



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **OHIO COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY-POLICE ADVISORY BOARD ADOPTS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STANDARD**

**COLUMBUS** – The Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board met August 3 at the Ohio Department of Public Safety, at which time board members approved a new state standard on Community Engagement. This is the third standard adopted by the Ohio Collaborative and states:

*“Agencies must adopt a community engagement strategy with a primary focus on improving Police – Community relations.”*

More than 50 agencies have become certified by meeting standards for the use of force, including deadly force, and agency recruitment and hiring. Those standards are the first of their kind in Ohio and were developed by the Ohio Collaborative in August 2015.

The state has partnered with the Buckeye State Sheriffs’ Association and the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police to help certify Ohio’s nearly 1,000 law enforcement agencies on a process to ensure that they are in compliance with Ohio’s new standards.

Certifications will continue throughout 2016. The first list of all Ohio compliant agencies will be published in March 2017.

Gov. John R. Kasich established the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory board to oversee implementation of recommendations from the Ohio Task Force on Community-Police Relations.

For more information on the Ohio Collaborative, its members and the new standard, visit:

<http://www.ocjs.ohio.gov/ohiocollaborative/>

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