2022 Annual Report

Mike DeWine, Governor
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor
Thomas J. Stickrath, Director
The Ohio Department of Public Safety accomplished many things this past year, including making many improvements to school safety. The Ohio School Safety Center, in collaboration with the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission and Ohio Department of Higher Education, helped distribute $10 million in grants to enhance security of both K-12 schools and Ohio’s colleges and universities. Following the Ulvade, Texas, school shooting, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine announced an OSSC expansion in June that includes new initiatives to help protect Ohio school children, including developing training for arming school personnel at schools that wish to offer this option, establishing a mobile training office, and issuing $100 million in school safety grants to public, private, and parochial schools in Ohio. House Bill 99 appropriates $6 million over the remainder of the current budget cycle to expand the OSSC and create a new OSSC Safety and Crisis Division, led by a chief mobile training officer who will oversee 16 new regional training officers.

In December 2021, Governor DeWine and Lt. Governor Jon Husted proposed the allocation of $250 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to support law enforcement and first responders. Soon after, House Bill 169 (134th General Assembly) authorized the ARPA funding to address impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic with $175 million through OCJS to protect Ohioans from violence and $75 million through Ohio EMA to support first responder resilience and recovery. The initial ARPA Projects included National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN) Expansion, assistance to reduce crime lab backlogs, and funds for wellness seminars and training for first responders. The new Ohio Body-Worn Camera Grant Program awarded more than $4.7 million in grant funding to 113 local law enforcement agencies for expenses associated with launching or maintaining body-worn camera programs.

Governor DeWine and the General Assembly doubled the Ohio Narcotics Intelligence Center’s operating budget, allowing expansion from its original offices in Cleveland and Columbus to include new sites in Toledo and Cincinnati. Once the expansion is complete, the ONIC Intelligence Unit will employ 21 public safety intelligence analysts, four public safety intelligence managers, two administrators, eight Ohio National Guard Counterdrug analysts, two translators, and a forensic accountant.

The Office of Criminal Justice Services’ Office of First Responder Wellness was also launched by Governor DeWine to encourage self-care and mental wellness for Ohio’s first responder community including law enforcement, fire, emergency medical services, dispatch, corrections, and Ohio-based military. The office provides specialized support and training to help emergency-response agencies proactively address post-traumatic stress and other traumas caused by factors that are unique to first-responder careers. The new Law Enforcement Recruitment Grant Program awarded more than $430,000 in grant funding to a dozen local law enforcement agencies to strengthen their recruitment efforts.

Meanwhile, the Ohio Traffic Safety Office partnered with Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities and statewide law enforcement to develop a new communication card to help individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing exchange information with law enforcement. The card includes various pictures that deaf and hard of hearing individuals can point to in order to help them more easily communicate during interactions with law enforcement.
Recent years have seen an unusually high attrition rate of sworn officers leaving the Ohio State Highway Patrol either through retirements or resignations. Even with these challenges, the Patrol continued to find ways to overcome personnel shortages to succeed operationally. Whether through security services at Statehouse demonstrations or state troopers working every day and night to prevent traffic crashes and keep families safe, much is still being accomplished, including the introduction of body worn cameras, which Troopers began wearing in November.

The Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicle’s Online Services website launched several new innovative services available online to BMV customers, including the ordering of a reprint of an existing driver’s license or ID card as well as offering online renewal to certain customers. Residents can now renew and print vehicle registration cards and plate stickers instantly at any of 18 self-service BMV Express kiosks around the state in grocery stores, E-check locations, and BMV deputy registrar locations, with more locations to come. This administration is committed to transforming the BMV customer experience, significantly lowering the number of reasons Ohioans have to spend time visiting a BMV site.

Ohio Emergency Management’s (EMA) Emergency Operation’s Center and Watch Office played an intricate role in both COVID-19 response coordination as well as all-hazards incident awareness. Since July 1, 2021, Ohio EMA’s Watch Office has engaged 1,179 distinct actions including internal reporting and leadership coordination calls (381 actions) and incident information sharing with state and county partners (99 actions). Ohio EMA’s Watch Office serves as the entry point for state mission support to local response and in the past year, Ohio EMA processed 166 mission requests, many from local governments needing assistance.

The primary focus of the Ohio Division of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is to ensure a workforce of well-trained and certified EMS and fire service providers to serve Ohio citizens. EMS regulates 90 accredited institutions that offer EMS training; approves the delivery of firefighter and fire safety inspector training of more than 62 institutions; and oversees the administration of 103,822 EMS and fire certificates to practice and teach.

The Ohio Homeland Security (OHS) Strategic Plan, an all-hazards plan, was developed with numerous partners in the public and private sectors to provide our state with a strategy to best address any and all hazards that threaten the lives and well-being of Ohio’s residents and visitors. The OHS Critical Infrastructure team assesses gaps in physical security and conducted 11 security and vulnerability assessments at police departments, colleges and universities, K-12 schools, hospitals, warehouses, and general office buildings, among others.

I am proud of the extraordinary work that is happening at the Ohio Department of Public Safety. We will continue work hard to ensure that all Ohioans enjoy a safer Ohio.

Director Thomas J. Stickrath
Ohio Department of Public Safety
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ohio Narcotics Intelligence Center (ONIC)</th>
<th>ONIC Overview</th>
<th>08</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Growth &amp; Expansion</td>
<td>09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ONIC Intelligence</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ONIC Forensics</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Intelligence</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bulletins</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of Ohio Law Enforcement Virtual Exchange (SOLVE)</td>
<td>Looking Back at 2021</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>eWarrants</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>County Status</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Current Manual Process</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>eWarrants</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO)</td>
<td>Drug Incident Summary Collection Overview</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DREAM</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BRIDGE: Bridging Recovery &amp; Interdiction</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Data Gathering Enforcement</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bridge Success Story</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ohio Traffic Safety Office (OTSO)</th>
<th>Federal Grants</th>
<th>19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ohio Traffic Safety Council</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New Tool for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Drivers</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP)</th>
<th>Overcoming Sworn Office Attrition</th>
<th>20</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Statehouse Demonstrations</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Collaborative Initiative to Reduce Violent Crime in Cleveland</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Body Cameras</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ohio Emergency Medical Services

EMS and Fire Service Education
EMS Education
Fire Service Education
Continuing Education
Testing
Certifications
Investigations
Grants
Research and Analysis
Emergency Medical Services for Children
Statewide Trauma System
Medical Transportation

Ohio Homeland Security

Safer Ohio School Tip Line Serves 3,800 Schools
Behavioral Threat Assessment Team Training
OHS Strategic Plan an All-Hazards Approach
OHS Shares Resources to Enhance Security, Resiliency of Faith-based Organizations
School Safety Grants for K-12, Higher Ed
SkyWatch Tower Deployed Around Ohio
Vulnerability Assessments Conducted
A Look Ahead
Ohio School Safety Center to Expand, Offer More School Safety Training, Grants

Office of Criminal Justice Services

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental
Ohio Collaborative Community Police Advisory Board
Developmentally Appropriate Policing & Positive Youth Interactions Standard
Body-Worn Camera Grant Program
Law Enforcement Recruitment Grant Program
Office of Criminal Justice Services (Cont.) .................................................45

Ohio Violent Crime Reduction Grant Program..................................................47
Ohio Office of First Responder Wellness.............................................................48
Ohio Governor’s Warrant Task Force.................................................................48
Ohio Incident-Based Reporting System...............................................................48
Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Site-Based Program..................................................48
RecoveryOhio Grant Funding.............................................................................49
Human Trafficking.................................................................................................49
  Improving Outcomes for Trafficked Minors & Youth.................................49
  Increasing Access to Emergency Shelter & Services.................................50
  Financial Institution Trainings & Resources..................................................50
  Labor Trafficking-Specific Outreach and Training.........................................50
  New Partnerships and Create Training and Opportunities for Technical Assistance.................................................51
Resources and Guidance to Support Local Child Welfare..............................51
ONIC Overview
The Ohio Narcotics Intelligence Center (ONIC) was established in 2019 when Governor Mike DeWine signed Executive Order 2019-20D. In 2022, the General Assembly and Governor DeWine invested in ONIC with support to expand beyond existing offices in Cleveland and Columbus to include new sites in Toledo and Cincinnati. The ONIC now operates under the Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS) in all four locations. ONIC offices are comprised of criminal intelligence analysts and forensic computer specialists who assist law enforcement agencies and drug task forces by providing investigation and case support. Additionally, ONIC and ODPS staff lead a number of information-sharing networks that bridge traditional law enforcement and criminal justice with stakeholders across industries that have interest in Ohio’s drug threat landscape.

The ONIC Forensics Unit supports law enforcement, drug task forces, and local, state, and federal agencies through the extraction and analysis of cell phones, computers, digital video recorder (DVR) systems, security systems, and other electronic devices. All four ONIC locations feature state-of-the-art digital forensic tools to help law enforcement access crucial digital evidence in their cases.

The ONIC Intelligence Unit provides criminal case support, digital communications evidence analysis, tactical, strategic, and operational intelligence support, trend analysis, cryptocurrency tracing, and dark web investigations. ONIC intelligence analysts utilize complex analytical tools to locate connections within and beyond jurisdictions, connecting the dots between cases and putting the spotlight on criminal networks.

ONIC has established working partnerships with RecoveryOhio, the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy, Ohio National Guard Counterdrug Task Force, Ohio Task Force Commanders Association, the Ohio Department of Health, Ohio State Highway Patrol, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, and Cleveland Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) Strike Force.
During the past year, Governor DeWine and the General Assembly doubled ONIC’s operating budget from $3.25 million/year ($6.5 million/biannually) to $6.5 million/year ($13 million biannually) for expansion.

ONIC has opened two new offices in the Toledo and Cincinnati areas and has also expanded services to include mobile forensic capabilities, expanded translation services, forensic accounting services, and enhanced support for violent crime investigations involving drug trafficking.
Requests for assistance are completed each time an ONIC analyst is requested to assist with a case, provide non-criminal support, or speak at a special engagement.

Intel products include, but are not limited to, subject profiles, digital device analysis, social media analysis, location analysis, top caller lists, and intelligence bulletins.

Tips/leads received from a variety of sources, including the public, are submitted to the ONIC for processing.

