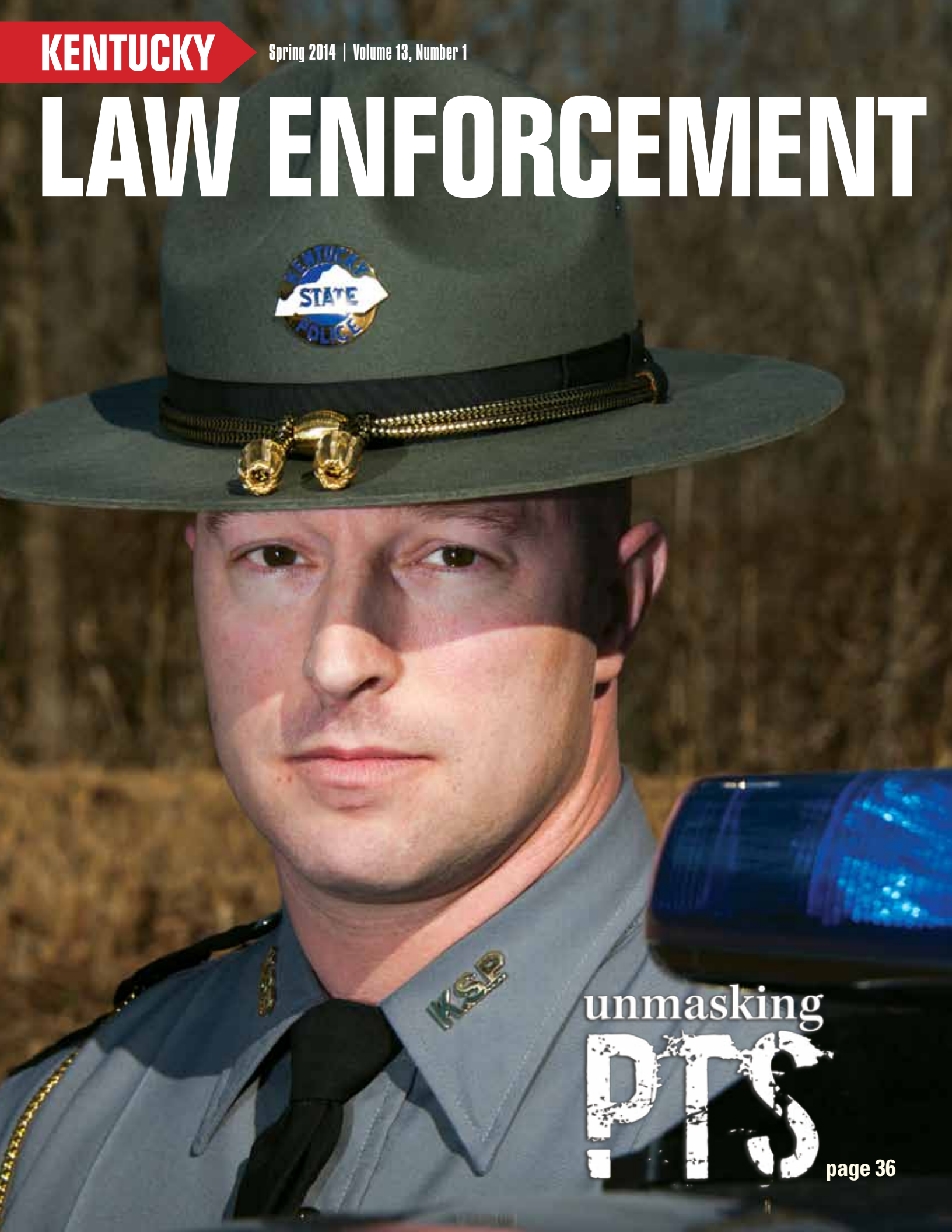
KENTUCKY
Spring 2014 | Volume 13, Number 1

LAW ENFORCEMENT



unmasking PTS

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Volume 13, Number 1

Spring 2014

KENTUCKY LAW ENFORCEMENT

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Governor

J. Michael Brown
Justice and Public Safety Cabinet Secretary

John W. Bizzack
Commissioner

Kentucky Law Enforcement is published by the Kentucky Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, and is distributed free to the Kentucky law enforcement and criminal justice community.

STAFF:
Dave Wilkinson, Editor
Diane Patton, Coordinator
Trang Baseheart
Abbie Darst
Kelly Foreman
Jim Robertson

CONTRIBUTOR:
Edliniae Sweat
Shannon Sanders

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DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING

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This publication is produced quarterly as a training and marketing tool for the Kentucky law enforcement community as well as public officials and others involved with law enforcement or the oversight of law enforcement. It includes best practices, professional profiles, technology and law updates of practical application and news-to-use for professionals in the performance of their daily duties.

PRINTED WITH STATE FUNDS

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Address all correspondence to: KLE Staff, Funderburk Building
521 Lancaster Avenue, Richmond, KY 40475 | DOCJT.KLENN@ky.gov

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A look at cheap, quick and effective ways to keep officer training up to date on a small budget.

FEATURE CRUISER TECHNOLOGY: THE CONVENIENCE, THE CURSE

There is a double-edged sword of extreme convenience and deadly consequences with in-car technology advancements.

The Kentucky Law Enforcement staff welcomes submissions of law enforcement-related photos and articles for possible submission in the magazine and to the monthly KLE Dispatches electronic newsletter. We can use black and white or color prints, or digital images. KLE news staff can also publish upcoming events and meetings. Please include the event title, name of sponsoring agency, date and location of the event and contact information.

Secretary's Column

Impact of KLEFPF Depletion a Concern for Kentucky Officers

J. MICHAEL BROWN | SECRETARY, JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY CABINET

Created in the 1960s, training of all certified law enforcement officers in the commonwealth is funded through a single surcharge. Revenue generated from the 1.8 percent surcharge on casualty insurance is divided between fire services and law enforcement services. For the law enforcement side, funds are deposited into the Kentucky Law Enforcement Foundation Program Fund. It is an example of imminently-sound logic: insurance to protect property-at-risk provides for professional training of Kentucky's first responders who also protect this property.

Rarely has such a small, dedicated surcharge delivered such tangible results.

For Kentucky law enforcement, KLEFPF funds provide:

- all basic training for new hires as well as mandatory annual in-service training, including 100 percent of all expenses of the Department of Criminal Justice Training. (DOCJT receives no monies from the General Fund.)
- an annual proficiency pay incentive — $3,100 a year — to officers who complete annual mandatory training. (Despite inflation, that amount has not changed in more than a dozen years.)
- all expenses of the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council, which manages uniform training requirements and officer standards statewide.

For professional officers who have dedicated their lives to protecting Kentuckians, a $3,100 pay incentive — when added to a historically-meager salary — often becomes the difference between making ends meet or abandoning a law enforcement career. And when trained officers abandon their chosen profession to earn more elsewhere, Kentucky's $18,000 training investment in each is lost. When a fully-trained and certified Kentucky peace officer leaves law enforcement because that individual cannot financially afford to continue as a peace officer, we have all failed.

Obviously, KLEFPF directly pumps dollars into local economies. Presently, approximately 7,300 certified peace officers fulfill the training requirements and receive KLEFPF's $3,100 proficiency pay. (There are almost 300 certified officers waiting to be added to the KLEFPF rolls.) Those 7,300 certified officers pump nearly $23 million of proficiency pay annually into local economies. Those local benefits domino directly into benefits for the state economy while simultaneously guaranteeing the law enforcement services demanded by taxpayers.

Kentucky has made significant progress in providing professional law enforcement services to our citizens. KLEFPF drives this progress, providing direct services — expected and required services — to all Kentuckians.

But this delicate balance may be in jeopardy. Since 1980, well over $100 million has been transferred out of KLEFPF to the General Fund. While balancing the General Fund is necessarily the priority, we occasionally overlook the fallout at a local level and, more importantly, at the individual level.

For several years, we have advocated expanding the pool of officers eligible for the pay incentive, to include officers with the departments of Fish and Wildlife, Parks, Charitable Gaming, Agriculture, Alcoholic Beverage Control and Insurance, as well as investigators with the Office of the Attorney General and certified peace officers employed by school districts and commissioned by the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet as School Resource Officers.

We should all understand that by depleting KLEFPF, we will have a direct impact on the lives of individual Kentucky officers, on local economies and on providing sufficient law enforcement services to Kentuckians.

KLEFPF is the well-structured backbone to providing professional law enforcement services to Kentuckians from the Mississippi to the Big Sandy. We should ensure that the fund does what it was intended to do while simultaneously juggling the needs of the General Fund.

Commissioner's Column

Accumulated Stress Can Threaten Your Life

JOHN W. BIZZACK | COMMISSIONER, DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING

The effects of post-traumatic stress are rapidly gaining awareness as an issue affecting a variety of American professions, including law enforcement. No longer limited by definition to a result of military combat, PTS may now be diagnosed after numerous traumatic events, including natural disasters, sexual and criminal assaults, unexpected deaths or violent encounters.

As the definition of post-traumatic stress evolves, we find an attendant increase in the diagnosis surfacing among police officers, firefighters and other first responders. This is not always the result of the horrors identified with terror attacks like 9/11 or the aftermath of natural disasters like Hurricane Katrina or another all-too-frequent school shooting. More common events — the after action effects of a live shooting, processing a violent murder scene or any of a dozen other events experienced by Kentucky officers on the street — can push an officer over the edge.

The occupational stress levels experienced by law enforcement officers, firefighters and other first responders certainly are expected and even accepted as part of the job. Effective training can assist in preparations to appropriately deal with such stress; but training can never completely prepare an officer for the continuous stress often experienced in a single day's shift.

While we like to think law enforcement officers have been evaluated, tested and prepared for the rigors of law enforcement work, we should remember not everyone reacts in the same way to similar situations. And variables like location and shift hours have a direct bearing on the events to which an officer is exposed. After all, not all officers witness the worst of society on a daily basis, and those who do, don't always suffer from it.

There's a long-time silence in policing based on an inherent inclination to "be tough and calloused" — not to let the stress of the work overcome. This subconscious suggestion that police officers are not effective if they let the work bother them is ridiculous.

Reactions to occupational stress are varied. Alcohol abuse among police officers is a serious problem with some studies estimating that it afflicts one-quarter of all police officers in the nation. Research has revealed a strong connection between occupational stress and this problem.

There's a long-time silence in policing based on an inherent inclination to "be tough and calloused" — not to let the stress of the work overcome. This subconscious suggestion that police officers are not effective if they let the work bother them is ridiculous.

And although there have been numerous studies, research is not needed to underscore the link between suicides and occupational stress among police officers.

