

## COVER STORY

# VETS helping VETS

**More law enforcement agencies are working with in-house military veterans and local partners to make sure that struggling vets in their communities get the help they deserve.**

**I**t's a challenge that law enforcement officers often face — how to help military veterans who are homeless or addicted to drugs or battling psychological demons, or all the above.

With the ongoing support and encouragement of the Ohio Attorney General's Office, more law enforcement agencies in the state are now considering how to better help veterans in crisis by using the vets they have on staff and the resources in their communities.

In one case, in Stark County, more than 20 agencies are teaming with government and community partners to launch a veterans response program in the next several months. Meanwhile, other agencies across the state are in the early stages of discussion with the Attorney General's Office.

All these efforts, in one way or another, are the outgrowth of programs that have already taken root — programs that are uniquely adapted to the needs and resources of their communities.

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“In the end, the best way to help vets in crisis is to involve the key players in a community.”

— Attorney General Dave Yost

Two years ago, when the Bureau of Criminal Investigation turned 100, this newsletter published a story commemorating the anniversary. I mention it because a quote from that story — from BCI Superintendent Joseph Morbitzer — has stuck in my head.

Before joining BCI in 2019, Joe served as police chief for almost 13 years in the Columbus suburb of Westerville. He knew his way around Ohio law enforcement, front and back, inside and out.

But when he took over as bureau superintendent, he quickly learned that he didn't know the agency he was leading as well as he imagined.

"I thought, being in law enforcement for four decades, that I knew what BCI was all about," he said. "But I had no clue." Specifically, Joe mentioned the Public Corruption Unit, the Identification Division, and the lab's work with trace evidence and firearms.

It's an admission that virtually every law enforcement officer in Ohio could make today. I feel certain about that. Which is why my office has begun a push to get the word out about the many ways that BCI can assist agencies in their vital daily work.

And, by the way, BCI isn't the only section of my office that can lend a hand. Many others are available to assist law enforcement, too.

The Attorney General's Office, of course, doesn't do law enforcement, per se. Instead, we're what I often refer to as a force multiplier. We offer resources that local departments need, or don't necessarily have, but might not know to ask us for.

For example, BCI has a unit devoted to helping law enforcement agencies process felony crime scenes. This is well known. Less well-known, though, is that the Crime Scene Unit includes a forensic dive team that helps agencies recover criminal evidence underwater.

There are scores of other examples just from BCI alone. An abbreviated list of lesser-known resources might include units focused on forensic accounting, drug chemistry, cutting-edge DNA



testing and forensic genealogy, cold cases involving unsolved homicides and sexual assaults, and officer-involved shootings and other critical incidents.

Additionally, BCI is the state's central repository for criminal records and fingerprints, and maintains databases on missing persons, unidentified remains and unsolved homicides.

As I mentioned, the AGO's crime-fighting resources aren't limited to BCI. For example, dedicated units within my office work with local officials (as well as BCI) on cases involving human trafficking, organized crime, elder abuse, crimes against children, public corruption, environmental abuse and Medicaid provider fraud, to name only some.

Furthermore, the office's Special Prosecutions Section can try a case if a local jurisdiction requests the assistance, and the Crime Victim Services Section can ensure that survivors get the emotional and financial help they need.

Finally, there's the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy, another arm of the AGO and an essential source of advanced education for all officers throughout their law enforcement careers.

In short, my office with its constituent units offers an array of resources and unique expertise that can multiply the crime-fighting efforts of Ohio's law enforcement agencies and the municipalities they represent.

In the coming months, we plan to produce a quick reference guide providing greater detail about our resources and expertise, but in the meantime I encourage agencies to contact my office with any questions.

BCI's number is 855-BCI-OHIO (855-224-6446), and the Attorney General's Help Desk is 800-282-0515.

We're here to serve you, and the more you know about what the AGO offers, the better we can do that.

*Dave Yost*

Yours,  
Dave Yost  
Ohio Attorney General

## OPOTA's Tom Quinlan has a vision for training

Earlier this year, Tom Quinlan joined the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy as the assistant executive director, the No. 2 to Executive Director Dwight Holcomb.

Quinlan's career in law enforcement began in 1987, when he was hired by Madison Township Police. Then in 1989, he was hired by the Columbus Division of Police, where he worked his way through the ranks, serving as chief beginning in December 2019 and six years as a deputy chief before that.

