

# Passing of Ohio Homeland Security Executive Director Richard Baron

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Ohio Homeland Security Executive Director Richard Baron. Executive Director Baron had more than 30 years of service in public safety and the emergency services field and was named Executive Director of Ohio Homeland Security and the Homeland Security Advisor for Ohio in September 2011. Executive Director Baron served as a Captain in the Ohio State Highway Patrol, retiring after 25 years of service in April 2012. Executive Director Baron inspired his staff, peers and others as he battled his illness for many months while serving his duties. Please keep his family and friends in your thoughts.

S/Lt. Rick Zwayer, who has served as Acting Director of Homeland Security since May 19, 2015, has been named Executive Director. He graduated from the Fusion Center Leadership Program at the Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey, CA, on Nov., 22, 2014 and is a graduate of the Southern Police Institute-Administrative Officer's Course at the University of Louisville. S/Lt. Zwayer joined the Patrol in January 1993 as a member of the 124th Academy Class. He moved through the ranks of the Patrol, serving at various posts and positions, including Assistant Academy Commandant, Post Commander and Spokesperson. He also earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement in 1996, and was selected Post Trooper of the Year twice during his career.

