Law Enforcement Initiatives
Annual Report 2020
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ONIC Overview
The Ohio Narcotics Intelligence Center (ONIC) was established in 2019 when Ohio Governor Mike DeWine signed Executive Order 2019-20D. ONIC is made up of criminal intelligence analysts and forensic computer specialists that assist law enforcement agencies and drug task forces by providing investigation and case support through the extraction and analysis of cell phones and other electronic devices. ONIC provides criminal case support, computer forensics, tactical, strategical and operational intelligence support, trend analysis, and dark web investigations.

In 2020, ONIC Intel assisted nearly 300 criminal investigations, supported 56 non-criminal requests, and received 51 intelligence reports. Analysts processed 393 requests for assistance and provided 381 workups. ONIC Forensics assisted in over 360 cases, analyzed over 900 cellphones, and conducted over 1,573 forensic examinations. During the past year, ONIC has established working partnerships with the Ohio Board of Pharmacy and the Ohio National Guard. ONIC works in collaboration with RecoveryOhio, the Ohio Task Force Commanders Association (OTFCA), the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OHIOMHAS), the Drug Monitoring Initiative, Cuyahoga County Prosecutor’s Office, Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), Board of Pharmacy, and Crime Stoppers.
ONIC, along with RecoveryOhio, established a Monthly Drug Trends Call. The calls feature collaboration among law enforcement partners throughout Ohio and are aimed at combating the narcotics crisis from multiple angles. The calls host a group of reoccurring core presenters from multiple sector agencies including public health, law enforcement, regulatory agencies as well as featured speakers from areas of expertise relevant to emerging trends. In addition to the monthly call, ONIC helped to facilitate several other reoccurring calls that focus on dedicated topics. These calls report significant findings back to ONIC/RecoveryOhio and are a part of ONIC’s efforts to establish sharing partnerships and actionable intelligence related to Ohio’s narcotics epidemic.

The RecoveryOhio Monthly Drug Trends Meeting was created to provide decision makers across diverse public sector partnerships with information sharing opportunities and actionable intelligence on emerging trends, patterns, insights, and outcomes related to Ohio’s narcotics epidemic. Due to the great response received, a need for information flow to more specific target audiences was realized, thus creating the below meetings.

The Ohio Quick Response Team (QRT) Outreach Quarterly Meeting
The goal of the meeting is to provide the QRT outreach programs a space to collaborate and give task forces who do not currently have a QRT the opportunity to hear what other task forces are doing in their communities.

National Drug Trends Meeting
The purpose of this quarterly call is to connect with Ohio’s source cities around the nation to discuss current drug trends, drug prices and how current events impact the drug trade.

Emerging Drug Scientific Working Group (EDSWG)
By establishing EDSWG, ONIC seeks to mitigate the challenges experienced with emerging drug data through regular communications with Ohio forensic scientists in the fields of drug chemistry, and toxicology as well as participation from public universities with forensic programs.
ONIC Timeline

**JULY 2019:** Presented dark web and cryptocurrency overview at the Addiction Studies Institute’s annual conference to an audience of healthcare, behavioral healthcare, and criminal justice professionals.

**JULY 31, 2019:** Governor DeWine signed Executive Order 2019-20D, creating the ONIC.

**AUGUST 2019:** Supported ONIC’s first on-scene search warrant with the DEA.

**AUGUST 2019-APRIL 2020:** ODPS Director’s Office and ONIC leadership staffed, renovated, and equipped offices in Columbus and Seven Hills.

**SEPTEMBER 2019:**
- Presented ONIC overview, dark web and cryptocurrency awareness to investigators at Ohio Narcotics Association Regional Coordinating Officers (NARCO) Annual Conference.
- Supported first Board of Pharmacy search warrant.

**OCTOBER 2019:** ONIC partnered with the Ohio National Guard and staffed the Columbus office with the first of two Counterdrug Task Force analysts.

**DECEMBER 2019:**
- ONIC officially began accepting requests for assistance.
- Presented ONIC overview, dark web and cryptocurrencies at Ohio Law Enforcement Executives Summit (OLEES).

**FEBRUARY 2020:**
- ONIC presented at the Ohio Homeland Security Intelligence Liaison Officer annual conference.
- U.S. Senator Rob Portman visited the ONIC.

**JULY 2020:** ONIC and Millennium Health begins a first of its kind state level data sharing partnership on emerging drug threats to Ohioans.