His new role at OPOTA, he said, provides him an opportunity to apply all that he learned — especially the lessons gleaned as police chief in a major city — to a different environment.

"Coming here, I get to see a broader view of policing," he said. "I get to see it from the perspective of suburban and rural agencies, agencies that might have only one person — not just from the viewpoint of big-city departments.

A key element of Quinlan's portfolio is envisioning how law enforcement training should continue to evolve, and how to adapt training to make best use of emerging technology.

For example, he would like to see training classes at OPOTA that simultaneously involve participants from a broad range of roles and career paths — not just everyday officers but supervisors and investigators and, if applicable, even forensic experts.

The point is that for any given situation involving law enforcement, there are unique details to consider depending on an officer's particular role.

"Let's say we did a training on pursuit driving," Quinlan said. "There would be a base-level training for operators, but maybe we also include a breakout session for supervisors, who, after all, necessarily look at pursuits through a different lens. They're the ones managing the pursuit and ultimately the ones deciding whether to terminate or continue it — and who have to justify the call and explain it to the media. And there could be a session for investigators. Maybe a crash occurred, or maybe officers stopped someone and recovered a concealed weapon. Investigators have to process that."

The objective, Quinlan said, is to apply more context to training — context that considers not just the necessary physical demands involved and the situational circumstances that arise, but factors such as emotional intelligence and legal, ethical and safety ramifications.

Quinlan, a big believer in training immersion, learned from his brother, an airline pilot, a famous quote that pilots recite: "Tell me, and I'll forget. Show me, and I'll remember. Involve me, and I'll understand."



That's why he sees virtual reality playing a big role in training.

"One failure of training is we do a lot of scenario training up front, then we go into the classroom and ask what everybody learned. But we never go back and make them do it the right way, the way it was intended to come out.

"Instead, we want to front-load that lesson: Teach them in the classroom first, put them through virtual reality training next, then have them do the scenario. That way, they leave on a win instead of a failure."

Online training, which became the standard during COVID, is useful in some cases, Quinlan said, "but there are some things that you have to feel, you have to smell, you have to touch in order for it to sink in as training."

The five regional centers that make up OPOTA's Close to Home training sites are essential for providing such hands-on experience, Quinlan said, and he's expecting a sixth site, in northwest Ohio, to be available soon.

Ultimately, the goal is to ensure that officers respond in predictable ways to ensure the best outcomes for all involved.

"As officers, we never know what we're going to walk into," he said. "But if our training results in medically safe, tactically safe and legally safe responses, the colossal police failures that we've seen nationally will diminish."

To that end, Quinlan appreciates that the best training is informed by the men and women who put their lives on the line every day.

"We want them to tell us what they need to do their jobs better. Better than anybody else, they know the training that will serve them best."

### How to report violations under Ohio's new distracted driving law

On April 4, a new state law took effect making it illegal in most circumstances for anyone in Ohio to use or hold (with any part of the body) a cellphone or other electronic communication device while driving. (This was already illegal for Ohio drivers under 18.) The change means law enforcement officers can pull over drivers using such a device for that reason alone; previously, officers could do so only if a traffic offense had been committed.

Law enforcement is issuing warnings during the first six months of the law — a grace period for drivers to adjust to the change — but will start writing tickets Oct. 5.

Under the new law, all law enforcement agencies must report the number and race of offenders who are cited each month for using or holding an electronic wireless communications device (R.C. 4511.204). Additionally, they must report citations issued to anyone who committed a traffic offense because they were using a cellphone or other device. This area is not covered by the grace period.

Law enforcement agencies should report citations using a form available through the Ohio Law Enforcement Gateway (OHLEG), found under the listing "Distracted Driver Reporting."



ON THE JOB  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE UPDATE

On the Job is typically published four times a year by the Ohio Attorney General's Office.

To offer story ideas, contact Editor Tom Rinderle at 614-644-5397 or [Thomas.Rinderle@OhioAGO.gov](mailto:Thomas.Rinderle@OhioAGO.gov). Sign up for the electronic edition at [www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/EmailUpdates](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/EmailUpdates).

