

Protecting Ohio's Families



Ohio Attorney General's Office
**Ohio Peace Officer Training
Commission and Academy**



FISCAL 2013
Annual Report



MIKE DEWINE
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL



MIKE DEWINE

★ OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL ★

Dear Law Enforcement Colleagues and Fellow Ohioans,

As Ohio's Attorney General, I am firmly committed to helping law enforcement officers across the state prepare for the many challenging responsibilities and dangerous situations they face on the job. In large part, my office accomplishes this through the work of the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission and Academy.

I am pleased to share that in fiscal year 2013, the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA) became the first public safety training academy in the nation to earn the Gold Standard Accreditation with Excellence from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), an internationally recognized credentialing body. This highly esteemed accreditation recognizes our passion for excellence in providing our local law enforcement partners with the highest level of service and training.

Among many other accomplishments, OPOTA provided nearly 7,000 educators and law enforcement officers with vital training related to school shootings. A new course — School Shootings: How to be Aware, Prepare, and be a First Responder in a Crisis — helps education and law enforcement personnel to be prepared in the event of an active shooting and provides insight into the minds and warning signs of shooters. We offered the course at dozens of locations throughout the state and provided it on DVD to every Ohio school district.

To help law enforcement agencies keep pace with rapidly evolving technology, OPOTA added four levels of data recovery courses and updated courses involving Internet investigations, computer crimes, and cell phone forensics. We also upgraded the computer labs at the Richfield and London campuses, installing new computers and hard drives, dual screens, and a new server to support the growing lineup of computer forensic courses.

These are just a few of the accomplishments the academy and commission realized in fiscal year 2013. I encourage you to read on to learn about other ways we worked to provide Ohio's law enforcement community with the best possible training and resources. Please feel free to share your comments or suggestions with Mary Davis, acting executive director of the commission and academy, at 740-845-2700 or Mary.Davis@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov.

Very respectfully yours,

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 972 respective agencies.

The commission is also 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 curricula, 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
The 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

* Membership as of June 30, 2013

Basic Training Programs

Topic	Ohio Administrative Code	Hours Required *
Peace Officer Basic Training	109:2-01	569
Peace Officer Refresher Training	109:2-01	16
Private Security Basic Training	109:2-03	
A. Academic Portion Only		160
B. Revolver		20
C. Semi-Auto		20
D. Shotgun		5
Bailiff/Deputy Bailiff Basic Training	109:2-05	40
State Public Defender Criminal Investigator Basic Training	109:2-06	N/A
Canine Unit and Evaluator Basic Training	109:2-07	
A. Canine Evaluator, Core		11
B. Canine Evaluator, Special Purpose		8
C. Canine Evaluator, Patrol-Related		3
Corrections Officer Basic Training	109:2-09	158
Jailer Basic Training	109:2-11	
A. Jailer, 12-Day Facility		48
B. Contact Training, 12-Day Facility		16
C. Sworn Officer, 12-Day Facility		8
D. Jailer, 12-Hour Facility		16
Firearms Requalification	109:2-13	N/A
Humane Agent Basic Training	109:2-15	20

***Hours subject to change with program revisions**

Commission Highlights

Updating basic training curricula

OPOTC and its staff continued to evaluate, revise, and implement numerous topics within basic training programs in fiscal year 2013. The revisions are being guided by a Job Task Analysis that drew feedback from more than 2,300 officers and 1,000 front-line supervisors from more than 800 Ohio law enforcement agencies.

Effective July 1, 2012, and Jan. 1, 2013, two sets of curricula were released, encompassing changes within the peace officer basic training (POBT) program, refresher, private security, and corrections training programs. Lesson plans covering 74 topics and 476 training hours were released to the field.

As review of the curricula continues, the commission remains committed to providing current, pertinent, and industry best-practice material to basic academy students while incorporating instructional techniques that reflect the most effective adult learning theories.

Updating firearms qualification standards

OPOTC works to ensure that the requalification program required annually of all Ohio peace officers authorized to carry firearms is in line with best practices and that the qualification standard taught in basic academies reflects that of active officers. Effective Jan. 1, 2013, the following course of fire for agency requalification became effective: low capacity and sub caliber backup, revolver, and semi-automatic pistol, shotgun. In May 2013, the commission approved and announced a revised police rifle/carbine course of fire for agency qualifications along with a use of force presentation recommended to be covered at an agency's annual requalification.