These are disturbing topics within the law enforcement community, but they do not scratch the surface of the multiple occupational stresses encountered by officers on the street. The effects of serious stresses are cumulative; we must all be aware of the need for quicker and more effective diagnosis of post-traumatic stress, including the effects of years of collecting disturbing visual images, facing life-threatening situations and being constantly exposed to the worst aspects of humanity.

Every law enforcement officer needs to be alert to signs that suggest a fellow officer may be experiencing such post-traumatic stress issues. Law enforcement executives, too, must be extra vigilant. There is no shame in experiencing post-traumatic stress. In fact, it is little short of a miracle that all officers don't experience it.

DOCJT SOCIAL MEDIA

The Department of Criminal Justice Training is now on Twitter

In an effort to best communicate with a wide array of law enforcement personnel across the commonwealth, DOCJT jumped into the social media arena by launching its Facebook page in December 2009. Now, with the launch of its Twitter page, DOCJT can effectively communicate with, update and inform Kentucky's law enforcement and dispatch community of training opportunities, legal updates and more in short, efficient tweets. Start following DOCJT today at twitter.com/KYDOCJT or scan this QR code with your smart phone — and join the conversation.

Kentucky highway fatalities decline in 2013

Highway fatalities in Kentucky declined in 2013 to the lowest level in 64 years. Kentucky Office of Highway Safety preliminary figures indicate 635 people lost their lives on Kentucky roadways in 2013, down from 746 in 2012. It was the lowest total since 1949, when Kentucky recorded 573 fatalities.

"We are encouraged by the reduction in fatalities, but firmly believe that one fatality is too many," Transportation Secretary Mike Hancock said. "The Governor's Executive Committee on Highway Safety is committed to providing direction on traffic safety issues as we move 'Toward Zero Deaths' on Kentucky's roadways."
KOHS Director Bill Bell said there were 75 days in 2013 that had zero fatalities.

CVE Lieutenant Wins National Award

The U.S. Department of Transportation National Training Center has awarded Lt. John Kearns of Region 5 with the Hazardous Materials Training Program Instructor of the Year Award. The award is assigned to the top federal hazardous material instructor once a year at the Cooperative Hazardous Materials Enforcement Development meeting.

2013 Touts Lowest Line-of-Duty Deaths in 69 Years

In 2013, 107 officers died in the line of duty — the lowest number of line-of-duty deaths since 1944, according to the Officer Down Memorial Page. That statistic means that no officer working today has ever seen a year when officer losses were lower. In fact, for most officers, their parents were not even born when the number was lower.

No death will ever be acceptable, but the dramatic decline in both 2012 (a 50+ year low) and 2013 are welcome news. Here's the bad news: Officer are still being lost in situations that are absolutely preventable. Vehicle-related incidents continue to be the most deadly area for officers, accounting for far more deaths (45) than all types of felony assaults combined (33) during 2013. With the dawn of the New Year, officers can renew their resolutions to Below 100 safety tactics.

For details, visit this link: http://www.lawofficer.com/article/below-100/below-100-resolutions-new-year.

911 Call Centers to Receive Millions

Kentucky's 911 call centers received more than $2.9 million from litigation initiated by the Commercial Mobile Radio Services Board.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit upheld a lower court ruling that TracFone Wireless Inc. improperly withheld payment of 911 service fees to the CMRS Board. In total, the commonwealth has recovered more than $4 million in unremitted state required 911 cellphone fees.

"In an emergency, nothing is more important than being able to immediately call for help. These funds will ensure that Kentuckians get the help they need when they call 911," Beshear said.

NEW CHIEFS AND SHERIFF

JERE HOPSON

Simpson County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Jere Hopson

Jere Hopson was appointed Simpson County sheriff on Dec. 30, 2013 and has 23 years of law enforcement experience. Most of his career was spent with the Kentucky State Police, where he retired as a detective sergeant in 2012. Hopson also served as the director for the South Central Drug Task Force for a year before joining the Simpson County Sheriff's Office. He graduated from Simpson County High School and has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Corporate and Organizational Communications from Western Kentucky University. His plans are to continue to build upon the firm foundation that is already in place at the Simpson County Sheriff's Office.

KENNETH SPICER

Jackson Police Department

Chief Kenneth Spicer

Kenneth Spicer was appointed chief of Jackson Police Department on Oct. 1, 2013. Spicer has more than 18 years of law enforcement experience as Jackson Police Department, beginning as dispatcher in 1995 and moving through the ranks to become chief. In 2004, Spicer was assigned as a detective for Operation UNITE. Spicer has an associate of arts degree from Lees Junior College which is now called Hazard Community and Technical College. His long-term plans are to work with the mayor and council persons toward getting hazardous duty retirement for the department. Spicer also will strive to lead the best police department in eastern Kentucky.

LEO ROWE

Trenton Police Department

Chief Leo Rowe

Leo Rowe was appointed chief of Trenton Police Department on Jan. 1 and has 16 years of law enforcement experience. Rowe began his law enforcement career with the U.S. Army Military Police. He served the Greenbrier Police Department, but the majority of his career was spent at the Clarksville Police Department, both in Tennessee. He has an associate's degree in criminal justice from Austin Peay State University, a bachelor's and master's in criminal justice from Mountain State University, and a Ph.D. in family counseling at North Tennessee Bible Institute and Seminary. Rowe also serves as a full-time professor for Nashville State Community College, and teaches for five additional colleges online. His goals are to help the citizens feel safe and be a resource to address concerns.

KSP Safe Schools Pilot Program Proves Successful

The Kentucky State Police launched a statewide Active Shooter Training Program as part of a Safe Schools Initiative developed by the agency for the purpose of heightening security practices for school safety.

With input from school administrators across the state, KSP developed a program aimed at assisting Kentucky schools with responding effectively during an active-shooter incident. The program provides four levels of assistance to aid school officials in establishing or complementing their current emergency-management response plans. The levels include on-site visits, target hardening, lock-down drills and hands-on role-playing scenarios.

"I don't think anyone will forget Dec. 14, 2012 when 20 innocent children, under the age of seven, were killed in the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting," said KSP Commissioner Rodney Brewer. "We must help equip our school personnel with the additional tools, resources and training needed to handle an active-shooter incident."

The ASTP is offered at no charge to schools and the level of training is at the discretion of school officials. A pilot program began last summer as KSP provided the training program at test school sites in western Kentucky.

2014 KLEMF MEMORIAL

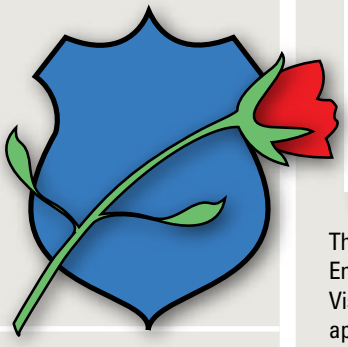
Ceremony to be held May 21, 11 a.m.

Bardstown Officer Jason Ellis

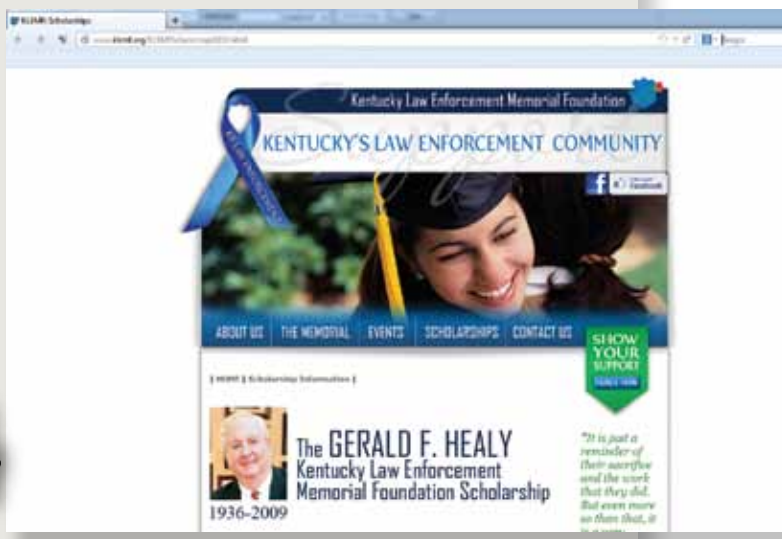
On May 21, Bardstown Police Officer Jason Ellis will be added to the Kentucky Law Enforcement Memorial, located in Richmond, Ky., on the grounds of the Department of Criminal Justice Training.

Ellis, 33, was killed in the line of duty on May 25, 2013. Ellis was en route home following his shift and was in uniform driving a marked vehicle. It is believed that a subject had purposely placed debris in the middle of the roadway with the intent of setting an ambush. As Ellis removed the debris, the subject opened fire, shooting and killing him instantly.

The subject who shot Ellis remains at large.



Scholarship Deadline Approaching



The deadline to apply for the Gerald F. Healy Kentucky Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation Scholarship is March 31. Visit the foundation's website at www.klemf.org to download an application. For more information, contact Pam Smallwood at pam.smallwood@ky.gov or (859) 622-8081.

KLEMF Receives Donation

Lexington Division of Police Sgt. Kevin Kidd, center, and Officer Shannon Gahafer, right, presented Department of Criminal Justice Training Deputy Commissioner Don Pendleton with a $2,000 donation to the Kentucky Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation. Funds were raised through the Lexington Police Memorial Golf Scramble, an event hosted by LDP and Explorer Post 357.

2014 KLEMF GOLF TOURNAMENT

Gibson Bay Golf Course
Lake Reba, Richmond, Ky.
June 26, 2014 (tentative)

for more information, contact Pam Smallwood at pam.smallwood@ky.gov or (859) 622-8081.

KSP HOSTS GERMAN INTERN

Kentucky State Police Post 12 in Frankfort hosted Nicolas Beck, a German state police intern, for a three-week visit in December 2013. Beck is a 24-year-old cadet from the Hessen State Police, a 17,500 strong force serving one of the country's 16 states. It covers an area about one-third the size of Kentucky with a population of six million located in central Germany. He will graduate in August of 2014 as a sergeant after six months of academy training and six semesters at the University of Applied Science in Wiesbaden, his hometown.

During his time at Post 12, Beck visited with the KSP Special Response Team, Aircraft Branch and Central Lab. Beck also spent time riding with troopers, working with detectives, observing sergeants and participating in the Shop With A Trooper program.

"It's nice to see that police work is basically the same around the world," he said. However, he did note some differences between KSP and the Hessen State Police.

Unlike the U.S., in Germany there are no elected sheriffs or city police, Beck explained. All local law enforcement is handled by the state police.