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[www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/OnTheJob](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/OnTheJob)

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The Lucas County Sheriff's Office, for example, has focused on vets locked up in the county jail. The Cincinnati Police Department, which started its Military Liaison Group in 2014, emphasizes outreach by cops on the beat. And the Dayton Police Department works with the Dayton VA Medical Center to incorporate veteran-specific training for its crisis intervention team, which dates to 2002.

"My office is here to help law enforcement agencies understand how this concept can work for their situation," Attorney General Dave Yost said. "This is not a top-down, one-size-fits-all approach. In the end, the best way to help vets in crisis is to involve the key players in a community."

The push to expand local veterans response programs has been a collaborative effort involving Yost and Supreme Court Chief Justice Sharon Kennedy, a former police officer. Regional directors from the Attorney General's Office work directly with law enforcement agencies to find out whether they operate veterans response programs and, if not, how they can help them start one.

The AG's team has created a quick reference guide for starting a veterans response program. To that end, regional directors also frequently sit in on the initial organizational meetings. Additionally, the AG's office offers military pins for veterans response programs so officers can indicate their branch of military service — a small detail that often opens the door to better communication with struggling veterans. Training is another important area, so the team is working with the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy to provide a free video course on dealing with vets in crisis.

Ohio has the fifth-largest veteran population in the United States — nearly 73,000. Research shows that troops of the post-9/11 era have had more frequent and longer deployments, higher levels of exposure to combat, and a higher incidence of serious disability, including post-traumatic stress, than did their predecessors. It follows, then, that veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars have significantly higher rates of suicide and mental illness, homelessness, and drug and alcohol dependence than the civilian population.

Tragically, this is true despite the government and non-government services that exists for veterans — a safety net that also includes 29 veterans treatment courts in Ohio that collaborate with local Veterans Affairs offices.

The problem is, a lot of veterans don't know what resources exist or how to access them. And many have no idea about the health care benefits they're entitled to.

Law enforcement agencies are a logical means of connecting with veterans, both to direct them to

### Starting a veterans response program

The Ohio Attorney General's Office offers a booklet with tips on starting a veterans response program.

Programs differ from agency to agency because the first step is to identify local needs and available resources.

- Is there a Veterans Affairs Office or VA hospital in or near the jurisdiction?
- Who is the Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO) specialist assigned to the area?
- Does the jurisdiction have a veterans treatment court or a veterans-specific unit in the local jail?
- What other government and community resources exist for veterans in the area?

The next step is two-pronged — identifying a champion to lead the program and building a coalition that includes military vets on staff and community partners.

Together, a strategic plan should be developed that considers details such as:

- Training.
- Information sharing between the law enforcement agency, the VA and the justice system.
- Printed resource cards.
- Military pins.
- Creation of a trained team of first responders specifically for veterans in crisis.
- The cost of the program and available financial resources.

The booklet is available at [www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/Veterans-Response-Guide](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/Veterans-Response-Guide).

➡ **Attorney General Dave Yost is president of the National Association of Attorneys General and has encouraged his colleagues to promote veterans response programs in their states. A short video about Ohio's efforts is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BIP1WNfrAMU>**

resources and help defuse crisis situations.

Officials in Lucas and Stark counties developed their programs in conjunction with the Attorney General's Office and after consulting other agencies, including the Cincinnati PD's Military Liaison Group.

Dave Corlett, who helped start the group nine years ago as a patrol sergeant, served in the military and knew firsthand that vets in crisis respond better to fellow vets.

"I'd tell them, 'I'm not here as the police. I'm here as your brother veteran,'" he said.

### The Outreach team

**Carrie Bartunek, the AGO's external affairs director, and her team are available to work with law enforcement agencies that are considering starting a veterans response program. She can be reached at Carrie.Bartunek@OhioAGO.gov or by calling 614-728-4128.**

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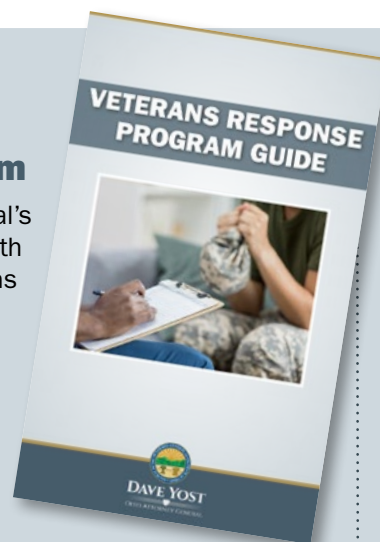
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## 'Get your act together, son!'