**JULY 2020:** Presenting ONIC overview, dark web and cryptocurrencies at Ohio Law Enforcement Executives Summit (OLEES).

**SEPTEMBER 2020:** ONIC hosted the first RecoveryOhio monthly drug trends call with partners across diverse sector agencies.

**APRIL-MAY 2020:** ONIC began COVID-19 pandemic support in the form of contact tracing and mobility reports.

**AUGUST 2020:** ONIC met with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms to discuss operational responses to firearm-involved drug cases.
OCTOBER 2020: ONIC began participating in Ohio Homeland Security Classified Briefings.

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2020: ONIC began planning a quarterly series of calls to begin in early 2021 for forensic scientists across the state to discuss emerging drug trends and controlled substance scheduling actions.

DECEMBER 2020:
- ONIC hosted the first Quick Response Team meeting.
- ONIC partnered with the Texas Department of Public Safety to host second National Drug Trends Meeting.

It was great to get briefed today about the life-saving work that is being done as a result of ONIC’s efforts. The addiction epidemic has stolen thousands of lives from Ohio and across our country but the work being done at ONIC will help ensure more Ohioans can reach their God-given potential. I applaud Governor DeWine for creating this facility and making data and analysis a priority in our efforts to address the addiction crisis in our communities. I will continue to work with my colleagues in the Senate to make sure those on the ground, our community leaders, and local officials have the support and funding they need to continue their work to fight this addiction epidemic.

— Senator Rob Portman
about his February 18, 2020, visit to the Columbus office
Intelligence

ONIC employs nine Public Safety Intelligence Analysts, two Public Safety Intelligence Managers, four Ohio National Guard Counterdrug Analysts, and one Ohio National Guard Social Science Researcher. The analysts provide on-site assistance, subject identification and cyber evidence analysis, and a variety of intelligence products ranging from cellphone record analysis, historical call detail record analysis and mapping, live cell phone ping mapping, live and historical GPS tracker analysis, pattern, trend, and link analysis, Spanish interpretation, proactive intelligence reports, bulletins and BOLOS.

Numbers above reflect requests and work captured by ONIC analysts and are subject to change based on reporting methods.

Combined Requests for Assistance (RFA)

- 280 RFA
- 113 RFA with workup
- 393 Total Combined RFA

Combined Work Products

- 268 Workup
- 113 RFA with workup
- 381 Total Workups

Highlights

ONIC analysts utilized a money order transaction record database in two separate cases to identify cross-border money wires from U.S. residents suspected of sending drug proceeds across the southern border to Mexico.

An ONIC analyst assisted on a DEA wire that helped solidify potential charges and led to the identification of the source of supply and a second wire. The second wire on the source of supply helped in identifying the location of drugs and money. The analyst provided line reports and analysis on the wire logs, as well as identification of phone numbers and locations.

ONIC analysts assisted a task force and federal investigators with social media analysis of a suspected street gang/drug trafficking organization, for consideration for Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization (RICO) charges.

ONIC analysts assisted a task force and federal investigators by providing 76 target profiles in a mass drug arrest sweep.

An ONIC analyst provided detailed analytical reports on a 30 device case for Hilliard Police Department. These reports led to a 51 case indictment against nine subjects of the investigation, in addition to federal indictments. The indictments included multiple felonies and were the culmination of months of intelligence analysis and cooperation between ONIC Intel, Forensics, and detectives at Hilliard Police Department.

An ONIC analyst assisted a police department within Operation Legend in showing associations between 17 individuals that are potentially acting as a street gang.
More Highlights

An ONIC analyst provided analysis of a cellular device recovered out of a fatal overdose that occurred in May in Greene County. The analyst assembled a timeline of the victim’s last hours of activity before fatally overdosing, including providing communications highlights and potential identities of the dealer and his girlfriend/ co-conspirator, as well as potential witnesses who last communicated with and/or saw the victim prior to his death. The Greene County ACE Task Force obtained felony indictments against the dealer and his girlfriend in December.

An ONIC analyst reviewed a digital device extraction for a potential overdose victim for the Columbus Police Department. The analyst was able to identify three possible drug suppliers that could have contributed to the victim’s overdose, as well as two people who worked in the medical field that likely sold and used illegal narcotics. The Columbus Police Department stated they would report these individuals to their respective medical boards.