- **Assistance**
  - 497 requests for assistance and provided 894 worksups

- **Case Supported**
  - 435 criminal investigations

- **Products**
  - 486 intelligence products, including subject profiles, digital device analysis, social media analysis, location analysis, top caller lists, and intelligence bulletins

- **Tips/Leads**
  - Disseminated information to local agencies on 61 tips/leads received from a variety of sources, including the public
Intelligence

Once the expansion is complete, the ONIC Intelligence Unit will employ twenty-one public safety intelligence analysts, four public safety intelligence managers, two administrators, eight Ohio National Guard Counterdrug analysts, two translators, and a forensic accountant. The intel analysts provide on-site assistance, subject identification and cyber evidence analysis, and a variety of intelligence products ranging from digital device data analysis, historical call detail record analysis and mapping, live cell phone ping mapping, live and historical GPS tracker analysis, pattern and link analysis, Spanish interpretation, and intelligence bulletins.

Bulletins

An ONIC bulletin advised school administrators and resource officers, law enforcement, health, and treatment and prevention professionals about a trend involving THC-infused edibles being marketed and sold to appear like commercially-available candy. THC infused edibles aren’t available in regulated markets. These products should never be left within reach of children.
In December, the ONIC released its first public bulletin on counterfeit prescription tablets present in Ohio. The bulletin, released in English and six other languages, warns Ohioans of the dangers of counterfeit prescription tablets that closely resemble legitimate prescriptions such as alprazolam (Xanax®) and oxycodone (Oxycontin®).

Bulletin can be found in all 7 languages at the following website: https://publicsafety.ohio.gov/what-we-do/our-programs/onic.
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, robust searching and reports, crime prediction, identifies connections and networks among criminals, and integrate with state and federal systems. Future features include state-of-the-art data analytics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Solve Platform (AWS GovCloud)</th>
<th>SOLVE Platform/AWS GovCloud is the future of data sharing where users at the local level control their data. CJIS compliant.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Solve Community</td>
<td>SOLVE Community provides a collaborative portal to share announcements, training opportunities, and access other SOLVE applications.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solve Case Management System</td>
<td>SOLVE Case Management allows users to track all tips, cases, field interviews, and criminal intelligence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solve Connect</td>
<td>SOLVE Connect is for networking and creating bilateral connections across all areas of law enforcement. Users can remain within the wheelhouse of their respective system while simultaneously accessing valuable data results found within SOLVE Connect.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solve Analytics (Future Prospect)</td>
<td>SOLVE Analytics is a future prospect.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Collaborative efforts are continuing with various vendors with a focus on the future data sharing and analytics aspects of SOLVE.

SOLVE Platform and Case Management System is supporting any/all interested former OLEIS Citation and Crash users and will be onboarding over 100 LE agencies across Ohio.
eWarrants

In response to the number of outstanding warrants and growing backlog of unserved warrants in Ohio, Governor Mike DeWine tasked the Ohio Department of Public Safety and Ohio Department of Administrative Services, under the leadership of Lieutenant Governor Husted as Director of InnovateOhio, with establishing a comprehensive eWarrant and eProtection 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. The goal is to implement a free, easy, and mobile warrant system for law enforcement, judges, and clerks. The Department of Public Safety is currently facilitating discovery and implementation sessions with over 1400 agencies, as well as case and record management system integration. The first local implementation is set to begin in April 2022. Additional counties are set to begin using the eWarrants system in August.

“As for the eWarrants project I will be first to say I was extremely negative about the change. After working with the team...I'm a firm believer this is a step in a positive direction and will make the workload of dispatchers and clerks seamless and much easier.”
— Communications Coordinator Christy Astorino, Logan County Sheriff’s Office

“...we are grateful and optimistic about its existence and anticipated implementation...the system seems pretty straightforward and user friendly...because it is easy for us in law enforcement to see the valuable benefits of officer and public safety, the system just makes sense.”
— Dep. Gretchen Lapp, Champaign County Sheriff’s Office

Looking Back at 2021

• 873 cases
• 675 SOLVE matches
• 171 crashes
• 172 citations

Contact SOLVE for more information, connecting to the system and/or request a demo: 833-OH-SOLVE (833-647-6583) or SOLVEHelp@dps.ohio.gov.
2022

- 52 demonstrations and conferences
- 33 local record vendor scope of work discussions
- 63 local agency discover and planning services

County Status

Implementation Status by County as of 7/26/2022

Current Manual Warrant Process

- Step 1: Law enforcement identifies probable cause for a warrant
- Step 2: The officer drives to their office to begin a written request for a warrant
- Step 3: A written request for a warrant is completed
- Step 4: Wait for approval from all reviewers before contacting the judge
- Step 5: Drive to obtain judge signature on the warrant
- Step 6: Consult the judge for warrant approval
- Step 7: Signed warrant is driven, emailed, or faxed to court clerk
- Step 8: Clerk enters warrant into CMS, warrants sit in basket to be picked up, mailed, or faxed to LEADS operator
- Step 9: LEADS operator enter warrant in local record management system and in LEADS

eWarrants

- Step 1: Law enforcement identifies probable cause for a warrant
- Step 2: Officers logs into eWarrants and enters warrant information
- Step 3: Warrant enters electronic workflow; upon authorization base entry goes into LEADS
- Step 4: LEADS operator receives base entry in eWarrants inbox and can complete entry
Ohio Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO)

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. The 1033 Program allows non-military (federal, state and local) law enforcement agencies to receive excess property from the Department of Defense (DoD). Participating agencies benefit from the program in many ways. Equipment received through the Law Enforcement Support Program such as fitness equipment, cold weather clothing, boots, tools, furniture, medical supplies, tents, office equipment and supplies has increased officer safety, provided resources for community support during the COVID 19 pandemic, and increased traffic safety.

Overview

395 Ohio law enforcement agencies participate in the Law Enforcement Support Office 1033 Program, representing 84 counties. Sheriffs from 66 counties participate in the Program.

The Ohio Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) assisted in the transfer of 2 Mine-Resistant Ambush Protective vehicles to two county sheriff offices.

In 2021, participating law enforcement agencies acquired 4,752 items through the LESO 1033 Program. The original acquisition value of these items totaled over $4,000,000. Of the items received, 4,406 were DMIL A with an original acquisition value of over $2,569,173. DMIL A indicates that title to the item transfers to the receiving agency one year after receipt.

“Every Law Enforcement Agency (LEA) visited during the PCR was well prepared and had their LESO Program property and documentation ready for review. All the LEA’s had been well prepped prior to the LESO PCR Team’s Arrival for the PCR. It was very apparent that the SC’s Office knows their LEAs and has good communications with them regarding the LESO Program.”

- LESO PCR Team

The Defense Logistics Agency, Disposition Services, Law Enforcement Support Office conducted a Program Compliance Review (PCR) of the Ohio LESO Program April 5-9, 2021. The PCR consisted of a review of the State Coordinator’s Office and visits to 38 participating law enforcement agencies spread over 17 counties.

The state successfully completed the annual inventory requirement that runs from July 1 to September 30.
**Drug Incident Summary Collection Overview (DISCO)**

Seizure data represents Ohio’s 44 drug task forces. The stats represent the annual comparisons based on the seizure data submitted to DISCO.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contraband (Pounds or Unit Dose)</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(20-21)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heroin</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>-10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fentanyl</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>+58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methamphetamine</td>
<td>482</td>
<td>537</td>
<td>1,249</td>
<td>+133%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cocaine</td>
<td>717</td>
<td>574</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>-30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSD (Unit Dose)</td>
<td>21,270</td>
<td>30,900</td>
<td>7,503</td>
<td>-76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marijuana</td>
<td>4,990</td>
<td>6,787</td>
<td>4,478</td>
<td>-34%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All narcotic weights are in pounds except LSD (unit dose). Cocaine reflects seizures of both cocaine and crack. Data reflects the suspected drug type, may not be confirmed by labs at time of reporting. Weight conversions and rounding may cause minor discrepancies in the data. Fentanyl analogs and mixtures are reported and reflected in the fentanyl total. There are additional types of contraband captured in the DISCO system.

**Additional Stats**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(20-21)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firearms Seized</td>
<td>N/A*</td>
<td>1,672</td>
<td>1,916</td>
<td>+15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drop Boxes</td>
<td>45,589</td>
<td>12,333</td>
<td>32,412</td>
<td>+163%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentations/Attendees</td>
<td>964/48,903</td>
<td>344/10,317</td>
<td>601/19,394</td>
<td>+75%/+88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Cases</td>
<td>9,149</td>
<td>8,875</td>
<td>9,982</td>
<td>+12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Search Warrants</td>
<td>4,004</td>
<td>4,012</td>
<td>4,376</td>
<td>+9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indictments</td>
<td>5,352</td>
<td>4,229</td>
<td>4,605</td>
<td>+9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy Diversion Cases/Indicted</td>
<td>496/173</td>
<td>300/87</td>
<td>377/60</td>
<td>+26%/-31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naloxone Administered/Survival Count</td>
<td>561/518</td>
<td>650/473</td>
<td>561/472</td>
<td>-14%/-1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One-Pot Meth Lab</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>+56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marijuana Grow Operation</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>+1,085%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N-Dimethyltryptamine (DMT)</td>
<td>N/A**</td>
<td>N/A**</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>N/A**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Labs</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>-34%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*In 2019 the number of firearms cannot accurately be determined due to errors in reporting.

**DMT Labs were added to DISCO in 2021, therefore 2019 & 2020 data does not reflect this addition**
Drug Resilience Education Awareness Mentorship (DREAM)

RecoveryOhio funds allowed the continued creation of the Drug Resilience Education Awareness Mentorship (DREAM) program. This is a K-12 drug education video enhancement that was derived from three drug task forces with similar objectives of wanting to have presence in drug education presented to the youth in their communities. The first band, K-3, will begin the piloting phase in January 2022 and will be available, free, on the Ohio Department of Public Safety website once the pilot is complete. Please visit the DREAM website at dream.ohio.gov or email DREAM@dps.ohio.gov for more information.

Bridge: Bridging Recovery and Interdiction Data Gathering Enforcement

Ohio Narcotics Intelligence Center partnered with HIDTA, Ohio State Highway Patrol, and some of the OCJS funded drug task forces to create a drug interdiction information sharing system. The purpose of the system is to notify the prevention, treatment, and recovery healthcare professionals in the intended area when large drug interdiction seizures occur.

This process is set up to have a line of communication between law enforcement agencies and healthcare professionals. When an LEA interdicts a seizure of at least a kilogram and the drug destination is known, they notify the ONIC or contact the appropriate personnel such as the mobile response teams or other programs/resources in the area that the drugs were intended to go. This in return will help the community better prepare and provide the appropriate assistance. Below is an example of bridging the gap between law enforcement agencies and prevention, treatment, and recovery healthcare professionals.

Bridge Success Story

Following a interdiction seizure in June 2021, one kilogram of methamphetamine and one kilogram of heroin were interdicted that were going to Huntington, West Virginia. The ONIC was notified and were able to contact the Lawrence County Drug Task Force’s QRT. Their QRT made notifications to the appropriate personnel in Boyd County, Kentucky, Huntington, West Virginia and Lawrence County, Ohio.

This BRIDGE Program success story led to the planning of a 2-day tristate saturation in Lawrence County called Operation BRIDGE. Operation BRIDGE is scheduled to take place in April 2022 where the Ohio Narcotics Intelligence Center will provide onsite analytical and forensic support to the drug task force. This event is unique in that it will combine enforcement efforts with prevention, treatment and recovery resources of the Lawrence County QRT as well as other QRTs in other states. The QRTs will be readily available to engage with individuals that meet certain criteria after a traffic stop with the goal of connecting these individuals to treatment.

If interested in conducting a saturation with an outreach component in your county please contact the Drug Enforcement Strategy Administrator Dick Meadows at rmeadows@dps.ohio.gov.
Ohio Traffic Safety Office

Federal Grants

The Federal Highway Safety Act of 1966 directed the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) of the U.S. Department of Transportation to jointly administer various highway safety projects. This federal grant program provides federal funds administered through the Ohio Department of Public Safety Ohio Traffic Safety Office (OTSO) to eligible entities to be used for, but not limited to, traffic safety education, enforcement, and engineering projects. In Federal Fiscal Year 2022, OTSO awarded almost $24 million through 187 grants to state, county, and local agencies to reduce traffic fatalities.

Ohio Traffic Safety Council

Established by Governor DeWine in 2020, the Ohio Traffic Safety Council, led by ODPS, includes representatives from federal, state, county, and local agencies along with traffic safety partners and advocates who are all dedicated to making Ohio’s roadways safer. Together, they are working to identify the leading causes of motor vehicle crashes, serious injuries, and fatalities on Ohio’s roadways and are taking action to save lives using proven education, engineering, enforcement, emergency response, and public policy countermeasures.

The Ohio Traffic Safety Council’s focus is on addressing the areas that have the greatest potential to reduce the number of people killed on our roadways. An emphasis is placed on data analysis, council feedback, and best practices to identify priority areas. In May of 2022, the council passed a motion to create a 4th subcommittee focused on occupant protection. The existing subcommittees are based on the council’s other priority areas of impaired driving, youthful driving, and distracted driving.

New Tool for Communicating with Deaf and Hard of Hearing Drivers

The Ohio Traffic Safety Office partnered with Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) and statewide law enforcement to develop a new communication card to help individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing exchange information with law enforcement. The card includes various pictures that deaf and hard of hearing individuals can point to in order to help them more easily communicate during interactions with law enforcement. OTSO began printing and distributing copies of the card to Ohio law enforcement agencies across the state in May of 2022 and about 7,000 cards were distributed in the first month.
Overcoming Sworn Officer Attrition

Recent years have seen an unusually high attrition rate of sworn officers leaving the Patrol through retirements or resignations. Over the past 10 years, the Patrol has averaged less than 10 officers per month leaving the division through retirement or resignation. In calendar year 2021, that rate jumped to 13.17 officers leaving per month, and the rate stood at 11.8 officers leaving per month through May of calendar year 2022. Putting this into context, the Patrol is losing more officers annually than it is graduating in new academy classes. The division's sworn officer personnel strength ceiling is 1,600 officers, and as of June 13, 2022, there were just 1,389 sworn officers in the Patrol.

Even with these challenges, in Fiscal Year 2022 the Patrol continued to find ways to overcome personnel shortages to succeed operationally. Whether through security services at Statehouse demonstrations or collaborative enforcement SERVICE operations with local jurisdictions, much is still being accomplished.

Two cadet classes graduated from the training academy during fiscal year 2022, and the 170th cadet class began training on June 8. Recruitment and retention will continue to be a priority in fiscal year 2023. The Patrol began retooling overall recruitment efforts last year with the formation of a Recruitment Collaborative Group. Comprised of personnel from Recruitment, Training, Field Operations and Public Affairs, this group is helping set the course for recruitment efforts, and it is producing new content and marketing materials to attract more qualified individuals to join the agency.

Fifteen billboards went up across the state in spring and early summer 2022. New radio advertisements, electronic contact cards, and a monthly packet of recruiting and local media content is all part of a concerted focus on recruitment. Many of the new marketing pieces feature the recruitment QR code and #JoinOSHP, which will take people directly to the recruitment section on our website. In June, the division added Recruitment QR code vehicle stickers to all marked vehicles with the intention of driving applicants to the Division’s recruitment website.

Statehouse Demonstrations

There were 17 protests, rallies, or demonstrations in fiscal year 2022 through June 14, 2022, involving various groups or regarding political and social issues, that required Capitol Operations staff to move to an elevated threat level and necessitated bringing in additional troopers to provide adequate security for both persons and property. Threat levels are assigned based on factors such as size of event, potential for counter protests, a group's past potential for violence, or destruction and politically-charged events.
Crowd management/control is the focus of policing large-scale national, regional, and local community events. It includes the policing of planned and spontaneous public events and the policing of any events or trigger incidents that result in, or may result in, public disorder. The Patrol has been actively involved in these types of statewide incidents throughout its history.

In both professional and genuine ways, troopers prioritized the safety of others above their own so that everyone could feel safe to exercise their first amendment rights while protecting property. At these demonstrations, the Patrol ensured the safety of those who gathered to be heard in a peaceful manner and protect the property.

**Collaborative Initiative to Reduce Violent Crime in Cleveland**

A three-day collaborative initiative in April to reduce violent crime in Cleveland, that involved the City of Cleveland, Cleveland Division of Police (CDP) and Patrol, resulted in the seizure of 46 illegal firearms, the recovery of four stolen vehicles, and the initiation of 13 felony drug cases.

To combat an increasing crime and gun violence problem in Cleveland, OSHP and CDP conducted a Prolonged Reduction of Threats by Enforcing Criminal Trends (PROTECT) Initiative from April 20-22.

This initiative focused on the city’s 4th and 5th districts, which have shown the highest number of calls reporting violent crime. A number of OSHP resources were utilized to include Cleveland District troopers, Aviation, Investigative Services, and the Ohio Investigative Unit in partnership with CDP’s Violent Crime Reduction Team.

This enforcement detail was one of several saturation events coordinated in partnership with the Governor’s office. In 2021, Governor DeWine directed the Ohio Department of Public Safety, OSHP, and the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction to provide resources to local agencies for these multi-agency operations upon request by local officials.

**Body Camera**

An important new addition to the Ohio State Highway Patrol’s Professional Operations tool box was the introduction of body worn cameras, which troopers began wearing in November. For nearly 30 years, troopers have been on video during their daily work, with cruiser-mounted dash cameras capturing traffic stops, acts of service, and the Division’s commitment to safe roadways. The use of dash camera video has been crucial to documenting evidence as well as showing the public value produced by Ohio troopers. An important aspect of the video captured by the Patrol is the transparency it provides to the public, which builds further trust in troopers’ operations and daily activity. The body worn cameras are an enhancement to the Patrol’s current video capabilities and an additional technological advancement to highlight the public value of Ohio troopers.
DRIVE to Live

Education of our young drivers continues to be a strong avenue to safer roadways. The Ohio State Highway Patrol’s new DRIVE to Live program provides impactful opportunities for our troopers and students to engage in candid dialogue on key topics, including safety belt usage, distracted, impaired, and aggressive driving behaviors.

DRIVE is an acronym for Decisions, Responsibility, Invest, Value and Educate.

DRIVE to Live is intended to positively impact our youth and engage in conversations about good decision-making. It is geared toward meeting teens where they are, and listening with a focus toward their future. Success of this program will result in impacting Ohio’s youth in a positive manner and building relationships between students and those in public safety.

Through structured group settings, the program’s conversational format provides students with information and tools to DRIVE through life safely. Topics of conversation include decision-making, traffic safety and drug education.

Each session is led by a local Ohio State Highway Patrol officer in collaboration with a local law enforcement officer and/or soldier when available.

The program is offered through in-person sessions, or through a virtual program option for those students engaged in distance learning.

To schedule a DRIVE to Live event, school and organization administrators can contact their local Ohio State Highway Patrol post. For a complete listing of our Posts, visit https://www.statepatrol.ohio.gov

Mental Health & Wellness Site and VMAT

In order to provide easy and updated mental health information, the Patrol created the Mental Health and Wellness tab on the Gateway, which is an intranet website available to Patrol personnel. Division employees can immediately connect with the Members Assistance Team (MAT), chaplains, and/or find a support network. Additionally, self-help information is available with articles, videos, and podcasts for employees to explore topics unique to their specific interest. This project garnered national recognition earning an American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators – Public Affairs and Consumer Education award for an internally-produced website.
The Patrol also implemented a new program that focuses on mental health and wellness for the Division. The Veterans Members Assistance Team (VMAT), was developed to assist veterans and active military service members. Currently, 16 VMAT members have completed training through the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation (ICISF), which enhances their overall abilities to serve and allow members to partake in privileged conversations during a critical incident response.

**Patrol Training Academy CALEA Accreditation**

In July 2021, the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies conferred national accreditation on the Ohio State Highway Patrol’s Training Academy. The Patrol became only the fifth state highway patrol or state police agency in the country that has an accredited academy. For the Division, Academy staff, and the citizens of Ohio, this national accreditation reinforces that the Patrol has one of the best training academies in the country and that they are conducting law enforcement training at an elite level.

For basics and Patrol cadets, that accreditation lends credibility to their training. For troopers, the nationally-certified training being provided by the Academy also adds to the credibility of their position when they are testifying in court or appearing as a subject-matter expert in an official law enforcement capacity.

**Patrol Earns Two National AAMVA Awards**

The Ohio State Highway Patrol Auxiliary earned the 2021 American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) award for Community Service and the Patrol’s Statistical Analysis Unit (SAU) earned a 2021 AAMVA award for Innovative Use of Technology.

The Patrol Auxiliary was honored for its work with agencies throughout the state to fill the need of delivering meals to at-risk and elderly people during the initial months of the COVID-19 pandemic. Some of the agencies the Auxiliary worked with were LifeCare Alliance and their Meals on Wheels program, the St. Stephens Community House Food Band, the Mid-Ohio Food Bank and the Cleveland Food Bank. Auxiliary officers also coordinated and assisted with traffic control at drive-thru distributions.

The Auxiliary is an all-volunteer force that provides assistance to troopers in the course of their duties. Auxiliary officers contribute tens of thousands of hours each year performing a variety of functions.

SAU earned AAMVA honors for its work on the Ohio Statistics for Analytics and Traffic Safety (OSTATS) series of internal and public-facing dashboards developed by the unit’s Geographic Information System team. The dashboards provide a quick way for field commanders to get crash and activity statistics in an interactive environment to help them better direct resources. The public-facing OSTATS dashboards provide maps and statistics for the public, media, law enforcement agencies, and other traffic safety partners across the state of Ohio.
The main crash dashboard contains five years plus the current year of crashes, reported from all agencies across the state. This dashboard is updated weekly and provides current information related to crashes in Ohio.

Another series of internal dashboards are specific to leading crash-causing violations and high priority operations including OVI, distracted driving, seat belts, speed, commercial vehicles, failure-to-yield, work zones, and drugged driving. These interactive dashboards allow officers to compare work activity to crash patterns and displays statistics that can be used to prioritize overtime opportunities and make near real-time shift adjustments to better address emerging crash issues. A Traffic Volume dashboard was also created in response to changing traffic patterns related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The main OSTATS crash dashboard and accompanying user guide is also available to the public at: https://statepatrol.ohio.gov/ostats.aspx

**Aviation Camera-Equipped Aircraft with Mapping System**

The Aviation Section began to utilize a camera-equipped aircraft to check the speed of vehicles committing traffic violations on Ohio’s roadways. The combined camera and mapping system is used to measure the distance and time it takes for a vehicle to travel at least ¼ mile, mirroring traditional airspeed operations. Ground officers are notified by the flight crew of the violation and directed to the target vehicle’s location to conduct a traffic stop. The recorded video of the traffic violation provides solid evidence for potential court trials. Aircrafts can work problematic crash areas, such as construction zones, which are normally very difficult or unsafe to work from the ground. This system received preliminary approval in Fairfield County and expanded to multiple counties across the state.

**IMPACT 22**

Coming out of the pandemic, there was a need to clearly set a path forward for the Ohio State Highway Patrol. In early February, the Patrol unveiled a new operational focus called Impact 22, which is designed to elevate its core service functions and public value.

With Impact 22, the Patrol specifically identified the core services and operations for everyone to focus on after two years of adjusted missions necessitated by the pandemic. Additionally, the focus turned to addressing and significantly impacting Ohio’s trend of rising traffic fatalities, which is comparable with a nationwide trend of increasing traffic fatalities over the last five years.

Impact 22 has three key areas: Collaboration, Operations, and Technology. Collaboration – Capitalizing on representation in communities across the state and further emphasizing the Patrol’s commitment to the public, each district implemented a significant community and recruitment engagement plan.
Field Operations collaborated with law enforcement agencies and the marijuana industry to facilitate a pilot Green Lab program. The Green Labs offer officers the opportunity to learn how cannabis causes impairment – similar to training in detecting alcohol impaired drivers.

The DRIVE to Live program provides impactful opportunities for our troopers and students to engage in candid dialogue on key driving safety topics. Whether through in-person or virtual sessions, in calendar year 2022, the Patrol’s goal is to make contact with and impact 50,000 students.

Operations – The Drug Recognition Expert program, known as DRE, continues to strengthen the Patrol’s impact through the advanced education of officers. In calendar year 2022, Field Operations will conduct two DRE certification courses, expanding the number of DREs in Ohio from 160 to 185.

Existing DREs will facilitate 25 Advanced Roadside Impaired Driver Enforcement, or ARIDE, courses throughout Ohio. These two-day classes educate officers on how to recognize drivers impaired by drugs.

In 2021, the nationwide overdose rate surpassed 100,000 for the first time in history. The Patrol’s goal is to reduce the statewide overdose rate by 10 percent through highway interdiction and working with local partners in task force operations.

SERVICE initiatives now include every district. By utilizing the Ohio Statistics and Analytics for Traffic Safety, known as OSTATS, and local crime knowledge from our law enforcement partners, each district will continue to utilize statistical resources to identify crash and crime trends.

Technology – OVI, Safety Belt, Crash, and Distracted Driver Dashboards, developed through OSTATS, provide real-time local and statewide traffic statistics and trends. Commanders are now providing an overview of these free resources to traffic safety partners and the media.

Each district is also working with the Ohio Department of Transportation and local partners to evaluate and address problem areas through comprehensive engineering and enforcement solutions.

The Aviation Unit is implementing a new speed measuring system through the use of GPS in 10 counties this year. The technology allows troopers and traffic safety partners to target dangerous roads, which may be difficult to work through traditional methods.
Details with Law Enforcement Partners

Over the last 12 months, the Patrol continued to invest resources in collaboration with numerous law enforcement partners across the state. These efforts, driven by local needs and supported through detailed statistics, have strengthened relationships, positively affected crime rates and overall traffic safety, and provided our citizens with peace of mind. During the fiscal year, the Patrol participated in collaborative operations with these agencies:

Akron Police Department, Lorain Police Department, Canton Police Department, Youngstown Police Department, Bellefontaine Police Department, Toledo Police Department, Jackson Township Police Department, Cincinnati Police Department, Geneva Police Department, Middletown Police Department, Gahanna Police Department, Hubbard City Police Department, Ross County Sheriff’s Office, Belmont County Sheriff’s Office, Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office, Stark County Sheriff’s Office, Logan County Sheriff’s Office, Adult Parole Authority and the Ohio Investigative Unit.

The following is a selection of notable details.

July 12 – August 15, 2021: Law enforcement partners worked in multiple sections throughout the City of Lorain to affect impaired driving, street racing, crashes, and overall traffic safety. Data analytics directed officers to high crash and crime areas at appropriate times and days of the week.

September 1-12, 2021: Law enforcement partners saturated areas throughout the City of Youngstown as a response to rising crime and gun violence over the previous year. Through the use of saturation patrols, teams of officers targeted high crime areas, while using traffic stops to continue the positive messaging of traffic safety. This detail was repeated throughout the fourth quarter of 2021, with positive results.

April and continuing throughout 2022: Law enforcement partners worked throughout the City of Middletown during a significant SERVICE initiative in order to positively affect overall traffic safety. These initiatives, which focus on Service with Respect while Valuing Inclusion and Community Engagement, are larger operations, encompassing both public and private partners. The Middletown SERVICE initiative brought in stakeholders from the Middletown Police Department, Middletown Municipal Court, Butler County Safety Council, Middletown City Schools, Middletown City Street Department, Butler County Engineer’s Office, Ohio Department of Transportation, AAA, MADD, SADD, Buter County Fatal Crash Review Committee, Butler County OVI Task Force, Atrium Hospital, and numerous local businesses.

May 6-7, 2022: Law enforcement partners saturated numerous areas throughout the City of Chillicothe and Ross County, with the goal of driving down overdose numbers. In conjunction with the Post Overdose Response Team, Chillicothe Police Department,
Ross County Sheriff’s Office, and US 23 Major Crime Task Force, officers utilized traffic stops in order to detect and deter drug users and traffickers throughout the community, while providing real-time recovery resources when applicable.

June 4, 2022: Law enforcement partners worked at the request of the Toledo Police Department on an initiative born of timely, local intelligence. Officers learned of a “takeover” in the city of Toledo, planned to disrupt traffic safety and police operations through the use of high-performance vehicles operating in a reckless manner at certain locations during designated time frames. As a result of a strong law enforcement presence, including OSHP Aviation assets, takeover participants were deterred from gathering. Additionally, officers removed four impaired drivers and seized an illegal firearm.

Ohio Investigative Unit

The Ohio Investigative Unit (OIU) is a component of the Ohio State Highway Patrol. OIU agents are fully-sworn, plainclothes peace officers responsible for enforcing Ohio’s alcohol, tobacco and food stamp fraud laws.

Agents investigate suspected illegal activity in liquor permit premises (bars, restaurants, carry outs, etc.). Investigations may be related to locations operating without a permit or to drug, gambling, counterfeiting or property crimes. Agents also investigate the illegal manufacture of alcohol, as well as businesses and individuals involved in food stamp fraud.

Related activities may include compliance checks to ensure liquor permit premises are not selling alcohol or tobacco products to underage individuals or trace-back investigations to determine whether alcohol was illegally sold or provided to an underage or already-intoxicated person involved in an alcohol-related crash or incident.

Human Trafficking

In February, a Ravenna man was sentenced in U.S. Northern District Court of Ohio to 14 years in federal prison for sex trafficking a young female. He was arrested twice in 2019 by an agent working with the Mahoning Valley Human Trafficking Task Force. The male was first arrested during a May 2019 sting after he attempted to have sex with a 15-year-old girl. While out on bond for that case, he then attempted to have sex with a 12-year-old girl in November. A search warrant was obtained for his phone, and a conversation was discovered where he had paid the female juvenile in the Cleveland area for sex, also while out on bond for the May 2019 case. A joint investigation with the Cuyahoga Regional Human Trafficking Task Force resulted in charges being filed in federal court. A joint investigation with the Cuyahoga Regional Human Trafficking Task Force resulted in charges being filed in federal court.
Food Stamp Fraud

In March, a Cleveland Heights man entered a guilty plea on four counts of amended record tampering. A grand jury indicted him in August 2021 after agents were able to determine that the man used more than $1,200 in food stamps to purchase illegal narcotics. Agents also discovered the man's hidden ownership of a liquor permit premises and additional employment. Despite that ownership and income, he fraudulently obtained nearly $30,000 in unemployment insurance compensation by not reporting his income or business affiliations. He was sentenced to two concurrent terms of 18 months in prison. He was also ordered to pay $28,804 to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and Cuyahoga County Job and Family Services. Felony charges are pending on two remaining suspects.

Illegal Gambling

In May, agents and the Tuscarawas County Sheriff’s Office executed a search warrant at a storefront in Magnolia. During the search warrant, agents and deputies seized 50 electronic slot machines, records, and U.S. Currency. Agents charged four individuals on illegal gambling related violations. All cases remain pending in Tuscarawas Municipal Court.

In January, agents executed a search warrant at a liquor permit in Conneaut. As a result of the search warrant, agents seized three video slot machines and U.S. Currency Administrative Violations were issued to the liquor permit holder and the criminal charges were issued to the operator. The charges are pending.

In March, a Parma man received 90-days suspended jail time, fined $700 and he must also forfeit all gambling machines and currency seized during OIU’s gambling investigation. The charges stem from an investigation by Cleveland agents which began in 2021. Agents executed a search warrant at a Cleveland business and seized four gambling machines and $10,000 from the device. Agents also issued four administrative violation notices to the liquor permit.

In October 2021, Cincinnati agents and the Clark County Sheriff’s Office executed several search warrants at various illegal gambling parlors in Clark County. OIU entered into a memorandum of understanding with the sheriff’s office in July 2021, which allowed them to investigate the storefront businesses. As a result, four people have been indicted in Clark County Common Pleas Court on money laundering and illegal video gaming.

Trace-back

In January, Columbus agents issued an administrative citation to a Washington Court House liquor permit after agents determined a patron was over-served. The patron slipped and hit his head. After he was injured and at times unresponsive, it took bar staff approximately 20 minutes to call for medical assistance. Agents issued a violation
Illegal Alcohol Sales/Manufacturing

In March, Cleveland agents, the Cleveland Division of Police, and the Ohio Division of Liquor Control conducted a search warrant at a warehouse after people were getting sick from a specific brand of wine. It was determined the manufacturer of the wine was not licensed to manufacture or distribute. During the search warrant agents discovered a large quantity of bottled products, as well as a full manufacturing operation in progress. The manufacturing and bottling were being conducted in extremely dirty conditions with no sanitizing or safety measures in place. Agents seized 651 intact bottles of wine and several hundred gallons of product in the production process. They also seized business records, one vehicle, and several thousand dollars in U.S. currency. Simultaneously, agents, officers and DOLC personnel conducted inspections at permit premises throughout Cuyahoga County identified as retail sellers of the illegal product. As a result of those inspections, an additional 437 intact bottles of the product were seized and 18 liquor permit holders were issued violation notices for purchase for resale intoxicating liquor (wine) and illegal possession of intoxicating liquor not obtained from an authorized source. In addition, Cleveland agents discovered the suspect was gainfully employed, with not just the illegal operation wine but also three additional corporations. These corporations produced more than $230,000 in revenue from January 2020 through March, 2021. During that same period, the suspect fraudulently obtained more than $30,000 in unemployment insurance compensation by not reporting his income or business affiliations. He was found guilty of illegal sales, falsification to obtain entitlement benefits, and grand theft. A judgement was ordered in favor of the state for $36,143.

Drug Seizure

In December 2021, Cleveland agents were conducting an investigation at a gas station in Cleveland when they observed a drug transaction taking place. Felony drug charges were filed against the individuals. All are waiting grand jury indictment.

In July 2021, Cleveland agents conducted an investigation at a gas station in Cleveland. A male subject parked next to the agents and was observed retrieving a large zip lock bag containing multiple varieties of suspected narcotics. That subject was observed retrieving narcotics from the bag and prepping items for sale into a smaller plastic baggy. Agents then observed a second subject approach the vehicle, open the passenger door, and exchange U.S. currency for the small plastic baggy. Agents approached and detained both subjects without incident. The buyer immediately admitted to purchasing fentanyl, and the seller immediately admitted to having made the sale. A .5-gram bag of suspected fentanyl was recovered from that sale. A search of the vehicle produced bulk amounts of numerous narcotics, including suspected fentanyl, heroin, crack cocaine, powder cocaine and crystal methamphetamine, with a total weight of more than 115 grams. Agents also recovered 10
suspected oxycodone and two suspected MDMA tablets. Street value of the seized narcotics was estimated between $8,000 and $10,000. In January 2022, both suspects were indicted. A warrant was issued for the buyer. The trafficker was found guilty on five felony charges, including receiving stolen property, trafficking, and possession of controlled substance.

Case Follow-Up

In July 2021, The U.S. Attorney’s Office announced seized money from the Bitcoin forfeiture was being distributed. The money was seized as part of a fake ID case in 2018. The money seized at the time was worth approximately $5 million. It was sold at a value of $19,227,204.60, tripling the amount seized. OIU will deposit $7,306,337 of the money seized into its forfeiture account. OIU now holds the record for the single biggest seizure in history for The Northern District of Ohio.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ohio Investigative Unit Stats</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open cases</td>
<td>3,519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guns recovered</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traceback Investigations</td>
<td>194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felony Arrests</td>
<td>321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile Arrests</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Issued Citations</td>
<td>976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Trafficking Cases</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Alcohol Server Knowledge Online

The Ohio Investigative Unit’s Alcohol Server Knowledge (ASK) program became available online in December 2021. Previously, agents have been holding ASK training in person at community centers and liquor permit premises. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, OIU officials began working with AB InBev Foundation to bring the training online.

Much like the in-person class, the training includes alcohol sales, false identification, identifying human trafficking, tobacco sales, food stamp fraud, trace-back investigations, labeling and refilling, among other topics. The participant must watch the videos and go through each topic before they can complete the course. The topics have scenarios and questions relating to the segments and a comprehensive exam at the end. Once the participant has successfully completed the course, they are presented with a certificate.

OIU became aware of the opportunity to partner with AB InBev from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control. The partnership with AB InBev began as a pilot program with six cities worldwide to participate in Global Smart Drinking Goals - which is reducing the harmful use of alcohol by 10 percent in six cities. OIU submitted a
plan for Columbus, which can also be used for all of Ohio. The other five cities are located in Belgium, Brazil, China, Mexico, and South Africa.

The ASK program is still available in person and both are free for all participants.

The online class can be found by logging onto https://learning.dps.ohio.gov/ask.

• From December 2021 to June 2022, 997 people completed the online training.
• From July 1, 2021 through June 8, 2022, there were 60 in person classes conducted with 834 participants.

**OSHP Enforcement and Education**

State troopers continue working every day and night in all 88 counties to prevent traffic crashes and keep families safe. The Patrol, since inception in 1933, has been fully committed to ensuring that Ohio remains among the safest places in America to drive, work, and live.

According to provisional data Ohio lost 1,325 people in FY 2022 because of choices such as not wearing a seatbelt, distracted driving, illegal drugs and driving impaired. Unfortunately, over the last five years, Ohio has averaged over three traffic fatalities and 11 overdose deaths per day.

Additionally, troopers removed a large number of pills from Ohio roads in fiscal year 2022. This included significant increases in the seizure of opiate, depressant, stimulant and hallucinogenic pills.

**Activity Recap (FY 2022)**

- OSHP conducted more than one million contacts with motorists.
- Investigated 57,556 traffic crashes;
- Arrested 16,289 impaired drivers;
- Issued 63,036 safety belt citations;
- Enforced 9,574 distracted driving violations; and
- Provided assistance to 156,944 motorists.

**Criminal Patrol (FY 2022) Troopers seized:**

- 356 pounds of methamphetamines;
- 39 pounds of heroin;
- 332 pounds of cocaine;
- 14,620 opiate pills;
- 316 pounds of fentanyl; and
- 6,667 pounds of marijuana.

Troopers also made 9,622 arrests for drug violations, 5,640 felony arrests, recovered 1,211 stolen vehicles, 1,284 arrests for weapons violations, and served 1,345 felony warrants.
Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles

The Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles oversees driver and motor vehicle licensing and registration, among other services. Committed to moving Ohio forward, the Bureau of Motor Vehicles is continuing to make services more secure, convenient, efficient, and cost-effective for its customers.

“Sunrise in Ohio” License Plate
Ohio Governor DeWine and the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles unveiled Ohio’s new license plate, “Sunrise in Ohio” effective January 1, 2022.

New BMV Online Services
BMV’s Online Services website launched several new innovative services available online to BMV customers:

- OH|ID Account – by creating an OH|ID account, BMV customers will have access to a secure and personalized BMV Online Services.

- Online Reprint of an existing Driver License or Identification Card – when the current, unexpired driver license or identification card was lost, stolen or mutilated, customers may go online and purchase a reprint of their card.

- Online DL|ID Renewal Process – offers qualified customers the ability to renew their driver license or identification card online.

Third-Party Driver Exam Pilot Project
A pilot program was implemented to study the advantage of a third-party entity offering driving skills tests to reduce the number of visits to the BMV. One location was implemented on July 1, 2022 with a handful of other locations to follow.
Ohio BMV Express

Renew and print your vehicle registration card and plate sticker instantly at any self-service BMV Express kiosk. There are 18 kiosks located around the state in grocery stores, E-check locations, and BMV deputy registrar locations, with more locations to come. Additional information and locations can be found at www.ohioBMVexpress.com. Renew. Print. Go!
Ohio Emergency Management Agency

Evolution of Disaster Recovery During a Pandemic

On March 31, 2020, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the President declared a major disaster for the State of Ohio. This resulted in the creation of the Public Assistance Program (PA) for COVID-19, which is currently still in effect. Traditionally, most non-natural disaster incidents to which the State has responded (Ebola, H1N1, Toledo water shortage), do not result in recovery actions and/or grant funding. Therefore, this declaration was unique to Ohio and to all of the states and territories that received the same disaster declaration. The Disaster Recovery Branch (DRB) found themselves working with non-traditional applicants, such as the non-profit hospitals that were in tremendous need for funding to provide critical medical care to COVID-19 patients and PPE to protect their staff and patients.

In the course of their recovery work, DRB also engaged in numerous areas such as provisions of food, challenges being faced by those experiencing homelessness, the stand up of alternate care facilities, eligibility around non-congregate sheltering, planning for the mass vaccination clinic at the Wolstein Center in Cleveland, and many others. All of these efforts required collaboration with external stakeholders and the internal EMA team coordinating the response activities. To date the Ohio EMA Disaster Recovery Branch has processed payments totaling $273,033,335 since the President’s declaration in 2020.

Ohio Safe Room Rebate Program

A safe room is a structure specifically designed to provide protection in extreme weather events.

The Ohio Safe Room Rebate Program provides a rebate for the purchase and construction/installation of tornado safe rooms for Ohio homeowners selected for the program. Homeowners are eligible for a rebate of 75% of the cost to install/construct a safe room up to a maximum of $4,875.

Funding for the Ohio Safe Room Rebate Program is made available through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant programs (75%), and homeowner contributions (25%). Since 2011, the State of Ohio has aided in funding over 557 safe rooms statewide.

State of Ohio Security Grant for Nonprofits

In February of 2022, the Ohio EMA Grants Branch sent out Notices of Awards to the latest recipients of the State of Ohio Security Grant for Nonprofits; House Bill 110 authorized funding for the program for both fiscal year 2022 and 2023.
The authorization allowed the Ohio Department of Public Safety and the Ohio Emergency Management Agency to award competitive grants to eligible Ohio non-profit organizations, houses of worship, chartered nonpublic schools, and licensed preschools for eligible security improvements that assist the organization in preventing, preparing for, or responding to acts of terrorism. In total, fifty nonprofits received funding. This group included many houses of worship and private schools across the state.

Ohio Emergency Management Agency’s Emergency Operations Center and Watch Online

Throughout the fiscal year, the Ohio Emergency Management Agency’s Emergency Operations Center and Watch Office played an intricate role in both COVID-19 response coordination as well as all-hazards incident awareness. Since July 1, 2021, Ohio EMA’s Watch Office has engaged 1,179 distinct actions including internal reporting and leadership coordination calls (381 actions) and incident information sharing with state and county partners (99 actions). The actions listed effectively covered all seven community lifelines in the following numbers of actions taken:

- Communications – 221
- Energy – 85
- Food/Water/Shelter – 189
- Hazardous Materials – 66
- Health and Medical – 230
- Safety and Security – 276
- Transportation – 62

Additionally, Ohio EMA’s Watch Office serves as the entry point for state mission support to local response. Over the course of the year, Ohio EMA processed 166 mission requests ranging from mobile cooling unit delivery to demobilization of assets previously dispatched. As incident awareness and information sharing are a key element of Ohio EMA’s role in statewide coordination, the state EOC opened active incidents in WebEOC for state and county partners to document their efforts. Incidents were opened for January/February winter weather and two severe weather incidents in June 2022. Ohio EMA remains engaged 24/7 to ensure proper awareness and posture of the state response enterprise for incidents from any hazard at any time.
The Division of EMS, in conjunction with the State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services (EMFTS) and the Firefighter and Fire Safety Inspector Training Committee, is responsible for:

- Establishing training and certification standards for fire and EMS personnel;
- Accreditation of EMS and chartering of fire training programs;
- Coordination of Trauma Committee activities and Ohio’s trauma data collection system;
- EMS grant program administration, providing funding for training, equipment, and research;
- EMS for Children (EMSC) program coordination;
- Licensing of Ohio’s medical transportation services;
- Coordination of the Regional Physician Advisory Boards;
- Coordination, collection, and analysis of data submitted to the EMS Incidence Reporting System and the Ohio Trauma Registry;
- Conducting administrative investigations involving possible violations of Ohio Revised Code Chapters 4765 and 4766; and
- Providing EMS support in the State of Ohio Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) during declared emergencies or natural disasters.

A physician active in the practice of emergency medicine and selected by the EMFTS Board serves as the state medical director. The medical director advises the division and the EMFTS Board on matters regarding adult and pediatric emergency care and other EMS issues.

The division remained active and contributed to the state’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff helped man the SEOC as a partner to the ESF-8 lead agency, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), throughout the activation period. The State Medical Director developed and updated multiple guidance and best practice recommendations that were communicated to all EMS stakeholder groups. Staff contributed expertise in personal protective equipment (PPE) and transportation missions received by the SEOC. The division continued operations in a virtual office environment and assisted fire and EMS education programs in transitioning to online education. The EMFTS Board and its committees also continued business by virtual meetings through June 30, 2021. Testing and certification of Ohio’s fire service and EMS personnel continued throughout the COVID-19 pandemic thanks to the collaborative efforts of many stakeholders who helped forge creative, alternative solutions to many of the challenges it caused. As a result, Ohio’s fire and EMS sectors remained robust and prepared to respond to all calls for assistance throughout 2021.
EMS and Fire Service Education

The primary focus of the Ohio Division of EMS is to ensure a workforce of well-trained and certified EMS and fire service providers to serve Ohio citizens.

**EMS Education**

The division regulates 90 accredited institutions that offer EMS training for initial certification and more than 589 approved organizations that provide EMS continuing education offerings. The division conducts both initial and renewal application site visits for accredited institutions and approved continuing education programs. The division conducted 29 virtual site visits of accredited EMS training institutions and 134 virtual site visits of approved continuing education programs in FY 21-22.

**Fire Service Education**

The division approves the delivery of firefighter, fire safety inspector, and instructor training required for certification through the training institution chartering process. There are 62 chartered institutions offering fire service training for certification to practice in Ohio.

The division conducts fire charter reviews, which include site visits for both initial and renewal charter requests. Charter reviews are conducted to ensure course offerings and facilities meet the educational standards established through the Ohio Revised and Administrative Codes. Twenty-four site visits were conducted in FY 21-22.

**Continuing Education**

To ensure that Ohio has qualified and well-trained EMS and fire service providers, certificate holders are required to complete continuing education in order to renew their certifications every three years. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic that resulted in automatic extensions for all certificate holders, audits resumed in July 2021.

**Testing**

The division administers state certification examinations for firefighters, fire safety inspectors, and instructors. The written portion of the certification examination process is conducted using a web-based testing system operated by the division. Examinations are administered by chartered fire training programs and accredited EMS training programs with approval by the division. In FY 21-22, the division, through chartered fire training programs and accredited EMS training programs, scheduled 1,844 examination sessions, administering 5,362 individual examinations.

**Certifications**

The division oversees the administration of 103,822 EMS and fire certificates to practice and to teach through the initial, renewal, reinstatement, and reciprocity application processes. An online application system permits students seeking initial EMS and fire service
provider certifications to submit electronic applications and become certified the same day, allowing them to enter the workforce quickly utilizing recently acquired skills. Additionally, all certificate holders may quickly renew their certificates online, as required every three years. Initial applications for EMS and fire instructors are paper applications and are processed individually, as are reinstatement and reciprocity applications.

**Investigations**

The division is responsible for conducting all investigations involving possible violations of Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4765, and the rules promulgated thereunder, pertaining to EMS providers, firefighters, fire safety inspectors, EMS and fire instructors, EMS accredited and approved training institutions, and chartered fire training institutions. Additionally, the division is responsible for investigating potential violations of Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4766, and the rules promulgated thereunder, pertaining to the licensing of medical transportation organizations, ambulettes, ambulances, mobile intensive care units, and air medical service organizations. The division also coordinates all administrative 119 hearings for divisional matters and enforces compliance with discipline issued by the Ohio EMFTS Board and the Chief Executive Officer of the EMFTS Board. Lastly, the division conducts all criminal conviction reviews for prospective and renewing fire and EMS providers pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 9.78.

**Case Investigations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY 2021</th>
<th>FY 2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong># of Cases - EMS Investigations</strong></td>
<td>318</td>
<td>436</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong># of Cases - Fire Investigations</strong></td>
<td>104</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong># of Cases - Dual Fire and EMS Investigations</strong></td>
<td>114</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Cases Opened</strong></td>
<td>536</td>
<td>696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong># of Cases - Medical Transportation Investigations</strong>*</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Medical Transportation Investigations are included in the EMS Investigations total for statistical purposes.*
**Grants**

The purpose of the State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services Grant Program is to improve and enhance EMS and trauma patient care in the state by providing grant funds to eligible applicants. The EMS grant award year consists of a two-award funding cycle beginning July 1 and concluding June 30 the following year. The amount awarded for each category is determined by the Ohio EMFTS Board and the funds available from safety belt fines collected during the award year.

**EMS Grants**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY21-22 Awards</th>
<th># Grants Awarded</th>
<th>Amount Awarded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priority 1 - Training and Equipment</td>
<td>642</td>
<td>$1,831,884.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplemental Funding</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>$235,950.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority 2-5 Traditional &amp; RFPs</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$100,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The grants program has been in existence for more than 25 years. In the last 10 years, the division has awarded more than $29,000,000 in training and equipment funds, of which $1,831,884 were awarded in FY 21-22.

**Research and Analysis**

The division oversees data submitted to the EMS Incidence Reporting System (EMSIRS) and the Ohio Trauma Registry. In the past year, the division collected data on more than 1.9 million EMS runs made by 872 EMS agencies and medical record data for more than 44,627 trauma patients admitted to 185 reporting hospitals. Over 11 million trauma and EMS incident records are at the disposal of the EMFTS Board for system oversight and research.

During FY 21-22, a project was launched to update the EMSIRS system to accommodate the new National Emergency Medical Information System (NEMSIS) version 3.5 data standard. This project will include integrations for reporting to the national Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival (CARES) repository.

In FY 21-22, the EMFTS Board renewed the financial support for all statewide EMS agencies to report all cardiac arrest data to the national Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival (CARES) program to improve surveillance and help communities increase cardiac arrest survival rates. Nationally, a total of 28 state registries, more than 1,800 EMS agencies, and over 2,200 hospitals representing a catchment area of more than 140 million people have resulted in more than 600,000 patient entries into the registry.

**Emergency Medical Services for Children**

The Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) program is a federally funded initiative designed to ensure children receive the very best emergency care the EMS system can provide. EMSC is a broad network of services including injury prevention,
accessing EMS, ambulance services, emergency room services, hospital services, and rehabilitative services.

During FY 20-21, the Ohio EMS for Children Committee updated the Ohio Pediatric EMS Guidelines and Procedures Manual. The EMFTS Board approved and published this manual as the recommended guidelines for pediatric out-of-hospital care in the State of Ohio.

Through an additional grant provided by the Federal EMS for Children Program, 52 agencies received pediatric training mannequins to assist EMS/fire agencies with hands-on education in order to help improve the management of pediatric patients.

**Statewide Trauma System**

Ohio has a legislated trauma system that ensures seriously injured people are transported to the right hospital, in the right manner, and in the right amount of time. Based on data submitted to the Ohio Trauma Registry, an annual report is published that informs our stakeholders of trends and care delivered to Ohio’s trauma patients in order to benchmark care and help identify ways to improve patient outcomes.

Recognizing the stress that the COVID-19 pandemic placed on the delivery of healthcare services at the state level and the reallocation of medical and support staff that was occurring, the ACS continued virtual visits in order to mitigate challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Ohio Trauma Committee embraced these efforts and also granted reporting extensions of trauma registry data for all of CY 2021.

**Medical Transportation**

The division is charged with licensing private, non-emergency medical transportation service organizations (ambulette), emergency medical service organizations (ambulance and mobile intensive care units (MoICU), and air medical service organizations regulated by Chapter 4766 of the Ohio Revised Code. This is accomplished through yearly inspection, certification, and licensure of all services, vehicles, and satellite stations. The Medical Transportation section, with the assistance of thirteen part-time contractors, performs approximately 4,500 inspections per year of service headquarters, vehicles, satellite locations, and unannounced inspections.

**Fiscal Year 2022 Inspection Activity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Ambulance ALS/BLS</th>
<th>Ambulance/ MoICU</th>
<th>Ambulette</th>
<th>Air Medical</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Services</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>323</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicles</td>
<td>1,309</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>1,324</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Transport Vehicles</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satellite Locations</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ohio Homeland Security

Safer Ohio School Tip Line Serves 3,800 Schools

The Safety and Violence Education Students (SAVE Students) Act required each school district and other public schools to register with the Safer Ohio School Tip Line or enter into an agreement with another anonymous reporting program prior to the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year.

The reporting program must meet the following requirements:

- Operate 24 hours per day, seven days per week;
- Forward reported information to and coordinate with the appropriate school threat assessment teams and law enforcement and public safety agencies required under the school’s emergency management plan developed under Ohio Revised Code Section 5502.262;
- Be promoted in each district school to inform students about the reporting program and its reporting methods; and
- Any data collected by the Safer Ohio School Tip Line or an anonymous reporting program or reported to the Departments of Education or Public Safety are security records and not public records.

The Ohio School Safety Center (OSSC), housed within Ohio Homeland Security, received 316 calls to the Safer Ohio School Tip Line in Calendar year 2021. A large portion of the tips were related to bullying/harassment/intimidation, self-harm, and threats of violence. There are now 3,886 school buildings registered with the tip line.

Case Example: A parent reported suicidal social media posts from a middle-school-aged child’s peer who made comments about wanting to shoot or cut themselves. Local law enforcement and a school resource officer (SRO) did a welfare check on the family, and the parents had no idea the student was struggling. The visit led to regular counseling and other mental health services. The SRO, school counselor, and principal followed up with the family to ensure getting the student back in school with access to follow-up services.

Behavioral Threat Assessment Team Training

The Safety and Violence Education Students (SAVE Students) Act also requires each local, city, exempted village, and joint vocational school district to create a threat assessment team for each school building in the district serving grades six through twelve. Each team shall be multidisciplinary, when possible, and may include school administrators, mental health professionals, school resource officers, and other necessary personnel.
OHS Strategic Plan an All-Hazards Approach

The 2021-2024 version of the Ohio Homeland Security Strategic Plan was developed with numerous partners in the public and private sectors to provide our state with a strategy to best address any and all hazards that threaten the lives and well-being of Ohio’s residents and visitors.

Recent history has shown us that homeland security efforts must be designed to meet a broad array of threats, hazards, and catastrophic incidents. The 2021-2024 OHS Strategic Plan is an all-hazards preparedness strategy designed to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism, natural disasters, and other emergencies.

OHS Shares Resources to Enhance Security, Resiliency of Faith-based Organizations

Acts of targeted violence against houses of worship are an ongoing threat, and OHS shared a wealth of state and federal resources to help religious organizations address their physical and cybersecurity needs.

The various resources will allow houses of worship to develop and test comprehensive security strategies to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from incidents arising from all-hazards, therefore helping ensure the resilience and continuity of these important community assets.

To help spread the word, OHS and the federal Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) co-hosted an online seminar in April.

One of the highlights within this comprehensive list of resources was developed by Ohio EMA, titled “Houses of Worship: Targeted Disruption.” This toolkit provides all of the materials and information necessary to easily plan and facilitate a tabletop exercise, focusing on operational communication and coordination, as well as on-scene security and protection.

There are also CISA-designed tools to guide personnel at houses of worship through a security-focused self-assessment to understand potential vulnerabilities and identify options for consideration in mitigating those vulnerabilities.

To view these resources, check out the cybersecurity pages of the OHS website.
School Safety Grants for K-12, Higher Ed

The OSSC, in collaboration with the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission and Ohio Department of Higher Education, helped distribute $10 million in grants to enhance security of both K-12 school and Ohio’s colleges and universities. In May, $4.8 million in grants were awarded to Ninety-eight schools in 27 through Ohio’s K-12 School Safety Grant Program.

The 133rd General Assembly’s Capital Bill provided $5 million in funds for state institutions of higher education for eligible security improvements that assist the institutions in improving the overall physical security and safety of their buildings on public campuses throughout Ohio. Campuses will work with experienced security, law enforcement, or military personnel to conduct a security and vulnerability assessment to identify potential areas for improvement.

Governor DeWine has also worked with the Ohio General Assembly to secure $100 million in funding to help K-12 public, private, and parochial schools pay for physical safety and security upgrades. The funding, which is part of the 2022 capital budget, will be awarded to schools as part of Governor DeWine’s existing K-12 School Safety Grant Program. The funding will pay for physical safety upgrades in and around school buildings such as visitor badging systems, school radio systems, exterior lights, security training, door locking systems, and other physical safety needs.

SkyWatch Tower Deployed Around Ohio

OHS’s Critical Infrastructure (CI) Unit conducted 53 SkyWatch Tower Deployments during 2021, and requests are already being submitted for next year and beyond. These deployments covered events such as festivals, fairs, concerts, fireworks shows, car shows, and more. If your agency is interested in requesting a SkyWatchTower for an event, please contact the CI Team at SAIC@dps.ohio.gov.

Vulnerability Assessments Conducted

Eleven Security and Vulnerability Assessments were conducted at police departments, colleges and universities, K-12 schools, hospitals, warehouses, and general office buildings, among others. The OHS Critical Infrastructure team assesses gaps in physical security such as access control, CCTV, perimeter security, business policies/procedures, onsite security, intrusion detection, etc. A CI team member will speak with stakeholders over the phone about their facilities, asking a number of key questions to produce a 20- to 40-page written report addressing vulnerabilities/gaps and offering options to consider for security improvements. Reports provided by the CI Team are protected under ORC 149.433 and 5502.03 and will only be shared with the requesting facility. If your agency is interested in requesting and Security and Vulnerability Assessment, please contact the CI Team at SAIC@dps.ohio.gov.
A Look Ahead...

Ohio School Safety Center to expand, offer more school safety training, grants

Following the Ulvade school shooting, it was announced in June that the OSSC is expanding and implementing many new initiatives to help protect Ohio school children, including developing training for the optional arming of school personnel, establishing a mobile training office, and issuing $100 million in school safety grants to public, private, and parochial schools in Ohio.

“Our goal is to continue to help our public and private schools get the tools they need to protect our children,” said Governor Mike DeWine. “Working together, we have come a long way to improve school safety in Ohio over the last decade, and we must continue this progress. We have an obligation to do everything we can every single day to try and protect our kids.”

House Bill 99 allows school boards to choose to arm specific staff members. To do so, HB 99 appropriates $6 million over the remainder of the current budget cycle to expand the OSSC and create a new OSSC Safety & Crisis Division, led by a chief mobile training officer who will oversee 16 new regional training officers working within the 16 established Ohio Department of Education school safety support team regions. Training modules will include scenario-based training, as well as instruction on mitigation techniques; communications; neutralization of potential threats and active shooters; accountability; reunification; psychology of critical incidents; de-escalation techniques; crisis intervention; trauma and first aid care; history/pattern of school shootings; tactics of responding to critical incidents; tactical live firearm training, and realistic urban training. Governor DeWine directed the OSSC to create additional training curriculum for districts that choose to require training above what is required by the state.

Governor DeWine also instructed that the OSSC expand its number of school safety liaison positions from five to 16. The 16 OSSC liaisons will also be based within the ODE school safety support team regions and will work with schools to implement a comprehensive school safety framework by assisting them to secure school safety grant funding, conduct physical vulnerability assessments, and evaluate emotional safety and cyber safety. In total, 28 new employees (17 safety & crisis staff/11 liaison staff) will be added to the OSSC in the coming months to work with the more than 5,000 schools in Ohio.
Through research, technology, grants, administration, and programmatic initiatives, the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) serves a wide variety of agencies committed to reducing and preventing crime across Ohio. The office also serves as the state criminal justice planning agency and performs criminal justice planning for Ohio. Additionally, OCJS currently administers more than $200 million in state and federal criminal justice funding, develops justice system public policy, collects and analyzes crime data, evaluates programs and develops technology, and provides training and products for criminal justice professionals and their communities.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

On December 6, 2021, Governor Mike DeWine and Lt. Governor Jon Husted proposed the allocation of $250 million in ARPA funding to support law enforcement and first responders. Soon after, House Bill 169 (134th General Assembly) authorized the ARPA funding to address impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic as follows:

- $175 million through the Office of Criminal Justice Services to protect Ohio’s citizens from violence
- $75 million through the Emergency Management Agency to support first responder resilience and recovery

The initial ARPA projects included:

- Ohio Ballistics Testing Initiative to expand access to the National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN)
- Ohio Crime Lab Efficiency Program to help crime labs manage testing backlogs
- Wellness seminars and training for first responders

The following ARPA Requests for Proposal (RFP) were released in the Spring of 2022:

- Ohio Violent Crime Reduction Grant Program, which is targeted to Ohio’s law enforcement agencies to fund strategies to reduce violence in the community and bolster public safety by supporting needed staffing levels.
- Ohio First Responder Recruitment, Retention and Resilience Program, which is targeted to police, sheriff, fire, and emergency medical services agencies throughout Ohio to provide programming to support mental, physical and emotional wellness, as well as hiring and retention of first responder staff.

The following ARPA RFPs will be released in the Summer of 2022:

- Ohio Court Backlog Reduction Program, which will fund strategies to reduce and clear case backlogs that were exacerbated by the pandemic, and streamline court case processes.
• Violence Prevention/Reduction Community Grants, which will fund community-based, collaborative and law enforcement intervention strategies to prevent and reduce community violence.

**Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental**

OCJS was awarded nearly $16 million in Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) as part of the federal CARES Act to provide grants to local law enforcement, probation and parole offices, local courts, victim services providers, and adult, juvenile, and community corrections agencies. This funding supports agencies in:

- Preventing the spread of COVID-19 through the purchasing of cleaning supplies and personal protective equipment (PPE);
- Preparing for COVID-19 through proper planning, staffing, and communications to ensure effective operations and maintain the safety of criminal justice employees, citizens, and correctional populations; and
- Responding to the spread of COVID-19 through medical visits, hospitalizations, purchasing medical supplies, and securing alternative housing.

To date, OCJS has awarded $14.2 million in CESF grant funding to 325 criminal justice agencies to aid in the fight against COVID-19.

**Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board**

The Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board (Ohio Collaborative) was formed in 2015 to create uniform core standards for Ohio’s law enforcement agencies covering use of force, including deadly force, and hiring and recruitment. As of today, 88 percent of all of Ohio’s law enforcement officers work for an agency that has voluntarily complied with these standards or is in the process of certification. While these certified agencies account for only 66 percent of Ohio’s departments, they serve 88 percent of Ohio’s total population.

Governor DeWine directed OCJS, which oversees the Ohio Collaborative certification process, to reach out to every agency that is not certified in these standards and assist them in moving toward certification.

Collaborative standards also exist for community engagement, body cameras, bias-free policing, employee misconduct, telecommunicators, mass protests and interacting with youth.

The 2022 Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board report, which lists the certification status of all law enforcement agencies in the state, is available here.

*Developmentally Appropriate Policing & Positive Youth Interactions Standard*

On May 12, 2022, the Ohio Collaborative adopted a new statewide minimum standard for law enforcement when interacting with juveniles. To gain certification in the new standard, an agency must establish written policies governing how
officers and other agency personnel interact with youth when questioning, detaining, searching, interrogating and arresting juveniles. Also, when feasible, officers should use alternatives to arrest, such as: warnings, referrals to social or mental health services, or the issuance of a citation. In addition, training for officers should include content focusing on youth development, de-escalation, and trauma-informed communication strategies. Agencies must review the policy annually and make adjustments as needed.

Body-Worn Camera Grant Program

The new Ohio Body-Worn Camera Grant Program was created in the state’s 2022-2023 operating budget. OCJS administers the grant program totaling $10 million over the biennium, with the remaining $5 million in grants to be offered in fiscal year 2023. On January 24, 2022, OCJS awarded more than $4.7 million in grant funding to 113 local law enforcement agencies for expenses associated with launching or maintaining body-worn camera programs. Of the 113 local law enforcement agencies receiving grants, 49 will use funding to create new body-worn programs. The other 64 agencies will dedicate funding toward expanding and upgrading existing technology. In total, this funding will help agencies purchase approximately 1,700 new body cameras, as well computer equipment, software, and video storage. In order to be eligible for the grant, all awarded law enforcement agencies are required to adopt the Ohio Collaborative Body-Worn Camera standard.

Law Enforcement Recruitment Grant Program

The new Law Enforcement Recruitment Grant Program was created in the state’s 2022-2023 operating budget. On February 8, 2022, OCJS awarded more than $430,000 in grant funding to a dozen local law enforcement agencies to strengthen their recruitment efforts. The Office of Law Enforcement Recruitment within OCJS administers the grant program totaling $1 million over the biennium, with the remaining grants to be offered in fiscal year 2023. Thirteen grants were awarded to 12 law enforcement agencies across Ohio as part of the first round of funding.

Ohio Violent Crime Reduction Grant Program

On April 25, 2022, OCJS awarded more than $3.7 million in state grant funding to 19 local law enforcement agencies to help them strategically combat violence in their communities. This funding is part of the overall Ohio Violent Crime Reduction Grant Program that was created in the state’s 2022-2023 operating budget last year and supported with additional ARPA funding. OCJS administers the grant program, which includes $8 million in state funds over the biennium, of which the remaining grants will be offered in fiscal year 2023. Agencies will use the state grant funding to either enhance current violence reduction initiatives or launch new efforts.
Ohio Office of First Responder Wellness

At the direction of Governor Mike DeWine, OCJS has created the Ohio Office of First Responder Wellness. The Office of First Responder Wellness encourages self-care and mental wellness for Ohio’s first responder community including law enforcement, fire, emergency medical services, dispatch, corrections, and Ohio-based military. The office provides specialized support and training to help emergency-response agencies proactively address post-traumatic stress and other traumas caused by factors that are unique to first-responder careers. The Office of First Responder Wellness also partners with local and state mental health agencies, including the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, to offer continuing, comprehensive resources to first-responder entities across the state.

Ohio Governor's Warrant Task Force

Based on recommendations from the task force’s report released in May 2019, a subcommittee of the Warrant Task Force was charged with implementing a statewide eWarrants system. An effort was completed for the development of an electronic warrant and protection order (eWarrants) system that allows warrants and protection orders to be requested, issued, processed, stored, and served within a single statewide database. ODPS has been working with LexisNexis, the vendor that developed the system, on outreach to counties interested in using the full eWarrants system or local case and records management system providers on participation through an interface.

Also, through the efforts of the Warrant Task Force, OCJS implemented the Prisoner Extradition Reimbursement Program. This grant program enables law enforcement agencies to apply for reimbursement of extradition transportation costs. Priority is given to requests for extradition reimbursement of Tier 1 offenses. Tier 1 offenses are defined as felony offenses of violence that involve substantial risk to public or officer safety; and the misdemeanor offenses of domestic violence and aggravated menacing.

Ohio Incident-Based Reporting System

Approximately 660 law enforcement agencies covering nearly 92 percent of the Ohio population have reported crimes through OIBRS that occurred in 2020, 2021, and/or 2022. From July 2021 through May 2022, 21 law enforcement agencies started reporting their crime data for the first time to OCJS through OIBRS, covering approximately 235,000 in population. As of June 2022, 229 Ohio law enforcement agencies are currently reporting use of force reports to OCJS through OIBRS, covering approximately 30 percent in population. There are currently 6,798 use of force reports in the OIBRS database.

Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Site-based Program

OCJS received a three-year, $6 million grant through the federal Bureau of Justice Assistance’s Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP). The funding is being used to create or expand first responder diversion programs in rural
and urban areas across Ohio. First responder diversion programs safely divert individuals with substance use disorders from entering the criminal justice system by connecting them with treatment and supportive services to address their addiction. In the grant’s first year, a comprehensive assessment was conducted with each program to identify their resources and gaps so that the funding could be tailored to address each program’s needs. The programs are currently in different phases of implementation.

This project is a collaborative effort involving OCJS, Cordata, Talbert House, the University of Cincinnati, multiple drug task forces from across Ohio, and Franklin County’s Safe Station program. A team of researchers from Talbert House and the University of Cincinnati is evaluating the project.

RecoveryOhio Grant Funding

OCJS administered $4.6 million in new RecoveryOhio grant funds to drug task forces throughout the state. Of that total, $2.6 million was given to 13 task forces established through the Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission (OOCIC) out of the Ohio Attorney General’s Office. This money will go to support personnel, equipment, and other needed items to establish task forces to support OOCIC, which authorizes task forces to investigate organized criminal activity that crosses city, township, and county borders. The remaining $2.5 million was awarded to 26 drug task forces working to further Governor DeWine’s RecoveryOhio initiative, which was developed to ensure Ohio acts aggressively to address the public health crisis caused by the repercussions of the drug epidemic and mental illness. Funding is provided to support the recommendations of the RecoveryOhio Advisory Council and includes funding for prevention and education programs as well as quick response teams throughout the state.

Human Trafficking

In January 2021, Governor Mike DeWine signed Executive Order 2021-02D to expand the Governor’s Ohio Human Trafficking Human Trafficking Task Force to include five new state agencies to assist the task force in pursuing new, strategic, and comprehensive strategies to combat human trafficking. Today, 15 state agencies are members of the Task Force and work to identify the gaps and opportunities within Ohio’s systems to build a more coordinated response to the exploitation of men, women, and children in Ohio. The Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force, led by the ODPS anti-trafficking coordinator, prioritizes the prevention of human trafficking, the provision of supportive services for survivors, and the prosecution of offenders. The ODPS anti-trafficking coordinator partners closely with multidisciplinary professionals at the federal, state, and local levels to fill system gaps to ultimately inform practical change in the lives of Ohioans.

Improving Outcomes for Trafficked Minors & Youth

The Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force has prioritized activities to identify and serve minor and youth victims of human trafficking in the juvenile justice system. To improve outcomes for trafficked minors, ODPS applied for and was
was awarded $987,926 in competitive funding from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) to increase statewide utilization of Ohio’s Safe Harbor law. The initiative endeavors to meet this goal through the funding of two juvenile court Safe Harbor coordinators and the provision of training and technical assistance to juvenile justice entities throughout the state. From September 2021 through May 2022, ODPS and its funded partners trained over 400 child-serving professionals, including juvenile judges and magistrates, prosecutors, and social service providers. During this time period, ODPS has also worked with the two funded juvenile courts to provide technical support as they develop and implement protocol to better identify and serve trafficked youth who present to the court.

**Increasing Access to Emergency Shelter & Services**

Based on the documented need for emergency shelter for victims of human trafficking upon exiting their trafficking situation, the Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force worked with state and local partners to increase access to emergency shelter. In May 2022, the anti-trafficking coordinator partnered with the Ohio Domestic Violence Network to provide an advanced 6-hour training for Ohio’s domestic violence programs on the intersections of human trafficking and domestic violence, including providing guidance on serving survivors of human trafficking in their shelter programs. The training was attended by 130 professionals and included presentations from social service providers, law enforcement, and a survivor advocate. In addition, OCJS included human trafficking language and guidance in its FY 2022 STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Request for Proposals to encourage and equip domestic violence and sexual assault programs to extend shelter services to victims of human trafficking.

**Financial Instition Trainings & Resources**

In 2021 the Ohio Department of Public Safety partnered with the Ohio Department of Commerce to equip financial institutions with tools and training to detect human trafficking. To do so, ODPS led the development of a guidance document for state-chartered banks and credit unions. ODPS also provided human trafficking training to over 250 financial services professionals at the Ohio Department of Commerce’s Division of Financial Institutions, the state-chartered credit unions and banks, and the Ohio Pawnbrokers Association. The purpose of the trainings was to increase awareness of trafficking and empower employees to identify and report potential cases.

**Labor Trafficking-Specific Outreach and Training**

In order to equip state employees to identify and interdict labor trafficking in Ohio, the Human Trafficking Task Force prioritized partnering with state and local organizations serving at-risk populations including the Ohio Department of Agriculture, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, and the Ohio Department of Commerce. Trainings were provided for minimum wage agents and compliance officers, slaughterhouse
inspectors, county fair veterinarians, and Ohio growers and migrant farm worker outreach specialists to help identify and report potential cases of human trafficking in these industries.

**New Partnerships and Training and Opportunities for Technical Assistance**

In 2022, the Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force developed relationships with several new statewide member organizations and agencies to provide discipline-specific human trafficking awareness training and create opportunities for ongoing technical assistance to better identify and serve victims of human trafficking. Trainings were completed for the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission, over 300 fire and EMS personnel, the Adult Parole Authority, and the Ohio Aviation Association.

**Resources and Guidance to Support Local Child Welfare**

The Ohio Department of Public Safety, in partnership with the Ohio Department of Youth Services and the Public Children Services Association of Ohio, released the 2021 Human Trafficking Resource Guide for Public Children Services Agencies which includes screening resources, response guidance, and links to helpful resources to improve identification and services to youth who have experienced trafficking.