One of Ohio's early veterans response programs took root after a frustrating traffic stop in 2014

Cincinnati Police Sgt. Dave Corlett was frustrated by his inability to help vets he met on the beat. A former Army helicopter aeroscout during the Persian Gulf War in the early 1990s, he took the challenge personally, each encounter an in-your-face reminder of the military imperative to leave no man behind.

The tipping point came in 2014, during a traffic stop in an area beset by drug dealing. Told to get out of the car, the driver stood at parade rest — feet 12 inches apart, hands clasped behind his back, head facing forward and motionless. He addressed Corlett using the military title "first sergeant."

When the young man eventually revealed that he had just returned from Afghanistan and was searching for heroin, Corlett jumped down his throat.

"You're an embarrassment to the veteran community," Corlett yelled. "You're an embarrassment to me as a combat veteran. You need to get your act together, son!"

The bawling-out brought the man to tears.

"I knew at that moment that if I had had something to give this kid, he would have taken anything I had to offer," Corlett recalled thinking. "If I could have taken him to treatment, he would have gone with me right away. But I didn't know what to do for him. He didn't need to be in jail. He wasn't a violent felon. But here I was a senior patrol sergeant and a combat veteran, and I had no idea how to help him."

Corlett went back to the station and vented to two buddies, both also veterans. "I gotta do better."

He began volunteering with a national peer support group called Battle in Distress, where he served as a crisis intervention officer.

"Whenever the organization got a call from

nonprofits that were willing to help any veteran regardless of their circumstances."

All officers underwent training to learn about the Military Liaison Group's purpose, how to recognize post-traumatic stress, how to de-escalate volatile situations, what information to pass out, and how to get in touch with the 10-person team.

In Lucas County, deputy sheriffs, like their counterparts in Cincinnati, wear military insignia and provide information on mental health, substance abuse and housing services. Because the sheriff's office runs the county jail, though, they also work with vets who end up behind bars.

For starters, the jail's technology team revised the booking process so that names of inmates who served in the military are automatically sent to the county Veterans Services Commission, the Toledo Veterans Treatment Court, and the VA health center in Ann Arbor, Michigan — ensuring that they don't fall through the cracks.

To hammer home the message, three sergeants — all veterans — meet one-on-one with incarcerated vets every two weeks.

"What our sergeants are trying to get across is, 'Yes, I have a badge and you're in an inmate jumpsuit, but we both come from the same place,'" said Maj. Tricia White, who oversees the program started by Sheriff John Tharp before he left office in 2020.



"We found we were dealing with a lot of veterans who weren't eligible for VA care. So we had to develop a network of nonprofits that were willing to help any veteran regardless of their circumstances."

— Dave Corlett

An Army vet and former police sergeant who helped start the Cincinnati PD's Military Liaison Group

a suicidal vet anywhere in the country, they called me. I did this for about 10 months and it suddenly occurred to me that I had never told the command staff what I was doing."

So Corlett met with Chief Jeffrey Blackwell. "He loved the program and ordered me to start one in our own department. At that point, the Military Liaison Group was born."

As word got out, area departments requested training. "And then things just continued to expand," Corlett said. "The next thing you know, we're getting calls from places like San Diego and Dallas about issues they're having."

In 2021, the Justice Department honored the Military Liaison Group for innovative law enforcement and community partnerships.

Corlett, who is retired now and working as a consultant, is often asked what became of the young vet he stopped in 2014. He doesn't know but hopes that the man did, in fact, get his act together and might someday appreciate how the encounter has since helped fellow veterans.

In Stark County, meanwhile, Andrew Turowski, the police chief and assistant city manager of Louisville, is leading a countywide coalition of 20+ law enforcement agencies.

The initiative began slightly more than a year ago after representatives of the Attorney General's Office met with Judge Taryn Heath of the Stark County Honor Court to discuss veterans response programs. Judge Heath then broached the idea to the county Police Chiefs Association, citing the success of the Military Liaison Group in Cincinnati. The collaboration now includes the county's Veterans Service Commission, Criminal Justice Information System, and the Mental Health and Addiction Services Board, as well as the Attorney General's Office.