An ONIC analyst worked on an overdose death case with Cleveland Division of Police. The detective provided three phones: The suspect’s drug phone, the suspect’s personal phone, and the victim’s phone. This case is being tried federally with the findings provided by the analyst.

An ONIC analyst assisted Columbus PD by analyzing communications from a fatal overdose victim’s phone in the final days before his death. The analyst located chatter potentially identifying the presence of acetyl fentanyl in the case and in the Columbus area.

Board of Pharmacy Case Types Supported
ONIC analysts assisted Board of Pharmacy (BOP) with providing criminal case support on twenty-one cases by helping BOP to locate doctor shoppers to divert into treatment in the Early Intervention program. Additionally, ONIC analysts assisted BOP with eleven questionable prescribing/dispensing by doctor cases.

- Requests for assistance: 33 (+13)
- Workups: 28 (+13)
- (Combined RFA w/workup: 13)
- Cases supported: 38

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case Type</th>
<th>Cases</th>
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<tr>
<td>Deception to Obtain / Early Intervention Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Questionable Prescribing / Dispensing</td>
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<td>Trafficking in Drugs</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical Marijuana Theft of Product</td>
<td>1</td>
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ONIC Intelligence served multiple Task Forces, Sheriff Offices, Police Departments, Prosecutor’s Offices, Federal and State Agencies. Task forces served:

- Greene County Agencies for Combined Enforcement (ACE TF)
- Brown County Drug Task Force
- Crime Enforcement Agency of Ashtabula County (CEAAC)
- Central Ohio Drug Enforcement Task Force (CODE)
- Columbiana County Drug Task Force
- Cincinnati Regional Narcotics Unit, Drug Abuse Reduction Task Force (DART)
- Fairfield Major Crimes Unit
- Franklin County Sheriff’s Office Homeland Security- Investigations
- Franklin County Special Investigations Unit
- Franklin County Heroin Overdose Prevention & Education Task Force
- Hamilton County Heroin Task Force
- Jefferson County Drug Task Force
- Lake County Drug Task Force
- Lawrence County Drug Major Crimes Unit
- LEAD Task Force
- Lorain County Drug Task Force
- Mahoning Valley Law Enforcement Task Force
- Multi Area Narcotics Unit
- Marion Metropolitan Task Force (MARMET)
- Medina County Drug Task Force
- Medina-Summit
- Metropolitan Richland Enforcement Unit (METRICH)
- Northern Ohio Law Enforcement Task Force (NOLETF)
- Ohio Task Force Commanders Association
- Ottawa County Drug Task Force
- Portage County Drug Task Force
- Southeast Area Task Force (SEALE)
- Stark County Drug Task Force
- Summit County Drug Unit
- Trumbull Action Group
- Toledo Metro Drug Task Force
- Warren County Drug Task Force
- Westshore Enforcement Bureau Task Force (WEB)

ONIC Intel produced six (6) intelligence bulletins on emerging drug trends, including isotonitazene, xylazine, LSD, 3-MeO-PCO, eCigarettes, and overdose awareness.

October 2020 ONIC began monitoring Central Ohio Crime Stoppers tip line.
Forensics
ONIC Forensics employs four Forensic Computer Specialists (FCS) who have a diverse background of professional experience in computer forensics and digital investigations, cyber security, Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) and political corruption. ONIC Forensics offers processing and analysis of forensic images from a variety of electronic devices, state of the art device extraction, forensic video analysis, cryptocurrency seizure and analysis, as well as dark web investigations.

What We Offer

Preserve & Collect Digital Evidence
- Any format of digital storage
- On-scene support with digital device location and identification
- Rapid on-scene processing for office environments
- Drop off or pickup @ ONIC or in the field

Process Forensic Images for Analysis
- Premium law enforcement forensic tools
- DVR and Video Surveillance extraction
- Photograph of original evidence and sub-components

Produce Digital Extractions
- Forensic Best Copy of extraction
- Generate forensic reports for Requesting Agency
- Transfer work product to ONIC Intelligence

Perform Forensic Analysis
- Browser history
- Location analysis
- Network identification
- User application data analysis
- Dark Web/Cryptocurrency analysis
- Data recovery

