



MEDIA RELEASE

Homeland Security

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John R. Kasich, Governor

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OHIO HOMELAND SECURITY PRESENTS EXPLOSIVE-DETECTION CANINE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO POLICE DEPARTMENT

COLUMBUS – The University of Toledo (UT) has enhanced safety on campus and in the surrounding area with the introduction of Quinty, the university’s newest officer and explosive-detection canine. Funding for the canine and its ongoing care is provided by Ohio Homeland Security (OHS), a division of the Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS), through a federal grant and OHS budget funds.

“To protect the people that we care about most, there’s probably no better way I can think of than through preventative measures,” said ODPS Director John Born. “The fact that we can not only respond to threats, but clear areas before events that could be targets, will be lifesaving.”

After 10 weeks of training, Quinty, a male Belgian Malinois, is ready to patrol UT alongside his handler, University Law Enforcement Officer (ULEO) Kevin Zimmerman. A 15-year veteran of the The University of Toledo Police Department, ULEO Zimmerman spent the past five weeks training with canine Quinty in Columbus. While his primary duty is on the UT campus, Quinty is available to assist local law enforcement if called upon.

“We are excited to welcome Quinty to the UT campus,” said The University of Toledo Police Chief Jeff Newton. “Quinty brings a new dimension to our safety efforts and will be protecting the campus for many years to come.”

In addition to The University of Toledo, Kent State University, Cleveland State University, Central State University, and Ohio University were selected to receive canines during this round of university deployments. Bowling Green State University, Ohio State University and Youngstown State University received explosive-detection canines in June 2014. OHS created the program earlier this year to aid in response to potential bomb threats at Ohio universities and their surrounding communities.

Federal grants and budget funds through OHS cover the expense of the purchase, training, veterinarian bills and other equipment necessary for the program’s success. The cost for each canine is \$12,767.

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