



MEDIA RELEASE

Criminal Justice Services

Ohio Criminal Justice Services • Karhlton F. Moore, Executive Director
www.ocjs.ohio.gov



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

September 23, 2011

Contact: Kristen Castle, Public Information Officer, (614) 728-4623

OHIO RECOGNIZES NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR MURDER VICTIMS

Department Continues to Remember and Honor Former Employee, Other Victims

(COLUMBUS) – The Ohio Department of Public Safety’s (ODPS) Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) recognizes the National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims.

Around the nation, September 25 is a day to honor murder victims and recognize the impact of homicide on surviving family members, friends, co-workers and loved ones.

“The National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims allows us all to remember those we have lost to senseless violence,” said OCJS Executive Director Karhlton Moore. “OCJS is committed to reducing violence and providing law enforcement, prosecution and victim service organizations resources to help people impacted by murder.”

At the Ohio Department of Public Safety, the National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims touches many employees. In 2002, family, friends and co-workers experienced first-hand the loss and tragedy murder causes when then-Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) employee Jill J. Hand was murdered by her husband in their Delaware County home. On Sept. 25, 2009, the Department dedicated a Memorial Bench in Jill’s and all murder victims’ honor. The Memorial Bench has been permanently placed on display in the main lobby of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles at the Ohio Department of Public Safety, where Jill worked for nearly 22 years.

Sadly, murder continues to impact far too many Ohioans. Last year, 476 Ohioans were murdered and 14,748 people were murdered nationally. For Ohio, that meant at least 476 mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, husbands and wives whose lives were taken, and hundreds more individuals who are left grieving. For more crime statistics, log onto http://www.ocjs.ohio.gov/crime_stats_reports.stm

###

A division of the Ohio Department of Public Safety, OCJS serves a wide variety of agencies committed to reducing and preventing crime across Ohio through research, technology and grants. OCJS coordinates and funds the efforts of DUI Task Forces and grants for local law enforcement and safety partners to combat impaired and unsafe driving and promotes educational programs, coalition-building efforts and campaigns focused on highway safety.