ONIC Forensic Certifications
Certified Forensic Computer Examiner (IACIS CFCE)  
Certified Forensic Examiner (SANS GIAC GCFE)  
Certified Advanced Smartphone Forensics (SANS GIAC GASF)  
Certified Cyber Crime Examiner (NW3C 3CE)  
Certified Ethical Hacker (EC-Council CEH)  
Certified Incident Handler (EC-Council CIH)  
Cellebrite Certified Mobile Examiner (CCME)  
Cellebrite Certified Physical Analyzer (CCPA)  
Cellebrite Certified Operator (CCO)  
Certified Forensic Video Technician (CFVT)  
AccessData Certified Examiner (ACE)
Forensic Lab – 2020
In 2020, both labs were equipped with state of the art digital equipment for forensic acquisitions, software for processing digital evidence and a variety of storage solutions to accommodate the distribution of criminal evidence to law enforcement as well as the ONIC Intelligence Staff for analysis.

By the end of 2020, ONIC Forensics had performed 1,573 examinations of 951 devices.

Forensics has an overall +70% success rate of extraction from submitted digital evidence. In September 2020, ONIC also began supporting the submission of devices by meeting law enforcement in the field.

Forensic Support in the Field
ONIC provides support from the collection of numerous devices from multiple sites to a single site where specific electronic records are collected from a business. While on-scene, ONIC provides a rapid assessment of on-site network, remote network connection, and digital storage.

Later in the year, ONIC Forensics announced a program to assist with the submission of original evidence for examination. Any Ohio law enforcement agency can contact the ONIC Forensics Team and coordinate for remote collection at a convenient location.
ONIC Forensics Task Forces served:
- Fairfield/Hocking Major Crimes Unit
- Central Ohio Drug Task Force
- Crime Enforcement Agency of Ashtabula County
- Summit County Drug Unit
- Trumbull Action Group
- Ottawa County Task Force
- Delaware County Drug Task Force
- Franklin County Drug Task Force
- Lake County Narcotics Agency
- Mahoning Valley Violent Crimes Task Force
- METRICH Enforcement Unit
- Southeast Area Law Enforcement
- Columbiana County Drug TF
- Drug Abuse Reduction Task Force
- Mahoning Valley Law Enforcement Task Force
- Medway Drug Enforcement Agency
- Stark County Metro Narcotics
- Toledo Metro Drug TF

### 2020 Cases, Device, & Examinations

- **Cases Opened:**
  - January: 34
  - February: 42
  - March: 42
  - April: 34
  - May: 18
  - June: 25
  - July: 32
  - August: 36
  - September: 46
  - October: 51
  - November: 39
  - December: 39

- **Devices Submitted in 2020:**
  - Cell Phone: 822
  - SD Card/Ext Storage: 51
  - DVR: 29
  - Tablet: 19
  - Laptop/PC/Mac: 28
  - Digital Camera: 2
Notable Cases

ONIC began supporting a drug task force in early 2020 by examining 20 devices seized from a search warrant that led to the location of two bodies missing since 2018.

The ongoing investigation has brought in additional devices from the 2018 missing persons case, a fatal overdose victim’s phone from 2019, and devices from a number of co-conspirators.

**2 bodies found in concrete in Hilltop residence**

January 14, 2021

The remains were found during the execution of a search warrant on Thursday. The bodies were discovered partially dismembered, buried in the basement and covered in concrete.

Authorities are investigating the possibility that the bodies may be connected to the Aug. 26, 2018 missing persons report.

https://www.10tv.com/article/news/local/bodies-found-in-hilltop-residence/530-a118f7c7-b66c-4ab2-9213-a38e2787da14

“Operation Hadley’s Hope” was supported by ONIC on scene with evidence collection, cataloging, triaging and previewing over 60 devices seized during the execution 10 simultaneous search warrants.

ONIC assisted in the execution of a search warrant at a massage parlor involving the trafficking of drugs, organized crime, assault, human trafficking, and prostitution. ONIC Forensics Staff located a number of hidden cameras and collected over 20 devices from the scene which were later submitted for forensic examination.
Customer Feedback

The Ohio Task Force Commanders Association would like to thank Governor DeWine, Director Stickrath and the staff of the Ohio Department of Public safety for the creation of the Ohio Narcotics Intelligence Center. Since its inception Ohio’s multi-jurisdictional law enforcement task forces have come to depend on the unit and its skilled team of intelligence analysts and forensic specialist to assist us in our investigative work, and has made the ONIC an integral part of our day to day operations. Their ability to gain access and forensically analyze digital evidence, has allowed us to exploit technology used every day by drug traffickers and criminal organizations that seek to harm Ohio communities. Their work has led to large scale seizures of drugs and currency, disrupted theft rings, dismantled criminal organizations and led to significant convictions throughout the state. Quite literally the ONIC has been a game changer for local law enforcement and we look forward to our continued collaboration.

