

## Multicultural Affairs Office

The Ohio Homeland Security/  
Multicultural Affairs Office seeks to  
promote cooperation, understanding,  
mutual respect and harmony between  
law enforcement agencies and the  
diverse communities across Ohio to  
ensure that the state is as prepared as  
possible to prevent, protect, respond  
to and recover from potential acts of  
terrorism.



For more information:

(614) 387-6171

[www.homelandsecurity.ohio.gov](http://www.homelandsecurity.ohio.gov)



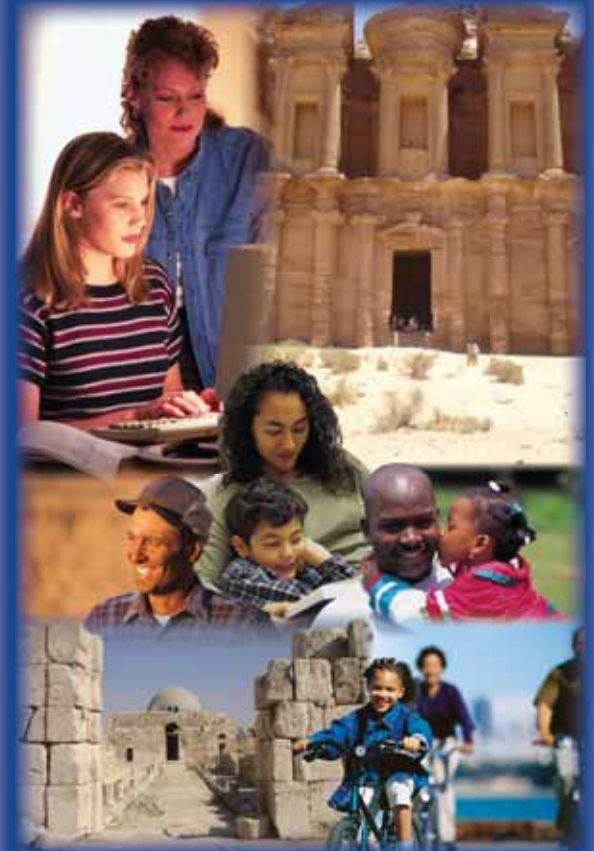
[www.homelandsecurity.ohio.gov](http://www.homelandsecurity.ohio.gov)



Ted Strickland, Governor  
Henry Guzmán, Director  
William F. Vedra, Jr., Executive Director

[www.publicsafety.ohio.gov](http://www.publicsafety.ohio.gov)

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## Multicultural Affairs Office

The Multicultural Affairs Office was established within the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Division of Homeland Security to develop a culturally-diverse outreach program for all Ohioans with a focus on Arab/Muslim American communities. The Office recognizes the importance of developing relationships with the many different communities throughout Ohio in order to achieve its important mission.

### Mission

*The Multicultural Affairs Office seeks to promote cooperation, understanding, mutual respect and harmony among Ohio's diverse communities.*

## Goals

- Engage the multicultural communities to play an active role in strengthening Ohio Homeland Security initiatives
- Present cultural awareness programs to the public through workshops, training and visits to schools and the workplace in both the public and private sector
- Encourage statewide cooperation and build partnerships with citizen groups by establishing and working with advisory councils that represent the diverse population of Ohio
- Establish a task force representing community-based organizations
- Establish direct lines of communication with the media to provide accurate information regarding multicultural relations
- Offer training programs to public employees regarding issues relating to diversity and multiculturalism
- Publish, post, and make available public information on issues relating to multiculturalism
- Nurture a relationship of mutual respect among different communities, law enforcement and homeland security officials
- Participate in cultural events observed by the communities

## Advisory Councils

- Formed to reflect the diverse communities of Ohio
- Hold regular meetings with law enforcement and homeland security officials to increase communication and promote trust
- Work with liaisons from the Multicultural Affairs Office

## Facts and Figures

- Approximately 3.5 million Arab Americans live in the United States.
- Approximately seven million American Muslims live in the United States.
- Islam is one of the fastest growing religions in the United States.
- Approximately 200,000 Arab/Muslim Americans live in Ohio.
- Approximately 75 percent of Arab Americans living in Ohio are Muslims.
- Columbus has the largest Muslim population in Ohio.
- Columbus has the second largest Somali population in the country.
- There are more than 70 Arab/Muslim American organizations and mosques in Ohio.