In addition to issuing military pins and training officers to deal with veterans in crisis, the program will work closely with the county Criminal Justice Information System. The system integrates data from all courts of record in Stark County into one database, which the Veterans Service Commission can then access to reach out to vets and provide services.

Turowski said law enforcement agencies are enthusiastic, and he expects the program to roll out fully in the next several months.

"We're full steam ahead," he said. "We want our veterans to get the support they need to be productive members of society. We owe them that."

# FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY: A network of trust that helps Ohio

**M**embership has its privileges. For law enforcement officers who appreciate the importance of national and global connections in fighting crime, the FBI National Academy alumni network is the club to be in.

Known as one of the premier law enforcement programs in the world, the National Academy was founded in 1935 to provide advanced training to senior officers who are proven leaders within their organizations. Academy graduates make up less than 1% of the country's law enforcement officers.

Numerous leaders at the attorney general's Bureau of Criminal Investigation and the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy have attended the 10-week program, held at the FBI's training facility in Quantico, Virginia, which shares ground with the Marine Corps base there.

Invariably, those graduates say the experience is transformative, both for the unparalleled education they receive and the influential contacts they make.

One benefit of attending the National Academy is that it breaks down silos, said Tom Quinlan, OPOTA's assistant executive director, who attended the academy in 2012 while with the Columbus Division of Police.

"Police are a naturally suspicious people — it's just our nature," he said. "But there's a trust factor that occurs among National Academy graduates, and not just among your classmates but among all NA graduates."

The National Academy, which follows a very selective admissions process, has now graduated 286 classes, totaling more than 54,000 alumni worldwide.

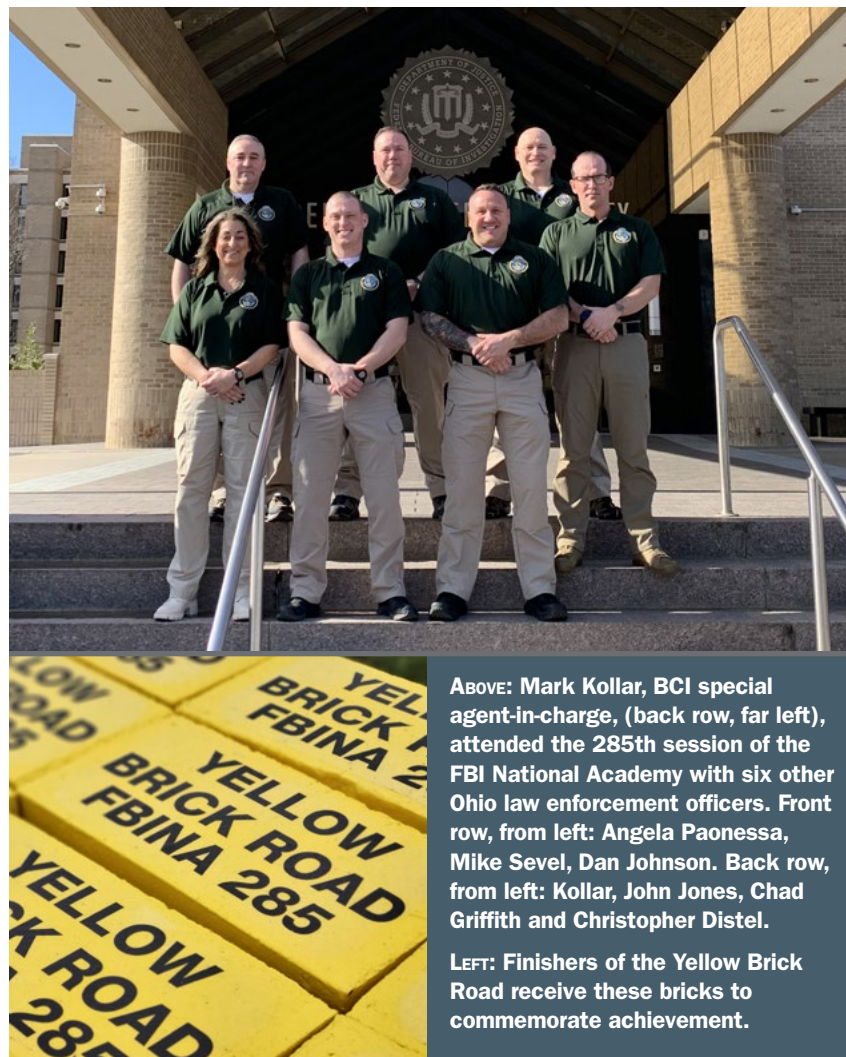
BCI Special Agent-in-Charge Mark Kollar, a spring graduate, is the latest member of the Attorney General's Office to attend. His class consisted of men and women from 47 states and the District of Columbia. In all, law enforcement officers from 28 countries were represented.