– President Dennis Lowe, OTFCA

The Grove City Division of Police have utilized the services provided by the Ohio Narcotics Intelligence Center on multiple narcotics related cases including overdose deaths. The comprehensive analysis conducted by the ONIC team has enhanced our investigative capabilities and generated new leads. ONIC’s ability to parse out an extensive amount of data into a decipherable presentation has been beneficial to investigators and prosecutors alike. In one specific overdose death case, ONIC’s analysis identified the supply source of the narcotics responsible for the death. This analysis led to an indictment for involuntary manslaughter. ONIC has quickly built a strong reputation with narcotics investigators and will continue to be an important resource.

– Sergeant Michael Weaver, Grove City Division of Police, Special Operations Bureau

Upon request of the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy the Ohio Narcotic Intelligence Center (ONIC) provided intelligence services pertaining to a drug diversion and trafficking investigation which resulted in a 46 count indictment of five individuals including counts of; Engaging in a pattern of corrupt activity, Trafficking in drugs, Theft, Possession of drugs, Tampering with evidence and Receiving stolen property. Through its early intervention efforts, the Board of Pharmacy has examined Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System (OARRS) data to identify patients who display drug seeking behavior and provide these citizens the opportunity to avoid criminal charges by seeking treatment through sustainable addiction services. To date, the ONIC has provided intelligence services for 27 OARRS early intervention cases. The intelligence received helped the Board of Pharmacy agents successfully contact eight people; seven of whom agreed to participate in the intervention program. ONIC’s support has provided intelligence which was vital in locating and intervening with these citizens. The support provided to the Board of Pharmacy has been timely and actionable. Investigators have utilized intelligence gleaned from the ONIC in furtherance of its drug investigations and used such results in the criminal prosecution and successful early intervention of multiple people.

– Kevin Flaharty, Ohio Board of Pharmacy
Over the past year, the analysts at ONIC have been extremely helpful on multiple occasions regarding Narcotics and Gang related investigations. My personal experience is that the analyst at ONIC have been able to assist the members of Gang Unit and Operation Legend Task Force with the following: Cell phone and electronic device warrant dumps, social media investigations including monitoring drug and gang crimes, activity power points, Excel Spreadsheets. I have worked closely with the analyst on several occasions on target identification, which has helped several ongoing Gang and Narcotics related investigations. The have worked hard and have incorporated social media into their wheelhouse with our assistance which has helped several Task Force Detectives. Once again thank you to all the ONIC staff and we appreciate their continued hard work.

– Alex Gumucio, Cleveland PD, Gang Impact Unit

The Greene County ACE Task Force has used ONIC several times since its inception. This intelligence center provided by the Ohio Department of Public Safety has been very beneficial to our organization and its participating Greene County agencies. This free assistance is especially welcomed in an age of dwindling budgets and grants. Recently, the Greene County ACE Task Force secured a 10-count indictment on two subjects involved in an overdose death in Greene County. This investigation would not have been possible without the help of Analyst Kara Robb at ONIC. The ACE Task Force is excited to continue its partnership with ONIC to combat the drug trafficking and overdose problems within Greene County.

– Detective Adam Kempf, Greene County ACE Task Force

I wanted to take a moment to thank you and your team for your efforts in helping us to investigate HPD #20-000476. This was the very large Engaging in the Pattern of Corrupt Activity (RICO for Drugs/Fraud) investigation. We received a 51 count indictment charging nine people in this investigation, not to including the federal indictments that also came out of this. There is no question that if we did not have the thorough and detailed analysis from your unit, these results would have been different. For that, we say THANK YOU! Please pass on our appreciation to ONIC Forensics, too, as we inundated them with various electronic items. They too, were instrumental in our investigation!

– Hilliard PD
I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for the support we have received from ONIC. Agents from the Washington County Major Crimes Task Force under my command have been investigating several large narcotics organizations with suspected Mexican Cartel origins engaged in the transportation and sale of illegal drugs in our area. Of course utilization of cell phones is critical to providing these individuals with the means of accomplishing their objectives. During the course of our investigations we seized numerous cell phones during traffic interdiction stops and the execution of search warrants at key locations. Your officers utilizing sophisticated equipment were able to successfully extract information from these devices which aided greatly in the development of significant intelligence information.