"In Germany, we work in two man teams," he said. "One does the driving and one handles the radio. Also, we don't take our vehicles home at night. They are used by the next shift. In addition, 90 percent of our work is centrally directed over the radio by dispatchers."
Another big difference is firearms.

"Restrictive gun laws, make it very hard to legally own a firearm," he said.

▲ **Left to right: KSP Post 12 commander Capt. Eric Walker, KSP Commissioner Rodney Brewer, Nicolas Beck and Post 12 Lt. Kenneth Stewart.**

Beck explained that while much crime in the U.S. is drug-related, in Germany they spend a lot of time battling organized crime from Eastern Europe.They also have to deal with the large numbers of immigrant communities from areas such as Turkey, Iran, Iraq, Syria and North Africa, who often have assimilation problems.

"For this reason, we are always interested in having a diverse police force made up from officers with many cultural backgrounds," he said.
— Les Williams, KSP Public Affairs Branch

Pickrell Honored As KWLEN Member of the Year

KSP Sgt. Jackie Pickrell

Sgt. Jackie Pickrell, Kentucky State Police Post 10 in Harlan, was honored by the Kentucky Women's Law Enforcement Network as its 2013 Member of the Year. Every year, KWLEN recognizes one individual who has provided extraordinary support to the organization. This support includes efforts such as advancing public awareness of the group, leading and developing initiatives, recruitment of new members and establishing new services.

Pickrell, a 10-year member of KWLEN, was recognized for consistently demonstrating initiative and mentoring within the organization. She has served as second vice president of the organization for the past two years.
KWLEN is an organization of sworn law enforcement officers from local, state and federal agencies, along with civilian personnel from within the criminal justice system, which provides training, networking and mentoring to Kentucky officers.

2014 Bluegrass K-9 Narcotics Trials

OCT. 31-NOV. 3
MOUNT STERLING, KY.

Police K-9 teams from across Kentucky will gather in Mount Sterling for four days. The dogs and their handlers will train and compete on their ability to detect drugs and patrol scenarios. Two certifications are available from national organizations, National Association of Professional Canine Handlers and the National Narcotic Detector Dog Association.

Entry fee for event is $50. For registration information, please call Robin Acciardo at (859) 745-3119. For more information, please contact K-9 handlers Deputy Tommy Parker at (859) 404-7220 or Patrol Captain Kim Kipp at (606) 875-5042. The event is sponsored by the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office and the U.S. Forest Service.

Association Leaders 2013 to 2014

Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police

Dan Smoot – Operation UNITE, Eastern Kentucky Drug Task Force
dsmoot@centertech.com
(606) 330-1400

Dan Smoot

Executive Director: Jim Pendergraff (Ret.)
President: Director Dan Smoot Operation UNITE, Eastern Kentucky Drug Task Force
First Vice President: Chief Richard Sanders, Jeffersontown Police Department
Second Vice President: Chief Guy Howie, Hopkinsville Police Department
Third Vice President: Chief Michael Daly, Fort Thomas Police Department
Treasurer: Craig Birdwhistell (Ret.)
Sergeant at Arms: Chief Douglas Nelson, Somerset Police Department
Immediate Past President: Chief Bill Crider, Dawson Springs Police Department

Kentucky Women's Law Enforcement Network

Jennifer Colemire – Covington Police Department
JRudolph@covkypd.org
(859) 292-2222

Jennifer Colemire

Executive Director: Kathy Eigelbach
President: Jennifer Colemire, Covington Police Department
First Vice President: Donitka Kay, Bowling Green Police Department
Second Vice President: Jackie Pickrell, Kentucky State Police
Secretary: Mary Lynn Moore, Russellville Police Department
Treasurer: Lisa Rudzinski, Kentucky State Police
Historian: Emily Leising, Fort Thomas Police Department
Chaplain: Leighann Stroud, Madisonville Police Department
Central Regional Rep: Elisha Farriell, Louisville Metro Police Department
Eastern Regional Rep: Jennifer Sandlin, Kentucky State Police
Northern Regional Rep: Mindi Thompson, Kentucky State Police
Western Regional Rep: Nicole Hatchett, Bowling Green Police Department

Fraternal Order of Police

Berl Perdue – Clark County Sheriff's Office
bperdue@clarkcokysheriff.com
(859) 744-4390

President: Berl Perdue, Jr., Clark County Sheriff's Office
Vice President: Michael Sweeney, Lexington Division of Police
Second Vice President: Robert Bringhurst, Murray State Univ. Police
Secretary: Denis Spalding, Attorney General's Office
Treasurer: Don Brashear (Ret.)
Chairman of Trustees: Scott Hildebrand, Cold Spring Police Department
Sergeant at Arms: Shaun Helbig, Bowling Green Police Department
Chaplain: Tim Davis (Ret.)
National Trustee: Michael Hettich, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office
Past President: Michael "Spike" Jones, Covington Police Department

Berl Perdue

Kentucky Peace Officers' Association

Ben Stickle (Ret.) – Campbellsville University Criminal Justice Administration
bfstickle@campbellsville.edu
(502) 509-1252

Ben Stickle

Secretary: Andrew Moore, Lexington Division of Police
Treasurer: Paul Stewart, Lexington Division of Police
Sergeant at Arms: Chip Nowlin, Lexington Division of Police (Ret.)
Editor: Ricky Lynn, Lexington Division of Police
Chaplain: Brian Martin, Lexington Division of Police
Photographer: John Bailey, Western Kentucky University Police Department

Kentucky Sheriffs' Association

Rodney Coffey – Menifee County Sheriff
menifeeso@aol.com
(606) 768-3875

Rodney Coffey

President: Rodney Coffey, Menifee County sheriff
First Vice President: Troy Young, Anderson County sheriff
Second Vice President: Wayne "Tiny" Wright, Woodford County sheriff
Third Vice President: Kevin Corman, Jessamine County sheriff
Secretary/Treasurer: Chuck Korzenborn, Kenton County sheriff
Sergeant at Arms: Craig Peoples, Pendleton County sheriff
NSA First Vice President: John Aubrey, Jefferson County sheriff
NSA Board of Directors: Keith Cain, Daviess County sheriff
NSA Board of Directors: Jerry "Peanuts" Gaines, Warren County sheriff

KLEC Presents CDP Certificates

STAFF REPORT | KLEC

The Kentucky Law Enforcement Council's Career Development Program is a voluntary program that awards specialty certificates based on an individual's education, training and experience as a peace officer or telecommunicator. There are a total of 17 professional certificates; 12 for law enforcement that emphasize the career paths of patrol, investigations, traffic and management; and five certificates for telecommunications. The variety of certificates allows a person to individualize his or her course of study, just as someone would if pursuing a specific degree in college.

The KLEC congratulates and recognizes the following individuals for earning career development certificates. All have demonstrated a personal and professional commitment to their training, education and experience as a law enforcement officer or telecommunicator.

INTERMEDIATE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Ashland Police Department
Mark A. Wessel

Cincinnati/N. Kentucky Airport Police Department
Tamara L. Humbert

Danville Police Department
Glenn E. Doan
Josh T. Faulkner
Ricky Sellers

Fayette County Schools Police Department
Joseph B. Blair
Daniel Bowerbank
Alisa M. Patterson
Kenneth Spera
Eileen W. Welch

Georgetown Police Department
Larry W. Wilson

Madisonville Police Department
William J. Strader

Meade County Sheriff's Office
Steven D. Yocom

Oldham County Police Department
Chris R. Morris

Paducah Police Department
Brian G. Laird

Rowan County Sheriff's Office
Ruford A. Abner Jr.

Western Kentucky University Police Department
Brandon Bryan

ADVANCED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Ashland Police Department
Mark A. Wessel

Bowling Green Police Department
Benjamin L. Carroll
Brandon N. Stice

Covington Police Department
Robert C. Nader

Fayette County Schools Police Department
James J. Coleman
Tracy R. Day

Franklin County Sheriff's Office
Joseph A. Parkhill

Georgetown Police Department
Larry W. Wilson

Harlan Police Department
John D. Noe

Kentucky Alcoholic Beverage Control
Bryan J. Purvis

Oldham County Police Department
Chris R. Morris

LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPERVISOR

Ashland Police Department
Michael R. Crawford

Covington Police Department
Robert C. Nader
Gerald Chris Twehues

Daviess County Sheriff's Office
Scott T. Wedding

Edgewood Police Department
Jason G. Grisgby

Kentucky State University Police Department
Barbara A. Hayes

Paducah Police Department
Brian G. Laird

LAW ENFORCEMENT MANAGER

Ashland Police Department
Mark E. McDowell

Covington Police Department
Robert C. Nader

LAW ENFORCEMENT EXECUTIVE

Ashland Police Department
Mark E. McDowell

LAW ENFORCEMENT CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Campbellsville Police Department
Tim Hazlette

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER INVESTIGATOR

Covington Police Department
Justin C. Bradbury
Derek D. Uhl

Fayette County Schools Police Department
Joseph B. Blair

Georgetown Police Department
Larry W. Wilson

Louisville Metro Police Department
Robert J. Schroeder

Nicholasville Police Department
Todd P. White

Russellville Police Department
William V. Shifflett

LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAFFIC OFFICER

Georgetown Police Department
Larry W. Wilson

Harlan County Sheriff's Office
Daniel L. Lewis

ADVANCED DEPUTY SHERIFF

Rowan County Sheriff's Office
Joseph S. Cline

INTERMEDIATE PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCHER

Bluegrass 911 Central Communications
Courtney D. Burkhart
Leora J. Combs
Vicki N. Dowell

Bowling Green Police Department
Melissa D. Piper

Campbellsville Police Department
Mark E. Coker
Ronnie L. Dobson
Anne G. Sanders

Cincinnati/N. Kentucky Airport Police Department
Katie M. Dusing

Frankfort/Franklin County 911
Lindsey A. Barnett
Earl S. Mitchell

KSP Post 13, Hazard
Bobby G. Danner
Orlando Noble III

Lawrence County 911
Christopher D. Cox

Madison County E-911
Karen E. Freeman

Marshall County E-911
Jason D. Luebker

Montgomery County 911
Robert E. Kiskaden
Tina M. Pendleton
Teresa Spurlock

Northern Kentucky University Police Department
Jeffrey A. Foster

ADVANCED PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCHER

Bluegrass 911 Central communications
Shirley M. Burnside
Leora J. Combs

Campbellsville Police Department
Mary Helen Grant

Cincinnati/N. Kentucky Airport Police Department
Katie M. Dusing

KSP Post 13, Hazard
Bobby G. Danner
Orlando Noble III

Marshall County E-911
Jason D. Luebker

Montgomery County 911
Robert E. Kiskaden

Radcliff Police Department
Jeffery W. Hale

PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCH MANAGER/DIRECTOR

Madisonville Police Department
Randall E. Orange

LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING OFFICER

Covington Police Department
Matthew E. Winship

Danville Police Department
Jonathan C. Courtwright

Madisonville Police Department
Andrew M. Rush

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER ADVANCED INVESTIGATOR

Bowling Green Police Department
James C. Peerce Jr.

