

Ask the Chief.....

Once a Deputy Sheriff or Corrections Officer graduates from the training academy do they receive any further training throughout their career to stay current on changes to the law, new standards, and other areas pertaining to their professions?

The complexity of policing and corrections in today's modern world requires significant, ongoing training in the criminal justice field. Providing knowledgeable, effective, and professional service to the community requires ongoing training in areas such as; problem solving skills, legal issues, changes in the directives and opinions from both Federal and State courts, dealing with the mentally ill, foreign and domestic terrorism, effectively responding to resistance and aggression, accident investigation, responding to critical incidents, and crisis intervention are just a few areas addressed in ongoing training.

In 1993 when he took Office Sheriff Dunlap made increased training one of his top priorities. Since that time supervisors in the various divisions have attended the FBI Academy, Police Executive Leadership College, Certified Law Enforcement Executives program, and other leadership programs. Our Office has actively sought out candidates with Associate, Bachelors and Master's degrees. Today over 50 people on our staff here at the Sheriff's Office have obtained these advanced degrees.

Yet training is not only at the supervision level, it takes place monthly in every division. Annually Corrections Officers receive in excess of 25 hours of in-service training in such areas as dealing with the mentally ill, investigations, crisis intervention, search and seizure issues, legal aspects of jail operations, and policy and procedure compliance. This year Deputy Sheriffs will complete 20 hours of in-service training through the State of Ohio on; Constitutional Use of Force, Human Trafficking, Crisis De-escalation focusing on Mental illness, Trauma Informed Policing, and legal updates regarding changes in the law. In addition to the 20 hours mandated by the State, our Deputy Sheriffs receive training on crash investigations, interview and interrogation skills, firearms, computer forensics, and other technical areas faced in today's changing society. Equally, Dispatchers receive a minimum of 20 hours of in-service training in areas such as; medical call issues, handling manmade and catastrophic events, emergency communications technology, and legal aspects of public safety communication.

It is important to note that the Lake County Sheriff's Office is a certified Law Enforcement Agency in the State of Ohio. Such certification requires policy and procedure development and adherence, demonstrated knowledge and awareness application, and independent outside compliance review.

Training is an on-going process for our Office, and a critical facet for an effective, community responsive, and liability conscious organization.

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<http://www.lakecountyohio.gov/sheriffoffice/AsktheChief.aspx>