The success of our investigation would have not been possible without the outstanding cooperation we received from your employees. Please convey my thanks to your officers for their participation and making this investigation a success. If my office can be of any assistance to you in the future please call me on my direct line at 740-516-3990.

– Larry Mincks, Washington County Sheriff

We have shelves of overdose victim’s cell phones that have sat idle due to that fact that we have not been able to access them with our current technology. Cell phones and the forensic analysis of them are key evidence that lead back to the supplier in many overdose death investigations. By enhancing our relationship with the ONIC, we will be able to obtain more investigative leads on cases and get the telephonic evidence collection we need to identify and ultimately get the suppliers off the streets and the justice deserved for the victims.

– Thomas M. Fallon, Investigative Commander, Hamilton County Heroin Task Force

Hamilton County Quick Response Team (QRT)

The Grove City Division of Police have utilized the services provided by the Ohio Narcotics Intelligence Center on multiple narcotics related cases including overdose deaths. The comprehensive analysis conducted by the ONIC team has enhanced our investigative capabilities and generated new leads. ONIC’s ability to parse out an extensive amount of data into a decipherable presentation has been beneficial to investigators and prosecutors alike. In one specific overdose death case, ONIC’s analysis identified the supply source of the narcotics responsible for the death. This analysis led to an indictment for involuntary manslaughter. ONIC has quickly built a strong reputation with narcotics investigators and will continue to be an important resource.

– Sergeant Michael Weaver, Grove City Division of Police, Special Operations Bureau

As the Commander of the Fairfield-Athens Major Crimes Unit we have come to depend on ONIC and their exceptional staff of intelligence analysts and forensic investigators for assistance in virtually all of our investigations. Our Task Force began collaborating with the ONIC since its inception and their work product has enabled us to exploit technology in ways that were unavailable to us just a short time ago. An example of that collaboration occurred in February of 2020 when the Major Crimes Unit concluded a several months long investigation into a methamphetamine/heroin trafficking organization operating between Columbus and Fairfield County. That investigation led to the seizure of more than three pounds of methamphetamine,
several ounces of fentanyl and three guns. This result would not have been possible without the assistance of the Ohio Narcotics Intelligence Center who provided a detailed analytical work product related to the organization and its operations. In a more recent case the ONIC’s forensic examination of digital evidence seized by the Task Force resulted in investigators connecting a Fairfield County drug trafficker to a much larger scale trafficking organization based in New York. These types of successful outcomes are the direct result of the partnership that exists between the Major Crimes Unit and the Ohio Narcotics Intelligence Center and the commitment of Governor DeWine to support the enforcement efforts of Ohio’s Drug Task Forces.

– Commander Dennis Lowe, Fairfield-Athens Major Crimes Unit

A Springfield PD officer came across a car with three occupants parked behind a known drug trafficking house in the city. When the officer turned back to make contact with them, they left the vehicle on foot. In plain view was a loaded Glock handgun with a 50 round drum magazine. Springfield checked the gun in the national criminal justice database and it did not come back as stolen. An ONIC analyst performed a query of the ATF eTrace database and located the gun’s previous owner. Springfield said, “The case involving the Glock found in the abandoned vehicle behind the drug house was in fact stolen. Thanks to your efforts, I was able to get ahold of the owner in Columbus who had no idea it was even stolen. Apparently she was a victim of a house fire approximately seven years ago and was instructed by fire and police to not go onto the property and attempt to retrieve any items that could be salvageable. Therefore, an unknown suspect sifted through the remains of the house and located her safe that contained that Glock along with two other guns. The gun owner just assumed the items were lost in the fire. Your work was definitely worth it and we got someone’s gun back!”