Campbellsville Police Department
Travis M. Begley

Covington Police Department
Brian P. Kane
Jonathan R. Mangus

‘EXCUSE THE MESS, WE’RE GROWING’

The transition into a new chapter of life can sometimes be arduous, but Leslie Gannon knows what it means to get her feet wet. The new Kentucky Law Enforcement Council executive director is no stranger to the council. During her 23 years of service to the Kentucky State Police, Gannon served seven of those years with KLEC and as chair of the Peace Officer Professional Standards committee. That background has given her a unique opportunity to use the extensive law enforcement history she has under her belt to get creative about Kentucky's future. Under her leadership, it is a future sure to be full of blossoming ideas and visionary plans for the advancement of one of the most professional law enforcement states in the country.

WHAT SHOULD KENTUCKY'S OFFICERS KNOW ABOUT THE KENTUCKY LAW ENFORCEMENT COUNCIL THAT THEY MAY NOT ALREADY KNOW?

I guess because I have been around it for so long, I take for granted that everybody knows what the council does. I don't even know that every officer out there knows the council exists as it does. I want them to know that we are here to help them for the long haul. We are here to help make law enforcement better for them. For example, from an instructor's point of view, we are constantly seeking to improve our standards for certified instructors. Because the better instructors we have, the better training we have. The better training we have, the better officers we have. The better officers we have, the safer our communities are. And, the safer communities we have, the better place Kentucky is to live. It is a true ripple effect from point A to Z. But it has to start with a desire and passion to constantly improve. We are a part of that; we are not just a body that does nothing.

One of the great things about the council is it is not just made up of law enforcement. We have education representation, which plays a vital role. We have judges, lawyers and representatives of the citizenry at large. Someone from each of the four training academies also has a seat on the council. Every officer is going to go through one of those four academies.

One thing I want to do is have a large photo printed and framed of the logos from each of those four academies, and in the middle of them also have a photo of our KLEC logo. When officers walk down our hallway for a polygraph, they will see that it doesn't matter what department they are from, we are here to serve them. It also shows a networking between those four academies and law enforcement in general. >>

PHOTO BY JIM ROBERTSON

A profile of new Kentucky Law Enforcement Council Executive Director Leslie Gannon

KELLY FOREMAN | PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

KENTUCKY LAW ENFORCEMENT COUNCIL

▲ A Gannon priority, the branding of KLEC starts with the introduction of a modernized logo. "The shield, of course, remains the longstanding emblem for police officers/agencies as well as telecommunicators and court security personnel," she explained. "The initials 'KLE' are connected, indicating that all Kentucky law enforcement agencies are likewise connected; all training is also connected and governed by the Council." Overall, the new design represents Kentucky's ongoing efforts to move forward to deliver the law enforcement protections Kentuckians deserve, she concluded. On the practical side, the new format will reduce printing costs and simplify reproduction in small and large sizes.

>> If you go back and read through some of the KLEC meeting minutes from before POPS, you can see that when Gov. Paul Patton was elected was when KLEC really got its teeth. You can see how it really gained respect and integrity. Maybe that's what our officers need to know. We truly are a working body that has respect in the law enforcement arena and has the true interest of law enforcement at heart.

HOW DO YOU ENVISION THE MISSION OF THE KENTUCKY LAW ENFORCEMENT COUNCIL?

The Kentucky Law Enforcement Council governs training for Kentucky law enforcement. We are charged with certifying all four state training academies, their instructors and curriculum. We also are responsible for administering the Peace Officer Professional Standards certification process and monitoring the Kentucky Law Enforcement Foundation Program Fund.

December 2013 was the 15th anniversary of POPS. We have come so far in that 15 years. Look where law enforcement was until that point? But we don't want to get complacent and not improve upon law enforcement for another 20 years. We all know complacency is deadly, and we can't afford it.

So when we talk about our mission, continuing the effort of moving law enforcement to the next level is essential. We can't rest on our laurels, we're sharp enough to know that. Our goal for KLEC is to move past conventional thinking. It takes a commitment of choice when you're choosing to take law enforcement to the next level. I am a big fan of author Andy Andrews. I've read several of his books. He says, 'You must be on guard against, and quietly suspicious of, conclusions made by conventional thinking.'

The reason we are striving to accomplish this is because we want to better serve those who serve others. Their expectations are the benchmark for our standards. Adding value in such a way that it makes a noticeable difference — to me, that's what we're doing in KLEC. Whether it's a telecommunicator, a court security officer, deputy, police officer — our training standards are there to provide training to folks we represent in every agency, because our passion is that everybody goes home at night.

WHAT IS ONE OF THE CHALLENGES YOU FACED COMING INTO KLEC AS ITS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR?

One of the big challenges I have faced is change. For that to be such a small word, its impact has such a ripple effect. My predecessor, Larry Ball, served in this position for approximately 11 years — and did it well. For a new person to come in sometimes upsets the apple cart. Whether real or perceived, it's about perception.

The folks in this office have been Larry's family for 11 years. It's almost like a death to them. Even if they want to change things, even though they acknowledge things need changing to a certain degree, you get so used to processing forms that you stop looking at them. So, I come in and start asking all these questions, but I ask them because I need to learn. That's what I've tried to stress — I'm interested in the historical perspective. It gives me knowledge about why we're doing what we're doing. Then that thought provokes them — it's that change agent that makes them think. When asked to say out loud why we're doing something, sometimes I get a look, like, 'I don't really know why.'

The phrase, 'because that's the way it's always been done,' is not allowed to be used in our office. I tell them, 'That's not a reason, that is an excuse.' It's not allowed to even be spoken out loud. If we do, we say it jokingly, and they know that.

With a new person comes new ideas. A lot of us need a change of pace, but what we have trouble with is the pace of change. I include myself in this category. I spent more than 23 years with the Kentucky State Police. Now I am in a totally different role, in so many ways. I have had to adjust my thinking and planning from one, narrow perspective — KSP — to a much broader perspective — all law enforcement agencies. I went from being on the outside looking in to being on the inside looking out.

It is true that WHAT you think is absolutely and always determined by HOW you think. I read a quote in a devotion from the Mentor that said, 'Everyone is in favor of progress; it's the change they don't like.' That's so true.

PLEASE TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT YOUR DAILY ACTIVITIES AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

That's hard. I have a firefighter's hat under my desk. I fight fires all day.

I start each day with a goal and objective for that day. No matter what you do, I don't care if you're going to the store, you have to have a goal and objective for every day. Without it, you just wander aimlessly.

PHOTO BY JIM ROBERTSON

My goal right now is constantly trying to learn the process of what our office does. I've had a lot to learn and there's not a day goes by that I don't learn something new. I have done a lot of reading of Kentucky Administrative Regulations and Kentucky Revised Statutes — that's what drives us. It is a little like Groundhog Day every day. I have an hour commute home, and every night I think, alright, I have learned something new today. (I never go home thinking I've got it all — and I will never allow myself to do that because if you stop learning, you might as well go to the house.) But I go home and I'll think, OK, I've done well today, I've learned this, wow, that's good, and I even remember what I learned yesterday! Then I come in the next morning and I think, 'Oh gosh, I don't know anything!'

My position on the council was on the POPS committee, and that wasn't a blip on the screen of what this office does. My duties now are so vitally different. I'm now integrally involved in assessing what we do and why and determining if and how we can make things better. I deal with chiefs, sheriffs and many other law enforcement leaders across the state, developing relationships and providing information to progress law enforcement to the next level.

This is a form processing plant, to put it mildly. Anything that changes an officer's status, if they are on military leave or anything like that, we have a form on that. KLEFPF obviously does too. It is a form-driven operation. There is not only that on a daily basis, but fielding phone calls from across the state with questions is also a big part of what we do. Of course, we work intricately with the Department of Criminal Justice Training's Compliance Section. Especially at the end of the year when they run training reports and have to chase down agencies that are training deficient.

In the midst of all that, we have four council meetings a year and a lot of preparation to do for those. It would be easy and sometimes desirable to say, 'OK, everything is put on hold until we get everything ready for council,' but we don't have the luxury of doing that.

WHAT IS ON YOUR AGENDA FOR 2014?

Technology wise, we are looking at doing a couple things a little differently on the council. Before any council meeting, >>

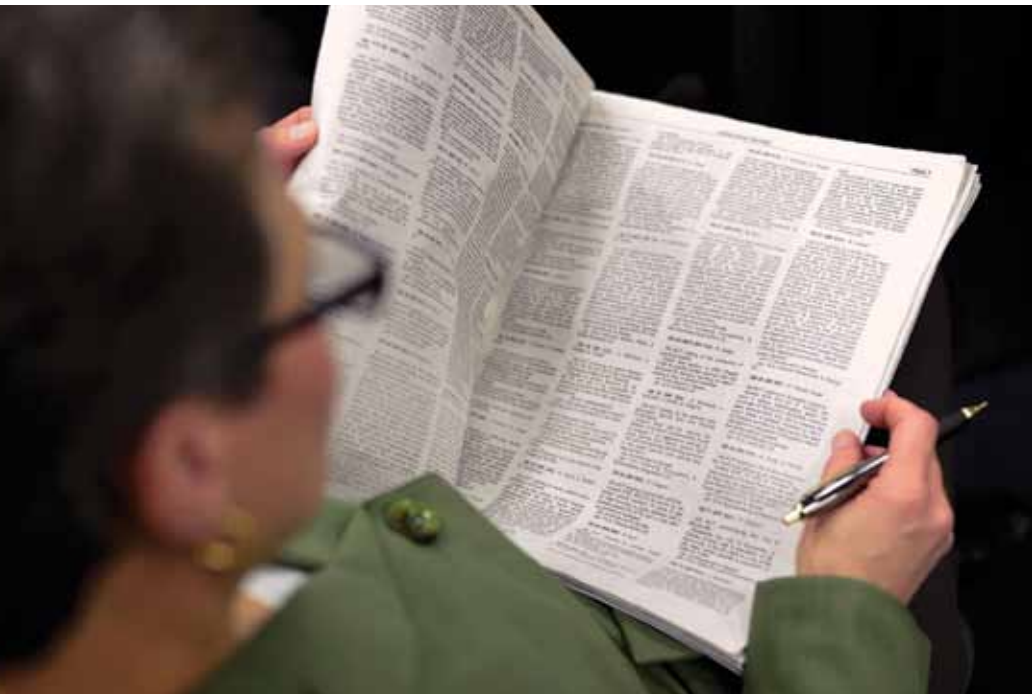
>> of course, our staff has to get everything ready. Say, for the certification committee, anyone who is getting ready to be certified as an instructor, they go through a two-week instructor's course. Once they get approved, they have to teach so many hours within five years and so forth. That certification is good for five years. In the meantime, you have to be monitored. If you're a new instructor or you're going back for a renewal, you have done your required teaching, your certification is getting ready to expire — all that goes before the council for verification.

