



# Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department Newsletter

## MESSAGE FROM THE SHERIFF



**Cliff Pinkney**  
Cuyahoga County Sheriff

March 22nd kicked off the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department's 2nd annual Citizens Academy, which has been extended to 10-weeks, in effort to incorporate more activities and opportunities that will educate residents on our role in law enforcement. Students will be participating in interactive demonstrations, lectures, and field trips that will cover Corrections, Crime Stoppers, Firearm Safety, Juvenile Detention, Special Weapon and Tactics (SWAT), and more. I want to thank those who have been planning this program behind the scenes, as well as our officers and guest speakers who have invested their time and expertise, as a way to give back to the great citizens of Cuyahoga County.

On April 10th, the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department is pleased to host the Buckeye State Sheriffs' Association's North Eastern District monthly meeting, at Quicken Loans Arena, home to the Champion Cleveland Cavaliers. Every Sheriff in the State of Ohio is invited, as well as other dignitaries and special

guests. We are proud to be able to showcase our county, for the second time, to this gracious group.

In connection with Sheriff's Department operations, we continue to modernize, both in Law Enforcement and in the jail. 150 body cameras have been secured for every patrolling deputy. Technology advancements in the jail include: in-pod kiosks, phone service enhancements, video visitation and online access to commissary. Jail Medical continues to provide state-of-the-art treatment to all our patients. Through a joint program with the drug courts, we now administer Vivitrol, a medically assisted treatment program for heroin addicts willing to go into treatment. Vivitrol is a medication that diminishes the craving for opioids and, along with treatment, can be helpful in overcoming substance abuse. We provided this treatment for approximately 60 inmates in 2016. My goal is to continue to move forward with the outstanding progress we have made thus far, and I thank you for your hard work.

## ELECTRONIC MONITORING UNIT (E.M.U.)

The Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department's Electronic Monitoring Unit (E.M.U.) was initiated in October of 2014. This unit consists of 1 sergeant and 12 deputies that monitor individuals released from the Cuyahoga County Jail on Court Supervised Release or on Pre-Trial (bond).

Currently, the E.M.U. monitors 370 individuals; 300 on real time GPS ankle bracelets and 70 with Trans Dermal Alcohol Detection TAD devices (alcohol monitors). The GPS ankle bracelets, which encompass the bulk of our monitoring, allow us to track an individuals'

movement, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The tracking devices have several safety features that prevent tampering with the device. If the device is being tampered with, an alert is sent via computer and smartphone. CCSD deputies are also alerted when the individual does not follow the conditions of their monitored release. For example, if the individual leaves home early, returns home late, or in a restricted geographic zone, CCSD deputies are instantly notified. Once notified, CCSD deputies apprehend the individual. Along with tampering and

location violations, deputies also conduct random home and employment checks to ensure the monitored individuals are in compliance with their probation requirements.



Submitted by: Sergeant Kevin Campbell

# FIGHTING AN EPIDEMIC

The Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Narcotic's Unit is tasked with responding to suspected heroin overdoses, both fatal and non-fatal. In 2017, investigators responded to fourteen (14) overdoses. The majority of overdoses were the result of a mixture of Fentanyl and heroin. Fentanyl is a powerful synthetic opioid analgesic that is similar to morphine but is 50 to 100 times more potent. It is a schedule II prescription drug, and it is typically used to treat patients with severe pain or to manage pain after surgery. Street names for fentanyl or for fentanyl-laced heroin include Apache, China girl, China White, Dance fever, Friend, Goodfella, Jackpot, Murder 8, TNT, Tango, and Cash.

Upon being notified of a suspected drug overdose within the county, detectives work with the local agencies to secure and investi-

gate the scene. This investigation is also partnered with the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office. Once on scene, investigators conduct interviews of all parties present, as well as follow up with any parties that may have information that can lead to a potential drug dealer responsible for the overdose in question. Any and all pertinent evidence is collected to include: suspected narcotics, hypodermic needles, packaging materials containing suspected narcotics, paraphernalia, and cell phones belonging to the party that overdosed. Evidence is then logged into Sheriff's evidence and ultimately sent to the Medical Examiner's Office for testing. All drug packaging confiscated as evidence is sent to the lab and tested for chemistry, as well as DNA. Investigators obtain any necessary search warrants for

phones and computers, with the hope of gaining information to further the case.

In the event that a suspect is identified either by DNA or phone searches, investigators attempt to build a case against that suspect. Any phone numbers identified as potential suspects in the case are shared with High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) and the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA). Investigators utilize the resources of HIDTA, DEA, the FBI, as well as the local agency, Medical Examiner's Office, and the Prosecutor's Office, to identify and build a case against a potential drug dealer responsible for the overdose.

**Submitted by: Sergeant Vito Monteleone**

# NEW HIRES

## Correction Officer

Clifford Brown, Jr., Ronald Jackson, Aneesah Lewis, Timothy Baker, Jerome Valentine, Linda Harden, Samantha Valentine, Tasia Johnson

## Deputy Sheriff

Steven Robinson, Jr.

## Pharmacist

Ronald Garba

# RECENT RETIREMENTS

## Deputy Sheriff

Kenneth Deighton

## Civil Deputy

Thomas Grivas

# IN MEMORIAM

*Deputy Sheriff Thomas Ashcroft*

*28 years of dedicated service with the CCSD*



## ★ CCSD EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

★ Shannon Prasek (formerly Hall) has been with the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department for approximately 16 years. She works in the warrant unit, primarily handling extraditions. Some of her duties include sending apprehensions and detainers, entering and clearing warrants, providing excellent service as a department liaison, and assisting in other areas of the warrant division when they are short-handed. "I try to do anything asked of me, when it comes to the detectives, my co-workers and supervisors," says Shannon. "I try to treat everyone like I am in their shoes, so they receive the proper service that they should." In addition to her daily responsibilities, Shannon also assists the Cuyahoga County Communications Department by updating the CCSD's Facebook page with wanted fugitives and Crime Stoppers data. In her spare time, Shannon enjoys spending quality time with family and friends, supporting her daughters in all of their extracurricular activities, shopping, vacationing (hoping to one day travel the country and swim with the dolphins), camping, going for walks, and reading a great book or two.