– Sgt. Via, Springfield PD
The State of Ohio Law Enforcement Virtual Exchange (SOLVE) was born out of Governor DeWine’s RecoveryOhio plan and supports RecoveryOhio recommendations #28 - Expanding Law Enforcement’s Role; #56 - Decreasing the Supply of Drugs; and #73 - Data Coordination and Sharing and Care Coordination. SOLVE is a statewide data-sharing platform for Ohio’s drug task forces and law enforcement agencies. SOLVE includes a case management system, a community collaboration page, data sharing, and analytics. SOLVE connects the disparate information from across agency platforms into a statewide system and allow the data to be analyzed for actionable intelligence. SOLVE features real-time data sharing, and will feature state-of-the-art data analytics, robust searching and reports, crime prediction, identify connections and networks among criminals, and integrate with state and federal deconfliction systems. In 2019, DPS convened the Ohio Task Force Commanders Association (OTFCA) to identify Ohio law enforcement data sharing needs and challenges. We formed a working group, and collected requirements and processed feedback for the development of the new statewide data sharing system. In 2020 we launched the following SOLVE components: the State of Ohio Law Enforcement Virtual Exchange (SOLVE) Team continues striving to meet the RecoveryOhio recommendations which include #28 - Expanding Law Enforcement’s Role, #56 - Decreasing the Supply of Drugs and #73 - Data Coordination and Sharing and Care Coordination. Our mission is to provide case management, collaboration, data sharing and data analytics tools for Ohio drug task forces and law enforcement agencies. The SOLVE project consists of the following four components:

**SOLVE Platform/AWS GovCloud** is the future of data sharing where you control your data. CJIS compliant.

**SOLVE Community** provides a collaborative portal to share announcements, training opportunities and access other SOLVE applications. Solve Community was launched January 2021.

**SOLVE Case Management System** allows users to track all tips, cases, field interviews and criminal intelligence. SOLVE CMS launched August 2020.

**SOLVE Connect** is for networking and creating bilateral connections across all areas of law enforcement. SOLVE Connect allows for users to remain within the wheelhouse of their respective system while simultaneously accessing valuable data results found within SOLVE Connect.

**SOLVE Analytics** is a future prospect.
SOLVE is currently in discovery phase with the Data Interface for reporting to the Drug Information Summary Collection Overview (DISCO).

SOLVE Community is collaborating with the Emerging Drug Scientific Working Group (EDSWG) to create a subpage for engaging in information-sharing and collaboration with both SOLVE and the Ohio Narcotics Intelligence Center (ONIC).

In addition, SOLVE is including eCitation and Crash along with Bureau of Motor Vehicles and Law Enforcement Automated Data System capabilities to promote continued convenience, functionality and purpose.

Outreach Efforts

12 Demonstrations
2 Training Sessions
5 Agency Correspondence

Contact SOLVE for more information, connecting to the system and/or request a demo:

833-OH-SOLVE (833-647-6583)
SOLVEHelp@dps.ohio.gov

“We appreciate all that you are doing to make the software available and tailoring it to our everyday needs. We have been waiting for a system like this for a long time...having a secure system provided by the state at no cost has been very beneficial. We can already see the potential long-term benefits of using the system, not only with having a better records management system in place, but with the data-sharing and analytics capabilities to come.”

— Capt. Scott J. Anger, Director
Greene County A.C.E Task Force

“It is going to make our jobs much easier. It is definitely going to save us time and money in the future. One of the biggest future benefits will be the ability to share and link information with other Task Forces easier when more Task Forces begin utilizing SOLVE.”

— Commander Nick DeRose
Clermont County Narcotics Unit
Ohio’s centralized, uniform, statewide electronic warrant and protection order system improves the thoroughness, accuracy, and timeliness of submissions to the Law Enforcement Automated Data System (LEADS) and the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS).

The Ohio Department of Public Safety and Department of Administrative Services, under the leadership of Ohio Lieutenant Governor Jon Husted as Director of InnovateOhio, are tasked with establishing a comprehensive eWarrant and eProtection Order system as part of the STRONG Ohio goal to implement a “free, easy and mandatory” warrant system for law enforcement, judges and clerks.

In response to the number of outstanding warrants and growing backlog of unserved warrants in Ohio, Governor Mike DeWine created the Ohio Governor’s Warrant Task Force in February 2019. The Department of Public Safety is currently scheduling discovery sessions with key stakeholders involved in the warrant and protection order processes including but not limited to law enforcement, clerks, IT and other relevant personnel in order to present an overview and next steps.

Governor DeWine’s Warrant Task Force recommended a uniform statewide electronic warrant and protection order system. This system is being created to improve the thoroughness, accuracy and timeliness of warrant and protection order submissions to the Law Enforcement Automated Data System (LEADS) for officer safety, public safety and National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) firearm transfer decisions.