Our staff makes copies of all that documentation, copies the agenda, prints it all and it's Fed Ex-ed to these 10 committee members. There are printing costs, time invested, postage costs, then after the council meeting we bring it all back and shred it. We have to get it to council members in advance so they don't sit there at the meeting going through all the paperwork. They get it and review it ahead of time, that way they know what's going to be presented to them. They have time to review it, have any questions prepared and it just makes council go faster.

What we're looking at doing is putting everything on a thumb drive or something, getting it to them ahead of time like always, then if they want to print it, it's up to them. Then when the council meeting is over, we don't have to bring back all that paper to shred. We are talking about boxes of papers our staff has to load. Instead, council members would return the thumb drive, we would bring them back, delete everything off of them and upload everything for the next council meeting. We're saving trees and the staff doesn't have to shred all those documents. Our goal is to have that in place by the May meeting.

Andy Andrews says there are two components of true change. First, people want to know what's in it for them. Second, they want to know how it's going to affect them. If you tell people why you're doing something differently and explain that you need their help, you can try to get that buy-in.

Is that a direct effect on law enforcement officers? Not really. But it is an indirect effect. That's the way the council does business, and if I am charged with overseeing it, I am charged with the physical impact as well. This will make our business easier and faster. We're operating in 1923 right now. I'm being facetious, of course, but there is a time and place for change. It is just about how you implement it. I'm not the most



PHOTOS BY JIM ROBERTSON

'Every single day, for the rest of your life, somebody's going to push you in the pool. You better decide now how you're going to act when it happens. Are you going to come out of the water whining? … Or will you come out of the water with a smile on your face?

technologically-savvy person, but at some point, you have to be ready to jump.

Another project we are working on this year is marksmanship certification. Every year, every certified peace officer has to qualify once with their weapon. The way it has been, agencies have had to maintain its scores at each of those departments. The Kentucky League of Cities found some of these departments weren't doing that, maybe because of ammunition cost. What we had out there were some law enforcement agencies that had not qualified in a couple years. Of course, if you have an officer-involved shooting, that presents all kinds of issues with liability.

So what was enacted through council and KAR is everybody still has to qualify and maintain those records — it's set out in statute. But now, there's another form they will have to send to KLEC that will end up being subject to compliance audits. Every agency is audited once every three years, if not more often. We will begin to get those forms in and input them into our records system. Agencies leaders will be able to go into the Training and Registration Information System to see whether or not their officers have qualified. Then we will maintain those records. We have been working with our legal staff and compliance staff and that is getting ready to happen. It's amazing to see how things at DOCJT interlock and how we all have to work together. It truly is a team effort to bring these projects to life.

HOW DID BOTH YOUR CAREER IN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND YOUR SERVICE AS A FORMER COUNCIL MEMBER HELP YOU IN THIS TRANSITION TO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR?

That background has helped me tremendously! Aside from just knowing people, having an understanding about what POPS is about and what law enforcement was like prior to that, compared to what it is now has been so important. I worked the road in Floyd County back in the day when you'd pull up and — I'm not bashing Floyd County, this is just how it was — see a deputy and we'd call them card carriers. They had no training. They would say, 'Well, I bought my own stuff.' Number one, that's sad, but at least it told you that's how much they wanted to be in law enforcement. But was it for the right reason? You >>

PHOTO BY JIM ROBERTSON

>> look at that and think, look how far we have come.

It goes back to our mission — that this training and these standards could very well save one of our finest out there. DOCJT Commissioner John Bizzack talked about being the best of the best in one of his recent magazine articles. It's about our reputation, and it's about standards. I pose the question to the citizenry — don't you want us to be the best of the best? Don't you expect that from us? And for our officers, don't you deserve it? Absolutely they deserve it. They deserve to have the best, so we must give them the best. And shame on us if we don't. If we don't set higher goals to try to reach that, you're only going to reach goals you set. It's about choice. If we don't make that choice, who's going to make it for us? No one.

PHOTO BY JIM ROBERTSON

ARE THERE SPECIFIC AREAS OR RESPONSIBILITIES IN THIS NEW POSITION THAT YOU ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT?

I want to make KLEC more user friendly. There are some folks who truly have never heard of KLEC. This morning in the restroom, there was a lady in there who was here for telecommunicator training. I don't care if it's in the restroom, on the elevator or walking in with somebody, I speak to people. It's just my personality. We got to exchanging conversation and I always ask where people are from, I'm always interested. I think that's just good conversation, but it exposes KLEC. I'm not trying to win an award. I'm not going for employee of the month, it's just who I am. I'll stick my head in and say 'Hey' a lot of times and it helps me learn who people are then I can put their names and faces together. There's nothing wrong with developing relationships. If you just walk around with your head down, you're going to bump into something.

Talking to that dispatcher this morning, she told me she's from Louisville. She's 57 years old and she's just starting as a dispatcher. She was talking about what an influence some of these younger ones have on her. I said, 'Hold on a minute. You may not realize it, they may not realize it now, but eventually they will realize what an influence you will have on these kids.' I told her I was an old-school dispatcher. Of course, automatically she said it's good to see women progressing. I don't get hung up on that. But she's away from home, out of her element, and somebody extends her a kind word. That's what I'm trying to get our office to do more, to come out of our shell. It's OK to talk to people. Not everybody is a go-getter or whatever, but it's OK to speak to people. That's user friendly.

I'm not just talking about here in the building, but out in the law enforcement arena. A lot of folks know our staff over the phone. I want to expand our reputation. I told someone this morning, 'Excuse the mess — we're growing.' Maybe that's my motto. That is what we're doing. We're growing. And we are going to be better because we are a service.

YOU MENTIONED THAT YOU DON'T GET HUNG UP ON BEING A FEMALE IN LAW ENFORCEMENT. HAS BEING A FEMALE IN THIS CAREER FIELD HAD ANY EFFECT ON YOUR LEADERSHIP PATH?

Since POPS, opportunities truly have opened up. At the state police, to me, I never saw any disparity as far as trying to keep women out. I really never did and I can truly say that if it existed, I never saw it. As far as promotional processes, you had to study, you had to test.

I'm not a limelighter. I try to be a very modest person. A couple people have asked what I'm doing now since retirement, and when I tell them I'm the KLEC executive director they say, 'Oh man, that's a big deal!' I don't want to disrespect this office, because I think this is a prestigious office. But I don't want any glory. It's not about me, it's about this office and what we do.

Andy Andrews' books, "The Noticer" and "The Noticer Returns," I'm telling you, they're phenomenal books. They are based a lot on his life. His parents were killed when he was young. As a teenager he became homeless and lived under a pier. This guy appears and calls himself Jones. He always wore the same thing and he would just appear. Call him an angel, a messenger, whatever you want. He was always old looking. A lot of the book is about perspective and life lessons. In one part, Jones is giving Andy Andrews a life lesson. They were walking at this hotel around the pool area, and he pushed Andy in the pool.

That's where Jones said, 'Every single day, for the rest of your life, somebody's going to push you in the pool. You better decide now how you're going to act when it happens. Are you going to come out of the water whining? Maybe crying or complaining? Will you come up mad and defiant, threatening everybody? Or will you come out of the water with a smile on your face? Looking to see what you can learn or who you might help? Will you act happy though you feel uncertain? Almost every result that your life produces from this moment forward, good or bad, will depend on how you choose.'

We are pushed in the pool every day, whether we jump in the pool ourselves or we get pushed. Sometimes we push ourselves in the pool. Maybe it goes back to that simplistic statement that attitude is 10 percent circumstances and 90 percent how you react to it. Part of that is planning ahead. If you just wait until life happens, you're too late. If you plan ahead and have goals and objectives, at least you have some sense of how you're going to react to what may come down the pike.

So if we have a future goal and an objective as law enforcement, we won't be caught flat footed. As far as the female aspect, I've been around law enforcement officers for 23 years. I've seen a little bit of everything and heard a little bit of everything. I've been pushed in the pool a few times. You know what? The main thing is, you better be ready to swim. And if not, you better have a life preserver somewhere. You can make that determination of how you get out of the pool, choose to stay in the pool, and what you're going to do when you come out.

> *The only handcuffs we have are the ones we put on ourselves.*

It's all about how you handle things. It's about choices and your perspective on things. Your choices make you, and you make your choices sometimes. I grew up as the youngest of nine kids. My mother was married, had two kids, my oldest brother and sister, then mom and he divorced. Then she married my dad and had seven children. Then they divorced. So mom raised us, I say by herself, though she had a lot of help from her parents. She was a very strong woman, so I have that background. That strength is very much a complement, but it can be a detriment sometimes, too. We can sometimes get very strong-headed, thinking we don't need anybody. We were taught to stand on our own and that we could achieve anything we put our mind to.

I'll say this, I am very blessed. I have had a lot of great people in my path that helped and mentored me along the way. Without that and obviously without the blessings of my Lord, there is no way I could be where I am today. I truly believe people are put in our path for a reason, whether it's for a season or a lifetime. What we do with those people and those relationships is a choice. I have always tried to absorb everything I can from a person. Whether I'm with KLEC for a day, a week, a month, or — like another Larry Ball — for 11 years, my goal is to leave it 100 percent better than I found it. I want to make a noticeable difference so it's just that much easier for the next person.

WHAT IS IT ABOUT SERVING AS THE HEAD OF THIS ORGANIZATION THAT GARNERED YOUR INTEREST?

I still have a passion and a heart for law enforcement and am honored by the professionalism and high reputation of KLEC. To me, it was a no brainer. It allows me to still be involved in law enforcement from a different aspect without being a gun toter.

It's a challenge and has totally changed my way of thinking. This morning I was coming to work and was running about five to 10 minutes behind. But I got to watch the sun rise a little more than I normally do. I thought, it's amazing how every day is a new day. Every day, the sun comes up and the sun goes down. There are new challenges, but it's a new day for new opportunities. It is so amazing that we get to do that. In this arena, we get to do that. The only handcuffs we have are the ones we put on ourselves.

Kelly Foreman can be reached at kelly.foreman@ky.gov or (859) 622-8552.