Providing resources electronically

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

OPOTA offers online registration for its regional and on-campus courses, allowing officers to search and register for courses through the Ohio Law Enforcement Gateway (OHLEG) at www.OHLEG.org. Designated agency "approvers" receive an e-mail alerting them to training requests and, once approved, the officer and approver receive e-mail confirmation. Approvers also can register officers for courses and view their officers' OPOTA training history to enhance agency training records. Agencies can activate their online registration account by sending an email to OPOTARegistration@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov.

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 OHLEG. Some courses of general interest – such as a series of classes on human trafficking – also are offered to the public via the Ohio Attorney General's website at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov. The peace officer basic training, refresher training, private security academic curricula, and instructional resources have also been placed on OHLEG to provide easy access for commanders and instructors.

The commission also offers an 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. 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.

Law enforcement officers and administrators also can e-mail OPOTA 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 Drug Use Prevention Grant Program supports the salaries of peace officers who offer drug use prevention education in Ohio public schools. The 2012–13 program allowed 312 Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) officers and school resource officers to reach nearly 421,000 students statewide with drug use prevention education, including over-the-counter and prescription drug abuse messaging.

The Ohio Attorney General's Office awarded \$3.7 million to 182 Ohio law enforcement agencies through the 2013–14 Drug Use Prevention Grant program. The total included 15 new applicants.

The program also provided DARE workbooks to officers at no cost and supported the School Resource Officer Basic Training Programs. In addition, during the funding cycle of Sept. 1, 2012, through Aug. 31, 2013, a total of 103 officers were trained as new school resource officers at the OPOTA London and Richfield campuses.

Administrative Action Overview

State certification exams	2,865
Academies opened	627
Academies closed	591
Certificates issued	6,029
Open enrollment letters issued	2,039
Instructor certificates issued	1,782
Peace officers decertified	37
Canine unit certifications	569
Firearms requalification instructor certificates processed	1,094
Prior equivalency determinations	29
Update training determinations	4,924

Ohio Peace Officer Profile

Ohio agencies commissioned 33,592 peace officers in fiscal year 2013. Here is a breakdown by agency type and appointment status:

Full-Time Peace Officers:	23,422
Sheriffs' Offices:	5,280
Police Agencies:	18,142
Part-Time Peace Officers:	3,559
Sheriffs' Offices:	257
Police Agencies:	3,302
Special Appointments:	2,833
Sheriffs' Offices:	2,632
Police Agencies:	201
Auxiliary Peace Officers:	2,014
Sheriffs' Offices:	297
Police Agencies:	1,717
Reserve Peace Officers:	1,298
Sheriffs' Offices:	663
Police Agencies:	635
Seasonal Peace Officers:	45
Total Ohio Peace Officers	33,171

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 year 2013, the sheriffs reported issuing 93,109 regular licenses, 29,330 license renewals, 1,114 license suspensions, 764 license revocations, 1,083 concealed carry license applicant denials, and 73 license process suspensions.

Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy Overview

The Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy is recognized as a national leader in advanced training for law enforcement. Groundwork was laid for its 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.

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 Mobile Academy 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 computer forensics, 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

Gold Standard Accreditation with Excellence

OPOTA earned the new Gold Standard Accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) in fiscal year 2013, becoming the first public safety training agency in the nation to do so. The status demonstrates agencies' success in the CALEA accreditation process and signifies their ability to serve as a model in addressing compliance, policy development, record maintenance, and other issues. An internationally recognized accreditation organization, CALEA assesses member organizations every three years. Its teams conduct site visits to determine agencies' compliance with standards, view facilities and records, and hold a public information session. CALEA's accreditation programs are designed to improve the delivery of public safety services and recognize professional excellence.

Active shooter training

OPOTA works to ensure law enforcement officers are trained to deal with any situation they may encounter. In fiscal year 2013, the academy's law enforcement training officers traveled across the state providing educators and law enforcement officers with a new course –School Shootings: How to be Aware, Prepare, and be a First Responder in a Crisis. The material provides strategies for being prepared in the event of a school shooting and offers insight into the minds and warning signs of shooters. During fiscal year 2013, OPOTA trained nearly 7,000 educators and law enforcement at 41 sites throughout the state.

Mobile Academy Offerings

Attorney General DeWine has made it a priority to increase the number of trainings available regionally and to schedule them within an hour's drive of most law enforcement agencies. Whenever possible, OPOTA's Mobile Academy 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 greatly expanded its free eOPOTA online courses, provided via secure Internet link through the Attorney General's Ohio Law Enforcement Gateway (OHLEG) at www.OHLEG.org. Eighty-three courses were available at the close of fiscal year 2013, up from 72 the year before. Ohio law enforcement officers completed 88,365 course sessions, more than triple the 23,545 they took the year before. The most popular courses covered human trafficking, which is a mandated topic for all Ohio peace officers.