2020 Accomplishments

- Facilitated discovery sessions with 10 counties
- Created eWarrant Introduction packets
- Created county onboarding packets
- Created county commitment letters
- Developed a public communications strategy on the project
- Developed a multi-agency state-level implementation team and communications strategy
- Created eWarrant email, website, palm cards, and one-page flyers
- Developed PowerPoints and conducted webinars
- Created workflows and templates
- Developed LEADS workflow template
Three Phase Timeline:
Ten pilot counties have been selected to participate in Phase One of the project to work closely with the implementation team on initial discovery, development and implementation. Counties for Phase Two, 35 counties, and Phase Three, 43 counties, have yet to be determined.

As of December 31st, 2020 (8) out of the (10) Phase One Counties were discovered.
The Ohio Department of Public Safety, Law Enforcement Support Office is the coordination agency for the Department of Defense, Defense Logistics Agency, Law Enforcement Support “1033” Program. Participating agencies benefit from the program in many ways.

Equipment received through the Law Enforcement Support Program included fitness equipment, cold weather clothing, boots, tools, furniture, medical supplies, tents, office equipment and supplies has increased officer safety, as well as provided resources for community support during the COVID 19 pandemic.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Equipment Received</th>
<th>3,572 pieces</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Original Acquisition Value</td>
<td>$3,092,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-controlled Equipment</td>
<td>3,030 pieces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-controlled Equipment Acquisition Value</td>
<td>$2,335,861</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2020 Accomplishments

Assisted in facilitating the task forces Best Practices

Partnered with the Texas Department of Public Safety to host the quarterly National Drug Trends Call

Partnered with Ohio Task Force Commander Association, QRT National and Cordata to host quarterly Ohio Quick Response Team Outreach Calls

Assisted facilitation of the Drug and Prevention Abuse Education video library for schools, civic groups and other community members throughout the state

Completed the task force grant audits for 2017 and began the 2018 grant audit process

Assisted in the coordination of the National Guard Counterdrug analysts and researcher to the ONIC

Submitted quarterly ONIC/OTFCA Bulletins

Served as the Subject Matter Expert on OCJS grants for the task forces

Certified all agencies in the LESO program

Assisted in establishing policy and procedure and auditing for evidence control
Community Support

The Celina Police Department set up tents acquired through the program outside the Emergency Room at Mercer Health during the COVID-19 outbreak.

“The community has been grateful that we are able to provide these.”

— Chief Thomas Wale
Celina Police Department

Public Safety

The Warren Police Department received a truck and radar trailer through the Law Enforcement Support Program.

“Due to our current level of funding, we would not have been able to afford something like this without the assistance of a program like LESO.”

— Lt. Brian Holmes
Warren Police Department

Officer Safety

Two agencies utilized Mine Resistant Ambush Protective Vehicles (MRAP) received through the program in responding to barricaded suspect calls. In both events, the MRAPs were damaged by gunfire from the suspects but allowed the officers to escape harm.

“Zero injuries to officers or citizens. Suspect took his own life. Thanks for your help in procuring those two trucks to keep our guys safe.”

— Captain Michael Kranz
City of Springfield Police Division
2020 DISCO Statistics

In 2017, the El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC) partnered with the Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS) to create a comprehensive reporting system called the Drug Incident Summary Collection Overview (DISCO). The benefits of DISCO have been successful in allowing law enforcement to improve drug interdiction data analytics through access to real time case information and detailed reports. Drug Incident Summary Collection Overview (DISCO) seizure data represents Ohio’s 43 drug task forces.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-Rx Confiscated Drugs</th>
<th>Amount (Pounds or Unit Doses)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Processed Marijuana excluding edibles</td>
<td>6,783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hash/Analogs</td>
<td>2,305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cocaine</td>
<td>566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methamphetamine</td>
<td>536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fentanyl/Analogs</td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heroin/Analogs</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steroids</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crack Cocaine</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSD</td>
<td>30,808 Unit Doses</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Non-Pharmaceutical
8,774 New Cases
3,963 Search Warrants
53 Labs Confiscated
6,669 Indictments

Pharmaceutical
300 Rx Cases
617 Naloxone Administered
446 Survived after Naloxone

Other
1,675 Firearms Confiscated
342 Trainings/Presentations
10,302 Attendees
1,971 Non-Drug Cases