2014 KLEC Meeting Dates

February 12-13, 2014 Embassy Suites, Lexington

May 7-8, 2014 Embassy Suites, Louisville

August 13-14, 2014 Embassy Suites, Louisville

November 12-13, 2014 Embassy Suites, Louisville

We've Got it Covered

Morehead Police Department

KELLY FOREMAN | PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Like most college towns, Morehead is a community melting pot, filled with a diverse group of people, interests and activities. Morehead Police Chief Mike Adams has spent most of his life in the city of about 6,800 citizens, and has seen it grow and evolve into an area that is full of charm, potential and a sense of community.

"I believe we have one of the finest police departments in the state," Adams said. "We have great personnel and have been blessed with a lot of equipment many places don't have. We're not a big city, but we're not a small town."

Morehead employs 20 road officers — including Chief Adams — he said, and also houses the communication center that responds to the majority of the county's emergency calls.

"Unless it's a land line call on the Morehead State University campus, all other cell phone and land line calls in the county come into this center," Adams said. "They do a good job, I'm very proud of that."

Recently, the agency has been working hard to improve communication between the call center and officers who are on the road.

"If you look at our topography, we are in the middle of the hills," Adams said. "When the federal government mandated cuts to frequency in analog, we lost a lot of coverage. We always had dead spots. This is a real safety issue for our officers."

Thanks to an officer assigned to the Drug Enforcement Administration task force and ongoing drug investigation efforts within the agency, Adams said forfeiture funds were available to foot some of the cost of upgrading to digital radios. Even better, Morehead State University police already employed an upgraded digital radio system that MPD could test drive before making the investment.

"They seem to be the wonder drug," Adams said. "They work everywhere. We want everybody to be safe."

The radio assistance from MSUPD is just one example of how the community's law enforcement works together, Adams said.

"We have a lot of law enforcement in Morehead," he said. "We have a Kentucky State Police post here, the Rowan County Sheriff's Office, us and the MSU police. We have countywide jurisdiction and work 24/7 on the home front, and our residents are very blessed that we can get to them fast. We help KSP a lot in the county because sometimes it may take them an hour or two to get to a call, and that's not their fault. The sheriff's office doesn't have money for 24/7 service either, so it falls to us and MSU to assist, often in the county. >>

PHOTO BY JIM ROBERTSON

>> "We're paid by the taxpayers of Morehead, so we have to keep someone at home," Adams continued. "We don't have unlimited resources, so unless it's a crime against a person, we're not going to leave the town unprotected. We take care of our responsibilities first, but when we can help, it's great."

There has been a major shift since the 1980s from students attending MSU primarily using dormitory housing to what Adams described as an explosion of apartments around town now housing university students. For that reason, Adams said working together with MSUPD allows them a unique opportunity to address issues that crop up among the young community members.

"Certain nights of the week are party nights for the MSU kids and other nights are party nights for the townies," Adams said. "It keeps it interesting. We often help respond to university student parties when they get out of hand, but officers from MSUPD can help with more academic tools."

Thanks in part to the university presence, geographical location and a committed local government, Adams said Morehead has evolved into a "regional hub" for both good and evil. The county is home to an excellent hospital, a large school system and many more jobs than are available in the more rural, outlying communities.

"But with that comes more people to sell drugs to and more thieves," Adams said. "All the agencies around here work hard to knock down drug activity."

Adams said he is cautiously happy about the reduction in pills in Morehead over the past two years, but there is no time to celebrate the victory.

"I have to give credit to the Rowan County Sheriff's Office," he said. "They have really devoted resources to see pill activity go down. But the heroin numbers are coming up. Heroin is not coming, it's here. And we have to adapt and overcome."

Among the other challenges Adams said the department faces are recruitment and retention.

"Like everyone, we're shorthanded," Adams said. "We've had some

"Heroin is not coming, it's here. And we have to adapt and overcome."

PHOTOS BY JIM ROBERTSON

retirements, and we've had a couple who have left to go to higher-paying agencies. For a younger, unattached person, they have no problem going somewhere else for more money. We offer a lot — we have home fleet, that's a big thing for us. We rotate cruisers in and out and keep them outfitted. We are well equipped and get good training.

"When we hire new officers it's like having a baby, it takes so long for them to get on the road," Adams continued. "I hear the same things from every chief I talk to. Everyone is working shorthanded and we're putting in a lot of overtime to cover it. But the officers are hanging in there, they work hard and they know we're trying to hire more people. We just have to keep chugging along and do what we're supposed to do."

Most recently, learning to work with the community's population who suffer from mental illness has caused some complications, too. Especially given the lack of manpower, Adams said.

"It's a real problem," Adams said. "Jail is not the right place for them."

A major spike in calls for help regarding mentally-ill patients has resulted in a significant drain on the agency's resources, Adams said. With only a couple officers on the street at a time, if one gets tied up working with a mentally-ill person, Adams said they are typically out of commission for at least eight hours. The agency has been and intends to continue pursuing crisis intervention training to better face the issue, Adams said, which has become a real concern.

"We're doing everything we can, including having regional meetings to discuss how to deal with the problem," Adams said.

But with one new officer slated to hit the road soon and the possibility of a new facility on the horizon, MPD is continuing to move forward and is committed to serving the community.

"It's a good town," Adams said. "We have a good group of people here, and I couldn't be more proud of them."

Kelly Foreman can be reached at kelly.foreman@ky.gov or (859) 622-8552.

▼ Morehead, Ky. is home to a community full of law enforcement, and the Morehead Police Department works together with the multiple agencies to provide a safe community for citizens in town and Rowan County.

PHOTOS BY JIM ROBERTSON

CURB COMPLAINTS WITH LITTLE CAMERAS

BRANDON COMBS | DOCJT BASIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS INSTRUCTOR

Whether it is an in-car camera or a bystander's cell phone, the actions police officers take are constantly being documented and subjected to public scrutiny. Cameras on crime scenes are more common than ever. As technology progresses, there is a market developing for law enforcement body-worn cameras.

There are many types of cameras in the marketplace to fit the varying needs of officers. Sizes range from as small as a pen worn in the front pocket to a cell-phone size camera that affixes to a lanyard or pocket. There also is the option of attaching a camera to eye glasses, both ballistic and prescription.

Making this investment presents several potential opportunities. With digital recordings that can be readily pulled from most DVR systems, the recordings could potentially aid in the judicial process and prosecutions. Recordings also could improve officer safety, as the public will be cognizant of the recordings and improve accountability with regards to professionalism.

The Harlan Police Department began using body-worn cameras in early spring.

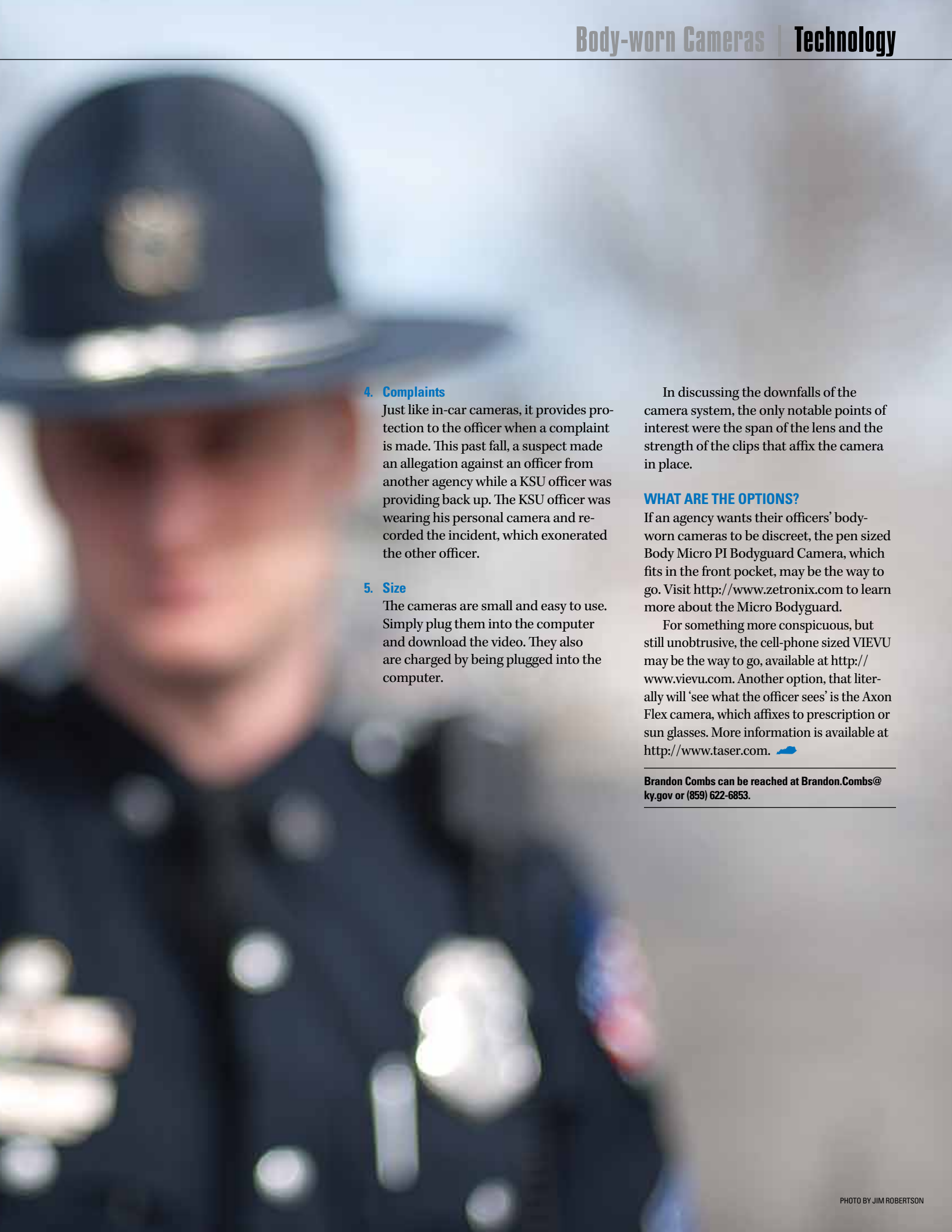
"It will help support to convict some people or it can be used to redeem some people," said Chief Mike Thomas. "It goes both ways."

Kentucky State University Police Department uses the Muvi brand law enforcement body camcorder. Assistant Chief Tia Chilton said there are several reasons why the agency chose to purchase and use the personal cameras.

1. **Cost**
   A mobile in-car camera can cost a couple thousand dollars, not counting maintenance and updates. The personal cameras were very inexpensive. The 14 cameras purchased, even with water covers, were still less than the cost of one in-car camera.