The academy offers undergraduate- and graduate-level college courses through the University of Virginia. But as cutting-edge as the classes are, Kollar said, what happens outside the classroom is as important as what happens inside.

Each academy class concludes with attendees attempting a grueling 6.1-mile obstacle course built by Marines — called the Yellow Brick Road. Finishers receive a highly prized yellow brick to commemorate their success. But before they can even think about tackling the course, academy students must prove during the first week of the session that they can run a mile in under 10 minutes.

Kollar said the qualifying run that first week inspired spontaneous camaraderie among the hundreds of officers who just days before had entered the academy's doors for the first time.

"The run was really an individual event, each of us trying to get our best time," he said. "But as soon as people finished, they would get back on the track and find somebody who was struggling and run with them and help motivate them. The last person who crossed the line had probably 30 people running alongside him — an entire group of people motivating him with each step."



**Above:** Mark Kollar, BCI special agent-in-charge, (back row, far left), attended the 285th session of the FBI National Academy with six other Ohio law enforcement officers. Front row, from left: Angela Paonessa, Mike Sevel, Dan Johnson. Back row, from left: Kollar, John Jones, Chad Griffith and Christopher Distel.

**Left:** Finishers of the Yellow Brick Road receive these bricks to commemorate achievement.

That same camaraderie lives on among classmates and other alumni throughout their careers, frequently becoming a bridge to crucial collaborations.

Soon after BCI's Roger Davis graduated from the academy in 2019, BCI tapped him to head up a new multidisciplinary Cold Case Unit as a special agent-in-charge. On numerous occasions since, he said, academy classmates and other alumni have provided him invaluable assistance.

"Anytime a supervisor or agent needs help from Pennsylvania or Texas or wherever, I'm able to reach out to my network — and not just former classmates but every graduate listed in the directory," Davis said. "And if they can't help directly, they can often intercede for me with another agency."

"It can be as simple as something like, 'Hey, I went to the FBI National Academy with Roger. Can you help him out?'"

He mentioned a sexual assault case for which, because of his contacts, he was able to quickly secure a DNA standard from California.

"Having these contacts just greatly streamlines the process," he said.

Quinlan said law enforcement tended to operate in silos in the past — a key failing cited by the 9/11 Commission, he noted. "They found communication fragmented at best, which created missed opportunities to intervene. Establishing relationships with partnering agencies reduces these gaps."

The National Academy and the FBI National Executive Institute, which Quinlan also attended, play a big part in breaking down those silos.

"As a National Academy graduate, you can quickly get in touch with the top echelon of law enforcement basically anywhere in the world," he said.

As an example, Quinlan cited the 2015 terrorist attack at the offices of the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo in Paris, where 12 people were slain. He knew that a classmate, a Paris police official, would be deeply involved in the investigation, so he texted him with a short note of encouragement.

# CPT funding for next two years is assured

Attorney General Yost's commitment to ensuring that Ohio's law enforcement officers are among the best trained in the nation has the full financial backing of the state legislature.

In the two-year operating budget that was recently passed, both houses of the General Assembly were on board with an \$80 million allocation for continuing professional training, as recommended by Gov. Mike DeWine. The money would cover CPT for the next two fiscal years, beginning July 1 of this year.

"Ohio officers need advanced and ongoing training to keep up with the demands of the job and to stay ahead of the dangers that come with it," Yost said. "I'm thankful for the legislature's backing and hope that in the near future we can create a permanent, sustainable fund that pays for CPT and eliminates the need for lawmakers to make funding decisions every two years as part of the budget process."

CPT is an investment by the state in the development and welfare of law enforcement officers, their agencies and the communities they serve. But funding has traditionally been unpredictable.

