
Instructor amendments	171
Instructor renewals	565

OPOTA advanced training	
Courses	530
Students	11,917
Training days	1,482
Student training days	25,521

#### 2011 Ohio Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony

Perhaps the best way to understand the magnitude of these commission and academy activities is to pay a visit to the Ohio Fallen Officers' Memorial Wall, located at the London Main Campus.

Here, the names of 737 fallen Ohio peace officers killed in the line of duty from 1823 on are forever etched in the memorial's walls. They serve as a constant reminder of just how important the training function is to the brave men and women behind the badge.

The annual Ohio Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony occurs the first Thursday in May to honor officers who gave their lives in the line of duty the year before.

Those honored in 2011 were:

- Chief Carl E. Worley, Ross Township Police Department, whose end of watch came Jan. 26, 2010
- Trooper Andrew C. Baldridge, Ohio State Highway Patrol, whose end of watch came Feb. 4, 2010
- Officer Thomas F. Patton, Cleveland Heights Police Department, whose end of watch came March 13, 2010
- Sergeant James A. Kerstetter, Elyria Police Department, whose end of watch came March 15, 2010

Remembered in a 2011 historical induction was Marshal John Vapenik, Maple Heights Police Department, whose end of watch came Aug. 28, 1920

#### 2010 Distinguished Law Enforcement Awards

Dozens of individuals were honored with Ohio Distinguished Law Enforcement Awards during the Attorney General's Law Enforcement Conference in fall 2010. Here is a look at those singled out for outstanding service.

#### Valor Awards

## Officer Theodore Bell [Stow Police Department]

Recognized for his bravery and quick thinking in ending a home invasion during which the intruder confronted a father with a sawed-off shotgun and demanded to see the man's daughter, whom the intruder had dated.

Police Specialist Greg Toyeas Police Specialist Jerome J. Enneking Jr. Sergeant William Pete Watts Officer Shyane Schenider Officer Kevin Newman [Cincinnati Police Department]

Singled out for their teamwork and bravery in keeping the public out of harm's way when a routine traffic stop turned into an armed foot chase through a busy commercial area of Cincinnati over the lunch hour.

#### Training Awards

#### Officer Kerry Oliver

#### [College of Mount St. Joseph Police Department]

Commended for establishing himself as an instructor early in his 25-year law enforcement career and continually looking for opportunities to provide trainings for officers in his own and other departments.

Capt. David H. Humphries Lieutenant Kimberly Williams Sergeant Kenneth Wells Sergeant David Simpson Police Specialist Jane Noel Retired Police Specialist Linda Day Officer Charlene Morton

#### [Cincinnati Police Department, ESME Training Program]

Recognized for developing and training an Emergency Search for Missing or Endangered team of more than 200 officers after the murder of Esme Kenney, a 13-year-old who was abducted while jogging near her home.

Sergeant Jeffrey Sowards
Officer James Rease
Officer Donald Paden
Sergeant Michael Smith

#### [Columbus Division of Police, Traffic Bureau]

Commended for sharing their expertise in recognizing and apprehending impaired drivers as well as bringing the most effective approaches to their own department and others across the state.

#### **Group Achievement Awards**

Chief Deputy Steve Martin
Detective John Gall
Officer Steve Grubbs
Corporal Dan Johnson
Detective Jane Junk
Special Agent Justin Myers
Detective Brett Peachey
Detective Marcus Penwell
Detective Lolita Perryman
Officer John Priest

#### [Franklin County Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force]

Applauded for their teamwork and innovation that resulted in 94 sex offenders being removed from Franklin County communities in the group's first year. The task force includes representatives of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office, Columbus Division of Police, Upper Arlington Police Division, Westerville Division of Police, and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

#### Cleveland Metroparks Ranger Theft Ring Task Force

Recognized for their efforts to solve two waves of vehicle break-ins that victimized Cleveland Metroparks visitors and spurred other criminal activities over a two-year period. Task force members are from the Cleveland Metroparks Ranger Department, Ohio Department of Taxation Enforcement Division, Medina County Drug Task Force, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation, and Euclid Police Department Narcotics Unit.

#### Northern Ohio Violent Fugitive Task Force

Commended for work that, in a one-year period, resulted in the arrest of nearly 5,000 fugitives and the seizure of 130 guns, 2,092 rounds of ammunition, nine vehicles, 26 kilograms of narcotics and \$86,285 in currency. The task force has captured more than 20,000 fugitives since its formation in 2003.

#### Akron's 2009 Fugitive Safe Surrender Program

Recognized for coming together — law enforcement agencies, court officials, clergy members, and social service agencies — and organizing a four-day event through which 1,321 fugitives safely and peacefully surrendered to authorities.

#### Mark Losey Distinguished Law Enforcement Service Award

## Lieutenant John V. Kosek Sr. [Cleveland Metroparks Ranger Department]

Recognizing his 50 years of dedicated service to law enforcement, first with the East Cleveland Police Department and then as a member of the Cleveland Metroparks Ranger Department.

#### Tribute to Fallen Officer

## Jarod M. Dean [Boston Heights Police Department]

In remembrance of Officer Jarod M. Dean, who lost his life to a reckless driver on Jan. 19, 2009, while clearing debris from State Route 8 near the entrance to the Ohio Turnpike.

#### Commission and Academy Staff Awards

#### Executive Director's Award

The Executive Director's Award recognizes employees who, through dedicated service, have served as role models to others with the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy and Commission and the public. These employees reflect core commission and academy values of integrity, professionalism, cooperation, and commitment.

- Hope Stout, assistant accreditation manager
- Mike McGreevy, field agent
- Kerry Curtis, law enforcement training officer
- Alex Patton, maintenance repair worker
- Kem Dicken, account clerk
- Dave Peters, law enforcement training officer

#### Citizen's Service Award

The Citizen's Service Award recognizes those who have assisted the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy and Commission staff in the furtherance of training and certification of law enforcement. This year's recipients saved an officer's life by performing CPR when he collapsed during a training run.

- Dr. Brian Springer, director, Division of Tactical Emergency Medicine, Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine
- Jerry Zacharias, Ohio Peace Office Training Academy
- Jeff Frasier, Ohio Peace Office Training Academy

#### **Community Service Award**

The Community Service Award recognizes employees who generously give their time to the community at large for the betterment of mankind.

- Judy Wilson, word processing specialist, who is president of the Madison Plains Academic Boosters, a 4-H leader, and a team co-captain for Madison County Relay for Life
- Hope Stout, assistant accreditation manager, who is president of the Mechanicsburg Athletic Boosters and a host of foreign exchange students

#### Apple Award

The Apple Award is presented to the division of the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy and Commission that has used the least sick time per employee

• Law Enforcement Services Section, Advanced Training Division



#### Ohio Attorney General's Office

## Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission and Academy

## FISCAL 2011 Annual Report

#### How to contact us

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