Computer Forensic Program Upgrade

OPOTA made many upgrades to its Computer Forensic Program to keep up with evolving technology. The academy completed \$80,000 in upgrades to the London and Richfield campuses' computer labs, installing new computers, hard drives, dual screens, and servers. Both labs are at full capacity. Four levels of data recovery courses are now offered, ranging from basic to advanced. All other computer courses have been

updated as well, including Computer Crime First Responder, Internet Investigations, and Undercover Online/Peer To Peer.

Commission and Academy Financial Report

The fiscal year 2013 Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission and Academy budget totaled more than \$8.7 million.

Fund Name	Fund Use and Purpose	Expenditure
Attorney General Claims	Pays operating expenses such as payroll, utilities, travel, and equipment.	\$4,520,971
Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy	Pays instructor payroll and guest instructor personal service contracts. Most funding comes from tuition fees.	\$1,456,274
Law Enforcement Assistance	Pays Continuing Professional Training (CPT) reimbursement requests.	\$ 0
General Reimbursement	Pays costs associated with Attorney General's Law Enforcement Conference.	\$132,613
Private Security	Pays partial salaries for employees administering the private security program. Funding is generated from private security fees established by ORC 109.78.	\$53,844
Anti-Drug Abuse	Funding comes from grants managed by OPOTC staff.	\$172,936
Law Enforcement Technology, Training, and Facility Enhancements	Pays for facility related enhancements.	\$136,492
Peace Officer Training Casino	Pays for newly developed law enforcement training courses.	\$2,227,409
Total		\$ 8,700,539

Drug Abuse Resistance Education Financial Report

Drug Abuse Resistance Education	Pays Drug Use Prevention Program grant awards and associated costs. Funding comes from driver's license reinstatement fees.	\$3,977,497.53
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Commission and Academy Statistics

State Certification Exam	
Peace officer basic students tested	1,588
Peace officer basic students tested – special accommodations	25
Peace officer basic students retested	184
Peace officer basic students retested – special accommodations	11
Peace officer basic college academy students tested	54
Peace officer basic college academy students retested	16
Peace officer refresher students tested	193
Peace officer refresher students retested	1
Corrections students tested	335
Corrections students retested	15
Jailer students tested	44
Jailer students retested	4
Private security students tested	345
Private security students tested – special accommodations	9
Private security students retested	36
Private security students retested – special accommodations	4
Total tests administered	2,864

Schools	
Peace officer basic schools opened	103
Corrections schools opened	20
Jailer schools opened	3
Bailiff schools opened	4
Probation schools opened	16
Private security schools opened	472
Total schools opened	618
Peace officer basic schools closed	100
Corrections schools closed	19
Jailer schools closed	2
Bailiff schools closed	3
Probation schools closed	17
Private security schools closed	434
Total schools closed	575
Peace officer basic open enrollment letters issued	1,119

Instructors	
Peace officer basic amendments	653
Corrections amendments	44
Jailer amendments	1
Bailiff amendments	0
Private security amendments	73
Total amendments	771
Peace officer basic renewals	413
Corrections renewals	29
Jailer renewals	1
Bailiff renewals	0
Private security renewals	40
Total renewals	483
Peace officer basic unit certifications	303
Corrections unit certifications	55
Jailer unit certifications	14
Bailiff unit certifications	0
Private security unit certifications	52
Total unit certifications	424
Peace officer basic special certifications	54
Corrections special certifications	37
Jailer special certifications	1
Bailiff special certifications	0
Private security special certifications	11
Total special certifications	103

Updates and prior equivalency evaluations	
Peace officer basic update determinations	5,781
Corrections update determinations	0
Jailer update determinations	0
Bailiff update determinations	0
Total update determinations	5,781
Peace officer basic prior equivalency determinations	25
Corrections basic prior equivalency determinations	0
Jailer basic prior equivalency determinations	0
Bailiff basic prior equivalency determinations	3
Total prior equivalency determinations	28

Decertifications/Revocations	
Academies	0
Commanders	0
Instructors	2
Peace Officers	37
Total decertifications/revocations	39
Suspensions	
Academies	0
Commanders	0
Instructors	0
Peace Officers	0
Total suspensions	0

Canine certification	
Unit examinations approved	227
Unit examinations completed	210
Unit special purpose certifications	320
Unit patrol-related certifications	249
Evaluator special purpose certifications	41
Evaluator patrol-related certifications	36

Firearms requalification	
Instructor requalifications	373
Instructor amendments	202
Instructor renewals	578

OPOTA advanced training	
Courses	721
Students	20,313
Training days	1,852
Student training days	40632
Video Conferences	0
Video Conference students	0

2012 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 OPOTA's London Campus.

Here, the names of 749 fallen Ohio peace officers killed in the line of duty since 1823 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 is held the first Thursday in May to honor officers who gave their lives in the line of duty the year before.

Those honored in 2013 were:

- Officer Frank D. Mancini of the Akron Police Department; End of Watch, Jan. 23, 2012
- Officer Jason Gresko of the Willoughby and Cleveland Clinic police departments; End of Watch, Sept. 21, 2012
- Officer Marcia Figueroa of the Cleveland Police Department; End of Watch, Nov. 4, 2012

Remembered with 2013 historical inductions were:

- Officer Owen O. Grandstaff of the Bluffton Police Department; End of Watch, March 26, 1927
- Officer Frank Herrmann of the Bluffton Police Department; End of Watch, Sept. 5, 1929
- Officer Harold L. Wintrow of the Akron Police Department; End of Watch, Aug. 27, 1993

2012 Distinguished Law Enforcement Awards

These individuals and groups received Distinguished Law Enforcement Awards at the Ohio Attorney General's 2012 Law Enforcement Conference to recognize outstanding achievements and dedication:

Distinguished Law Enforcement Lifetime Achievement Award

Sheriff Dwight E. Radcliff
Pickaway County Sheriff's Office

Recognized for dedicating his career to law enforcement and the people of Pickaway County, Sheriff Radcliff was the longest-serving sheriff in the history of Ohio at the time of his retirement.

Detective Jeffery S. Collins
Columbus Division of Police

Detective Collins was recognized for his long career of service, his commitment to excellence, and his ability to lead by example.

Distinguished Law Enforcement Training Award

Capt. Dale A. Soltis
Summit County Sheriff's Office

A dedicated teacher, Capt. Soltis was honored for greatly expanding the type and quality of law enforcement training in Summit County.

Mark Losey Distinguished Law Enforcement Service Award

Assistant Chief Cindy M. Combs
Cincinnati Police Department

Assistant Chief Combs was recognized for the many contributions she made during 32 years with the Cincinnati Police Department.

Distinguished Law Enforcement Group Achievement Award

Sheriff Matthew Lutz
Capt. Jeff Lecocq
Capt. Steve Welker
Director of Operations Kim Hambel
Sgt. Steve Blake
Detective Todd Kanavel
Detective K.C. Jones
Detective Craig Knox
Deputy Chris Merry

Deputy Jonathan Merry
Deputy Ryan Paisley
Deputy Wade Kanavel
Deputy Ryan Williams
Deputy Jay Lawhorne
Deputy Tony Angelo
Deputy Tom Joseph
Deputy Adam Swope
Deputy Randy Wilson
Auxiliary Deputy Drake Prouty
Auxiliary Deputy Kevin Neal
Dispatcher William Rowe
Dispatcher Joleen Kinsel

Members of the Muskingum County Sheriff's Office were singled out for quickly controlling a situation in which dangerous exotic animals were released in their county.

Distinguished Law Enforcement Group Achievement Award

Chardon Police Department:

Chief Timothy McKenna
Lt. Troy Duncan
Officer Matthew Delisa
Officer Adam Lefelhoc
Officer Charles Pirnat
Dispatcher Debbie Talarcek
Dispatcher Sally Harmasek

Geauga County Sheriff's Office:

Sheriff Dan McClelland
Chief Deputy Scott Hildenbrand
Lt. Gary Gribbons
Lt. John Hiscox
Lt. W. Scott Neihus
Sgt. John Copen
Sgt. Steve Gallowan
Sgt. Christopher Vokoun
Detective Aaron Graley
Deputy Heather Bilicic
Deputy John Bilicic
Deputy William Boehnlein
Deputy Frank Filla
Deputy Joseph Hrouda
Deputy Larry Hunt
Deputy Edward Hunziker
Deputy Michael Matsik
Deputy Jeffrey Powers
Deputy Randal Primer
Deputy Andrew Supinski
Deputy Nicholas Sysak
Deputy Juanita Vetter

Dispatcher Peggy Dailey
Dispatcher Juanita Herrington
Dispatcher Erik Wright
Victim Advocate Tracy Jordan
Administrative Assistant Christine Kennedy
Administrative Assistant Nancy Farrow
Clerk Erin Knife
Clerk Mary Kerchelich
Clerk Diane Peterson

Bureau of Criminal Investigation:

Special Agent Supervisor Dennis Sweet
Senior Special Agent Lee Lerussi
Special Agent Mark Kollar
Special Agent Dan Winterich
Special Agent Edward Lulla
Special Agent Edward Carlini
Special Agent Larry Hootman
Special Agent Arvin Clar
Special Agent Eric Lehnhart
Special Agent Matt Cesareo
Special Agent Gary Fossaceca
Special Agent Dave Posten
Special Agent Ed Staley
Special Agent Rob Surgenor

Chester Township Police Department:

Chief Mark A. Purchase
Sgt. Todd Pocek
Officer Sean Day
Officer David DiCicco
Officer Matthew Brickman

Ohio State Highway Patrol:

Lt. Jim Sivak

Federal Bureau of Investigation:

Assistant Special Agent in Charge Harold V. Bickmore
Supervisory Special Agent Jon M. Holloway
Supervisory Administrative Specialist Tamara M. Larkin
Special Agent Robert C. McBride
Special Agent Russell G. Csaszar
Special Agent Charles Sullivan
Special Agent Scott T. Wilson

Geauga County Prosecutor's Office:

Prosecutor David P. Joyce
Detective Karen M. Sweet

Assistant Prosecutor Nick Burling
Assistant Prosecutor Matt Greenway
Assistant Prosecutor Christopher Joyce
Victim Advocate Cindi Haycox-Wellman

Chardon Police Prosecutor Victim Assistance Program:
Tracey Fronk

Geauga Park District

This team was recognized for its quick response to the shooting at Chardon High School and apprehension of the suspect.

Distinguished Law Enforcement Group Achievement Award

Federal Bureau of Investigation:
Special Agent James E. Hardie, task force coordinator
Special Agent Laura E. Lebo
Victim Specialist Jennifer Jo Meyers

Bureau of Criminal Investigation:
Special Agent David W. Pauly

Ohio State Highway Patrol:
Trooper Stacy L. Stidham

Lima Police Department:
Investigator David R. Gillispie

Perrysburg Township Police Department
Detective Scott C. Moskowitz

Toledo Police Department
Detective Peter J. Swartz

Fulton County Sheriff's Office
Agent Alessandra Norden

Ottawa County Sheriff's Office
Detective Amy J. Harrell

The group was honored for its work with the Northwest Ohio Violent Crimes Against Children Task Force, formed to combat a significant human trafficking problem.

Distinguished Law Enforcement Valor Award

**Officer Ben Campbell
Copley Police Department**

Officer Campbell was commended for his brave response to an active shooter who went on a violent rampage, killing seven people and wounding another. The first officer on the scene, Officer Campbell returned fire and incapacitated the shooter.

Distinguished Law Enforcement Meritorious Service Award

**Cuyahoga Falls Police Department:
Officer Theodore Davis
Officer Joel A. Moledor**

Officers Davis and Moledor were recognized for helping save a woman who was stabbed during a domestic dispute.

Distinguished Law Enforcement Meritorious Service Award

**Officer Stephen Bower
Cincinnati Police Department**

Officer Bower was recognized for placing himself in danger to help save bystanders from an active shooter.

Distinguished Law Enforcement Meritorious Service Award

**Patrolman Kyle Nietert
University Heights Police Department**

Patrolman Nietert was commended for his quick thinking and bravery in saving a family from a house fire.

Distinguished Law Enforcement Meritorious Service Award

**Officer Diondre Winstead
Cincinnati Police Department**

Officer Winstead was honored for quickly pursuing and apprehending an armed felon and helping to ensure neighbors' safety.

Commission and Academy Staff Awards

Executive Director's Award

The Executive Director's Award goes to the following 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 the commission and academy core values of integrity, professionalism, cooperation, and commitment.

- Mary Broyles, certification officer
- Stephanie Damron, word processing specialist
- Cindy Gullett, fiscal specialist
- Herb Hood, law enforcement training officer
- Justin Hykes, assistant attorney general
- Sarah Thomas, law enforcement training officer
- Lori Wachtel, OPOTC testing coordinator

Community Service Award

The Community Service Award recognizes employees who generously give their time to the community for the betterment of mankind. This year's recipient is Lori Rinehart, a word processing specialist. Constantly involved in community activities, she selflessly dedicates countless hours to the fundraising efforts of Relay for Life in Madison County. Many lives have been touched through the numerous hours and vast energy she puts into this noble cause.



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How to contact us

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