Even though 24 hours of CPT is technically mandated every year under state law, the same law says agencies can't require CPT if the legislature doesn't set aside money to pay for it. Consequently, in past years, when hard decisions about balancing the state budget had to be made, CPT funding was sometimes sacrificed.



## What training do you desire?

The Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy is continually reviewing its course offerings and uses the suggestions of law enforcement officers to revise and expand the curriculum. Your opinion matters. Please help by scanning the QR code and completing the two-question survey regarding topics for 2024 CPT and topics for in-person courses offered by OPOTA. The survey can also be accessed by going to [www.surveymonkey.com/r/T6PKXS7](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/T6PKXS7)

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As the aftermath of the attack continued to unfold on TV that day, Quinlan got a message back from his colleague informing him of details about the case, a development that amazes him to this day.

Of course, the communication flows both ways.

Quinlan remembers another classmate, a Border Patrol agent, who contacted him about an operation that was running guns to Canada from Columbus. "He told me what we should be looking out for, and I put him in touch with the right people here to identify the source."

After a nearly five-year lapse, CPT was resumed as a pilot program in calendar year 2022 under AG Yost, and the legislature extended funding through the first six months of 2023. Now, it appears that funding will be in place through June 2025.

According to requirements set by the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission, in 2023 the state's 33,000+ sworn peace officers and troopers — full-time, part-time, reserve and auxiliary — must complete eight of the 24 required hours in the following three categories:

- School Threat and Safety Training (3 hours)
- Legal Updates (3 hours)
- Arrest, Search and Seizure (2 hours)

Each law enforcement agency will determine the coursework for the remaining 16 hours of required training, based on the jurisdiction's specific needs.

Courses offered by the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy can be taken either online or in-person — at the OPOTA main academy in London or through OPOTA Close to Home, which consists of five regional provider educational centers, one each in Springfield, Cincinnati, Lorain, Warren and Nelsonville. A sixth site is expected to be added sometime this year.

Law enforcement agencies also have the option of teaching the OPOTA-developed courses themselves or contracting with a third party to teach them. More information is available on the OPOTA page at [www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov).

# 'How-to' videos help Ohio officers make use of expanded NIBIN technology

The attorney general's Bureau of Criminal Investigation and the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy have launched a series of training videos to further educate the state's law enforcement officers on the use of the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network.

NIBIN is an automated ballistic-imaging tool that allows for the comparison of fired cartridge cases in order to link crimes involving the same firearm.

The videos were produced to coincide with a major rollout of additional NIBIN equipment at three BCI labs, an expansion that greatly increases local law enforcement's access to the technology.

BCI now has five additional NIBIN stations online — a second unit in Richfield and two new units each at BCI labs in London (Madison County) and Bowling Green (Wood County).

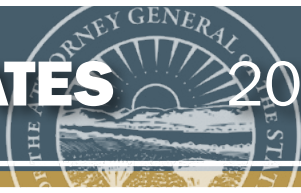
Two of the three videos in the NIBIN series are finished and available through the OPOTA Online portal, under the "Roll Call Refreshers" catalog.

The first video describes policies and best practices for NIBIN and explains how to collect and submit evidence. The second illustrates how to properly swab firearms for DNA evidence. The third training video, about following up on NIBIN leads, will be released in the coming weeks.

Each course counts for 0.25 credits toward the 24-hour Continuing Professional Training (CPT) requirement. The courses, which can be completed in 15 minutes or less, are designed to be fully compatible with mobile devices.

The OPOTA portal can be accessed at <https://opota.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/>.





## Mark Your Calendar

Coming in October

# LEC

LAW ★ ENFORCEMENT ★ CONFERENCE

### 2023 Law Enforcement Conference

Oct. 24-25, 2023 | Hyatt Regency Columbus

Mark your calendar to attend Ohio's preeminent gathering of state, county and municipal law enforcement. Information about registration and accommodations will be available online in August. The annual conference includes more than a dozen workshops covering a range of topical subjects. In addition, Ohio's distinguished law enforcement officers and civilian supporters will be honored at the awards luncheon.

Go to [www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/LEC](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/LEC) for updated information closer to the event.

# ON THE JOB

CRIMINAL JUSTICE UPDATE

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'HOW-TO' VIDEOS NIBIN



DAVE YOST  
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL