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Bob Taft, Governor

Jennette Bradley, Lt. Governor

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**CRIMINAL JUSTICE WEEKLY**  
**April 28, 2003**

**NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **OCJS-Funded Task Force Makes Arrests:** The Summit County Drug Unit made several arrests on Thursday, April 24 after a three-month cocaine and marijuana-trafficking investigation in Twinsburg Township. The investigation has taken four large-quantity drug dealers and weapons with a serious potential for disaster off the streets of Twinsburg Township. Encouraged by OCJS to establish a multi-jurisdictional, multi-disciplinary partnership, the Summit County Drug Unit received a start-up Byrne grant of \$200,947 in January 2003. The Summit County Drug Unit is comprised of officers and agents from the Summit County Sheriff's Office, Akron Police Department, Akron University Police Department, Barberton Police Department, Cuyahoga Falls Police Department, Springfield Township Police Department, Twinsburg Police Department, Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, Drug Enforcement Administration, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Internal Revenue Service, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation, and Summit County Prosecutor.
- **TAFT Seeks \$17.5 Million in Homeland Security Funds for Ohio:** Governor Bob Taft and the Ohio Emergency Management Agency have filed a \$17.5 million spending plan for 2003 with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Ohio's grant is expected to be the seventh largest in the United States and will come from a \$566.2 million congressional appropriation to states through the new U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The Ohio spending plan is divided into four components: equipment, planning, exercises and training. Equipment purchases for emergency responders will be on the local, regional and state levels. The Homeland Security plan also contains funds for five urban search and rescue teams in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hamilton, Lucas and Summit counties. Local governments in 60 counties are also to receive money to fund local exercises.

**TRAINING & RESOURCES**

- **Ohio's Security Task Force Offers Free Terrorism Awareness Program for Law Enforcement:** At the request of the State of Ohio Security Task Force, OCJS developed a 40-minute, community-based terrorism program: *Terrorism Awareness and Prevention (TAP)* for use by law enforcement and first responders at the local level. The forty-minute PowerPoint presentation provides an overview of terrorism and demonstrates how residents may better protect themselves, their families and neighborhoods through safety and security planning. Similar to the "CAT Eyes" program in its educational approach, Law Enforcement, Fire, EMA, Health, Agriculture and Service Council representatives partnered to design this Ohio-specific program for citizens.

OCJS is currently preparing for the first in a series of *TAP Train the Trainer* sessions for law enforcement that will begin in just a few weeks. Free of charge to Ohio law enforcement, the four-hour training includes a TAP CD, Instructor's Manual, supplements and trainer certificate. **To learn more about the TAP program, or to register for a TAP trainer session, call the Ohio Crime Prevention Association at: 740.369.6644.**

- **Technical Assistance Sessions for Byrne Proposals:** OCJS staff will be available to provide one-on-one assistance for questions regarding Byrne proposals, which are due at OCJS on May 15, 2003. Please stop by any one of the locations most convenient for you at any time during the hours listed below for help with both programmatic and fiscal questions. Technical assistance for grant proposals is also available by calling OCJS at: 614.466.7782 Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**April 29:** Clark County Sheriff's Office, 120 North Fountain Avenue, Springfield: 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**April 30:** Longview Training Center, 1495 West Longview Avenue, Mansfield: 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**May 1:** Athens Public Library, 30 Home Street, Athens: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon.

- **OCJS Records Management System Software Available:** For a flat fee of \$350 a year, sheriffs' offices and police departments may sign on with OCJS to begin using the Records Management System-or Law Enforcement Officer's Toolkit-designed by OCJS. The Toolkit allows law enforcement agencies to manage records; enter information and arrest reports, and generate incident-based crime statistics for electronic crime data submission to OCJS and the FBI. The software package also includes a Master Name Index Module; Property Room Module; Citation Module; Investigator Notes Module; Statistical Reports, and Search capabilities. *For more information on the Law Enforcement Officer's Toolkit, contact Andrew Taras at: 614.728.4791 or [taras@ocjs.ohio.gov](mailto:taras@ocjs.ohio.gov).*
- **FREE Ohio Incident Based Reporting System (OIBRS) Forms Available:** OIBRS forms are still available from OCJS, while supplies last. *Contact Andrew Taras at: 614.728.4791 for details.*

#### GRANTS/FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- **NEW STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Request for Proposals:** Proposals are now being accepted at OCJS for federal VAWA funding. The VAWA program emphasizes coordinated community approaches to reducing violence against women and creating mutually respectful partnerships between the justice system and victim services. Applicants may apply for funding under the following Program Areas: Training; Enhancement Efforts; Policy and Protocol Development; Data Collection and Communication Systems; Victim Services and Visitation Centers; Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners. Projects may apply for twelve months of funding, and will operate from January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2004. *VAWA proposals must be postmarked or received at OCJS or the RPU's by June 15, 2003. VAWA forms may be downloaded at: [www.ocjs.oh.gov/Funding/currentsolicitation.htm](http://www.ocjs.oh.gov/Funding/currentsolicitation.htm).*
- **COPS in Schools Grant Program:** COPS in Schools is available to law enforcement agencies for hiring new and additional school resource officers (SROs) to engage in community policing in and around primary and secondary schools. The program provides an incentive for law enforcement agencies to build collaborative partnerships with the school community and to use community-policing efforts to combat school violence. *The COPS in Schools application deadline is June 13. To obtain a copy of application kit, contact the U.S. Department of Justice Response Center at: 800/421-6770 or: <http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/Default.asp?Item=46>.*
- **COPS Announces Universal Hiring Programs (UHP):** Available grants to pay up to 75% of the entry-level salary and benefits for newly hired, additional sworn officers over a three-year grant term to initiate or enhance community oriented policing. Priority consideration will be given to those applications that demonstrate a use of funds related to terrorism preparedness or response through community policing. *The application is available at: <http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/Default.asp?Item=46> or by calling U.S. Department of Justice Response Center at 800/421-6770. All applications are due by June 6, 2003.*
- **Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Announces Mental Health Courts Program:** BJA, in coordination with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, is administering the Mental Health Courts Program. This program will fund projects that seek to mobilize communities to implement innovative, collaborative efforts that bring system-wide improvements to the way the needs of adult offenders with mental disabilities or illnesses are addressed. *Applications are due by May 28, 2003. For more information, contact [Guerrier@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Guerrier@ojp.usdoj.gov).*
- **2003 State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP):** SCAAP Assistance is awarded based on the number of eligible criminal aliens incarcerated. States and units of general government that have authority over correctional facilities that incarcerate or detain undocumented criminal aliens for at least four consecutive days are eligible to apply for SCAAP funds. *Eligible applicants begin the process by registering at the program's dedicated web site: [GMS Web Site](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/scguide.pdf) prior to 5:00 p.m. (EDT) on May 23, 2003. For more information, see: [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/scguide.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/scguide.pdf).*
- **FY 2003 Drug Court Grant Program:** The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) has announced that the FY 2003 Drug Court Grant Program solicitations and the Resource Guide for Drug Court Applicants have been released. *Applications are due electronically through the Grants Management System by May 22, 2003. For details and forms: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/drugcourts.html>.*

#### OCJS CONTACTS

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