2. **Work**
   The majority of work officers perform happens outside the vehicle. Whether it be in a dormitory, the student center, or even at a sporting event, a personal camera can catch everything that happens. An in-car camera will only capture what occurs in the camera span and audio only up to a certain distance if the officer is wearing the microphone.

3. **Civilian**
   KSU purchased one for its civilian parking employee, because he is verbally accosted so frequently. This provides some protection to him when people realize that they are being recorded.



4. **Complaints**
Just like in-car cameras, it provides protection to the officer when a complaint is made. This past fall, a suspect made an allegation against an officer from another agency while a KSU officer was providing back up. The KSU officer was wearing his personal camera and recorded the incident, which exonerated the other officer.

5. **Size**
The cameras are small and easy to use. Simply plug them into the computer and download the video. They also are charged by being plugged into the computer.

In discussing the downfalls of the camera system, the only notable points of interest were the span of the lens and the strength of the clips that affix the camera in place.

WHAT ARE THE OPTIONS?

If an agency wants their officers' body-worn cameras to be discreet, the pen sized Body Micro PI Bodyguard Camera, which fits in the front pocket, may be the way to go. Visit http://www.zetronix.com to learn more about the Micro Bodyguard.

For something more conspicuous, but still unobtrusive, the cell-phone sized VIEVU may be the way to go, available at http://www.vievu.com. Another option, that literally will 'see what the officer sees' is the Axon Flex camera, which affixes to prescription or sun glasses. More information is available at http://www.taser.com.

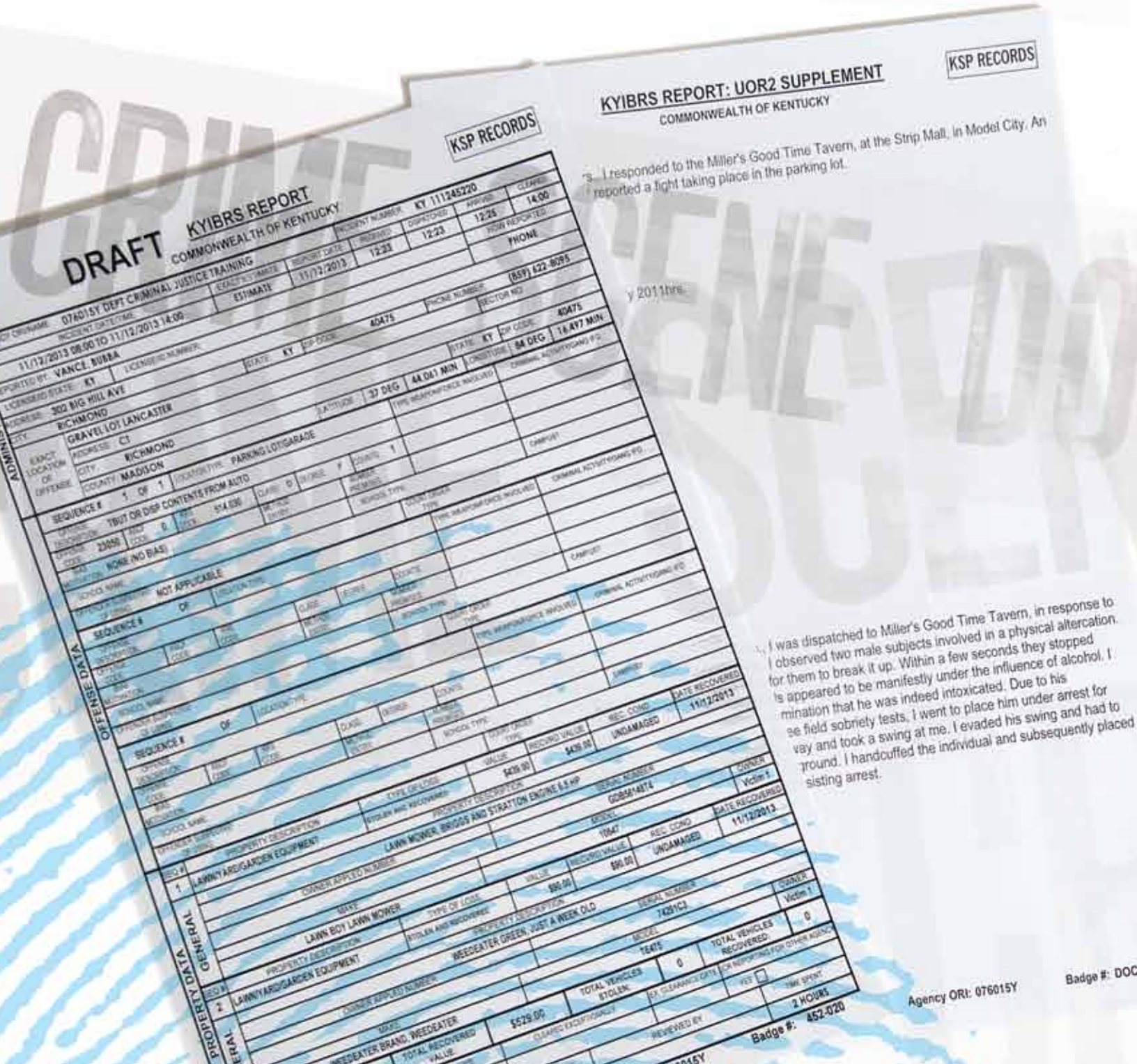
Brandon Combs can be reached at Brandon.Combs@ky.gov or (859) 622-6853.

PHOTO BY JIM ROBERTSON

What Did You Just Say?

Writing clear, efficient reports can make life easier

ABBIE DARST | PROGRAM COORDINATOR



Ever worked an overnight shift, gone home and crashed for what seems like five seconds, then wiped the drool from your cheek and went out the door again to appear in court by 8 a.m.?

Did it ever occur to you that maybe, just maybe, if you had answered all the attorney's questions in your report six months ago, you could still be at home in bed — drool and all?

Those in leadership positions, or those who have been officers for a while, probably have seen thousands of reports and written thousands more. Officers spend more time writing reports than on any other single task in law enforcement, but there is more riding on a well-written incident or investigation report than one might think.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

A written report is often the first impression an officer makes on commanding officers, lawyers or judges. It doesn't matter if he is the department's best shot, fastest runner, finest interviewer and looks like a perfect specimen in uniform, if he cannot write a clear, factual and efficient report, all the skill in the world won't hold up in court.

"Weak reports can be a detriment to a case without officers ever opening their mouths," said Fernado Alfaro, the DOCJT General Studies instructor who teaches report writing to recruits.

Poorly written reports can make a first-class officer look incompetent. Failing to deliver the necessary facts to the judge or jury, leaves room for doubt and can be the difference between a rightful conviction and a guilty person's appalling release.

The power is in the hands of officers.

WELL-WRITTEN REPORTS SAVE TIME AND ENERGY. On a long night, with a lengthy list of incidents, brevity and lack of details may seem like the way to go to just get it done and over with. In reality, organizing information and eliminating repetition cuts hours out of report writing time.

CLEAR REPORTS BETTER PREPARE OFFICERS FOR COURT. It's been said, "If it ain't in the report, it didn't happen." Because officers don't go to court the day after an incident happens, reports detailing the incident help officer's confidence and allows for a more logical testimony.

GREAT REPORTS CAN KEEP OFFICERS OUT OF COURT. If the report is written clearly and leaves little room for questions, counsel may have no reason to call the officer into court.

THOROUGH REPORTS KEEP REPUTATIONS INTACT. Identifying what happened in a situation, what was said and what you did leaves little to question. Truthfulness and clarity lead to respect with attorneys and judges, as well as supervisors and administrators.

So now what? Just knowing it's important doesn't make it easier to write reports — or less painful. How, exactly, can officers make their reports more efficient and clear? Glad you asked.

WRITE TO INFORM, NOT TO IMPRESS

Officers usually aren't too keen on journalists, but taking writing cues from a journalistic approach will help make reports more clear. Answer the who, what, when, where, why and how questions. Officers know the information, they just need to organize it. Paint a picture for the reader of what happened, starting from receiving the call and proceed in chronological order.

For example the first line can be the same (just different dates and names, of course.) "Sir, on Wednesday Jan. 23, 2014, while working with Officer J. Robertson as D#345, we received a call from 911 Dispatcher T. Baseheart to 123 Anywhere Street for a man with a gun." This opening answers many questions up front and the reader immediately understands what's going on from the beginning.

Next, provide the information given by the dispatcher, exactly the way it was received. Remember, the reader doesn't know anything about the call and needs to be walked through what happened, just the way the officer experienced it. For example, "Dispatcher Baseheart indicated the subject was an ex-boyfriend of the caller, and described him as M/W (male/white), 6'2", 210 lbs., wearing a black shirt and blue jeans. He was driving a newer model Dodge truck, black in color and was standing outside his vehicle in front of the house."

From here, officers will explain to the reader what they observed as soon as they arrived at the scene. Don't skip ahead, but tell the story.

"The key is to be concise and efficient," Alfaro said. "Explain what happened, but any excess baggage in the report is irrelevant."

BE AS CLEAR AND SPECIFIC AS POSSIBLE

Make sure to use clear language, writing the report the way you would testify in court. Don't use vague language, saying, "The officer approached the residence." First, in a testimony, officers don't refer to themselves in third person, it should be the same in the report. Using first-person pronouns, such as I and me, doesn't make >>

CRIME SCENE D

KYIBRS REPORT: UOR2 SUPPLEMENT

KS

DRAFT

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

SYNOPSIS:

On this date, at 2000 hrs., I responded to the Miller's Good Time Tavern, at the Strip Mall, in M annonymous caller had reported a fight taking place in the parking lot.

MODUS OPERANDI:

NA

DATE & TIME OF OCCURRENCE:

02/ 20/2014 at approximately 2011hrs.

ACCUSED:

John Doe

SUSPECTS:

NA

STOLEN PROPERTY:

NA

OTHER PROPERTY:

NA

EVIDENCE & HOW MARKED:

NA

EVIDENCE DISPOSITION:

NA

INVESTIGATION:

On 02/20/2014, at approximately 2000 hrs., I was dispatched to Miller's Good Time Tavern, in a report of a fight in progress. Upon arrival, I observed two male subjects involved in a physic As I moved towards the individuals I yelled for them to break it up. Within a few seconds they fighting and separated. One of the individuals appeared to be manifestly under the influence began talking to that subject to make a determination that he was indeed intoxicated. Due to staggering, slurred speech, and his failing three field sobriety tests, I went to place him under alcohol intoxication. He immediately pulled away and took a swing at me. I evaded his swing subdue the subject by force, taking him to the ground. I handcuffed the individual and subseq him under arrest for alcohol intoxication and resisting arrest.

STATUS OF CASE:

Closed, cleared by arrest.

ATTACHMENT

NA

KSP REC

DRAFT KYIBRS REPORT

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

OFFENSE DATA

PROPERTY DATA

GENERAL

>> an officer sound uneducated; it makes the report more clear. Second, vague language doesn't help put the reader at the scene. For example, 'residence' is vague. Was it a house, apartment, mobile home or condo? Likewise, 'contacted' is confusing. Did you visit, phone or email the witness?

KEEP IT SIMPLE

Write straightforward sentences. Long sentences tend to lead to errors and misunderstandings. Limit each sentence to one idea. Start each sentence with a person, place or thing. In elementary English classes, we all learned that a sentence starts with a noun and the punctuation is simple — just put a period at the end. Complicated sentences require complicated punctuation, and they open the door to sentence errors.

The wrong punctuation can change the meaning of a sentence. A "Tails" magazine article headline about Chef Rachel Ray read, "Rachel Ray finds inspiration in cooking her family and her dog." Either she's cannibalistic or the editor should have used commas. The correct headline should read, "Rachel Ray finds inspiration in cooking, her family, and her dog."

USE SIMPLE LANGUAGE

In this case simple language just means clear language. 'Since' is easier to understand and write than 'inasmuch as.' 'In the utilization of' is a time-wasting way of saying 'used.' Officers don't sound any smarter using complicated language and big words.

"Fluff is hard to understand, and it's not necessary," Alfaro stressed.

Write straightforward sentences. Long sentences tend to lead to errors and misunderstandings. Limit each sentence to one idea.

STICK TO OBSERVABLE FACTS

Hunches, guesses and conclusions do not belong in a report. Stick to the facts. Writing the statements, "The victim was upset" or "He was aggressive," won't stand up in court. Tell the reader what you observed about the individual that lead you to that statement. "The victim, D. Patton, was crying uncontrollably, her body was shaking and she had a difficult time talking about the incident." Or, "Mr. Williams clenched his fists, gritted his teeth and kicked a chair across the room."

Statements that capture observable facts about the situation allow the reader to understand what you saw and experienced during the incident. These statements are clear and leave nothing to question. Writing simply does not mean the report should be devoid of detail.

USE ACTIVE VOICE

Now, be honest — does anyone without an English degree really know exactly what active voice is? Maybe not, but it still is a characteristic of good, clear and efficient writing. In a sentence using **active voice**, the subject of the sentence performs the action expressed in the verb. In a passive sentence, the subject is acted upon; he or she receives the action expressed by the verb. For example:

PASSIVE — "A revolver was seen on the floor board of the vehicle."

ACTIVE — "I saw a revolver on the vehicle's floor board."

Active-voice sentences tell readers who did or saw what, instead of telling them what was seen or done before telling them who saw it or who did it. Sentences in active voice also are more concise than those in passive voice because fewer words are required to express action in active voice than in passive. Passive sentences may make the reader work harder to understand the intended meaning. A sentence in active voice flows more smoothly and is easier to understand than the same sentence in passive voice.

WRITE IN PARAGRAPHS

Organizing incident-report information into groups helps the report flow more logically, and makes it easier to read and understand later. One way to organize paragraphs is into four, straightforward >>

DRAFT

KYIBRS REPORT: UOR2 SUPPLEMENT

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

SYNOPSIS:
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STOLEN PROPERTY:
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OTHER PROPERTY:
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EVIDENCE & HOW MARKED:
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ATTACHMENT
NA

DRAFT KYIBRS REPORT COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

SCENE DO NOT

OFFENSE DATA

PROPERTY DATA GENERAL

>> sections: How you received the call, what they said, what you observed and what you did.

HOW YOU RECEIVED THE CALL: Make it clear for readers whether the call for service came from dispatch, you were flagged down, you walked up to an incident in progress or it is a follow up. Include the date, time of call, who you were responding with (if anyone) and any other necessary details.

WHAT THEY SAID: This paragraph is where witness, victim, complainant and possible suspect interviews go. You can summarize and paraphrase each of their testimonies. To avoid redundancy, combine witness statements that agree and separate out those that are different. For example, "Mr. Wright, Mr. Strong and Ms. Thomas agreed that the suspect's vehicle was a black, compact car. Ms. Smith described the suspect's car as a dark blue, mid-size sedan."

Don't shy away from including vulgar language. If they said it, you can quote it.

WHAT YOU OBSERVED: After completing interviews, write down what you observed. Again, keep it simple, but clear and explanatory. If the victim has been attacked, describe the injuries. If a business has been looted, describe the scene in detail. Also, if a witness, victim or suspect's statement doesn't line up with what you observed, write that down, too. For example, if a victim swears he was assaulted, but you see no signs of bruises, scrapes, swelling, torn clothing or anything that indicates he was assaulted, write that in the report.

Don't shy away from including vulgar language. If they said it, you can quote it.

WHAT YOU DID: This last paragraph covers what the officer did while investigating the incident, such as processing the scene or arresting suspects. This portion of the report could have the biggest impact on an officer's career. Especially in use-of-force incident reports, accurately and thoroughly explain what action was taken and why it was necessary. Don't be ashamed to tell the truth and admit hitting, punching, kicking, scratching or otherwise getting nasty with an offender. Retired Livermore (Calif.) Sgt. Mark Tarte gave an example scenario to demonstrate how honesty and explanation about use-of-force paints an accurate picture for those who later read the account.

"The suspect swung his fists at me. I told him to stop resisting, and that he would be sprayed with OC if he did not. He again tried to hit me, and I sprayed him twice with my department-issued OC spray. This caused him to back away, but he still tried to hit me. I again ordered him to 'Stop resisting,' but he continued to swing his fists at me, yelling, 'Screw off, copper.' He again raised his fists and swung at me. I then struck him twice on the left knee with my baton. He fell to the ground, saying, 'I give up, I give up.' I handcuffed the now-compliant suspect and drove him to the General Hospital Emergency Room for evaluation and treatment by Dr. A. Smith. After he was medically cleared, he was booked into county jail without further incident."

This example is clear to the reader, includes proper detail and potentially saves the officer in the event of a police brutality lawsuit by the suspect in the future. Tarte also suggests using available video documenting the incident to help write reports. In many cases, an officer's testimony doesn't seem to jive with the video. The officer's perception of what occurred is valid, but viewing the impartial video may help him or her recollect details and aid in writing a more complete and accurate report. With so many video recorders in patrol cars, on witness cell phones and surveillance video footage, it is crucial that officers be accurate and factual in their reports. Don't think about it as writing longer reports, but writing smarter reports.

Officers need to contemplate how it looks to a jury when they bring up facts that were never in the report. Lack of corroboration between testimony in court and the report gives ammunition to the defense attorney. Not to mention, it may be five years after the fact that an officer testifies. A well-written report will help him or her recall exactly what happened at a given incident, after he or she has experienced thousands more incidents.

Law enforcement officers use pen and paper and a computer significantly more than their OC, baton, TASER or sidearm, and they are just as important to officers' successful careers. If weapons are not practiced with, when the time comes to use them, it could endanger the officer. The same goes for report writing. Practice, learn and protect yourself.

Abbie Darst can be reached at abbie.darst@ky.gov or (859) 622-6453.

Training on a

Complacency kills!

It's one of the tenets of the nationwide Below 100 initiative to reduce line-of-duty officer deaths to less than 100 in a year.

"There are experiences you will not survive if you aren't prepared mentally and physically," said Below 100 advocate, Chief Jeff Chudwin of Village of Olympia Fields (Ill.) Police Department.

Consistent training is one of the biggest advantages law enforcement agencies can give their officers to overcoming a pretension for complacency. Yet in a time of dwindling budgets, manpower shortages and new technology demands, often police departments are quick to cut training opportunities for their officers to free up funds for equipment and technology updates.

While it's obvious that no law enforcement agency has unlimited funding for every idea that tickles their fancy, there are ways to continue to train officers that doesn't require a large-line item, yet effectively keeps officers up-to-date on perishable skills and mentally prepared for that one moment that changes a shift from dull to dangerous.

ROLL CALL TRAINING

Reviewing FBI statistics on feloniously killed officers reveals most officers are killed while making an arrest, said Travis Tennill, Physical Training and Defensive Tactics Section supervisor at the Department of Criminal Justice Training.

"The task of making an arrest and handcuffing a suspect can become mundane to any officer, but they must realize it is one of the most dangerous things they will do during their tour of duty," Tennill emphasized. "Remaining vigilant throughout the entire arrest procedure is paramount to officer safety."

A simple roll-call training refresher on proper arrest technique and tactics is one quick and affordable way departments can recondition officers to keep them safer on the roads. Trainers quickly can take officers through several standard holds, take downs and cuffing techniques before or after a shift, to brush up on defensive tactics and arrest protocol, said Fran Root, DOCJT Skills Branch manager

"Especially in towns where you're not arresting that many people, you can get rusty," Root said. "Or worse, you can fall into what they do on TV, which of course is terribly wrong."

Roll-call trainings are an excellent method to briefly and effectively keep an agency's officers current and engaged in department policy and some perishable skills. The Kentucky League of Cities Insurance Services offers a roll-call training calendar to Kentucky law enforcement agencies whether they are insured by KLC or not. The calendar, which can be downloaded free from the website, includes 12 short trainings on high-risk critical tasks. Each one includes a brief legal and policy synopsis, followed by a scenario and several questions (and answers) shift leaders or in-house trainers can examine with their officers.

"Depending on agency size, it would take as little as five minutes to run through, but it's a great refresher," Root said, who recalls many roll-call training lessons in his time with the Lexington Division of Police.

Agency heads or training directors can take their own policies and write short scenarios and question-and-answer trainings for concise roll-call refreshers, as well. DOCJT Vehicle Operations Instructor Jeff Knox recommends reviewing KRS 189.920-95, detailing what steps officers need to take to respond properly as an emergency vehicle.

"We go over it in our perishable skills class, but it needs to be reviewed as much as possible," Knox said. "The officer must

> *Training videos are an excellent way to learn new tactics and techniques, and to motivate officers to engage in physical skills training.*

Shoestring

What are the cheap and effective options?

ABBIE DARST | PROGRAM COORDINATOR
PHOTOS BY **JIM ROBERTSON**
PHOTO ILLUSTRATIONS BY **TRANG BASEHEART**

have continuous lights and siren to be considered an emergency vehicle."

DVD TRAININGS

Training videos are an excellent way to learn new tactics and techniques, and to motivate officers to engage in physical skills training. For a small investment, trainers from some top training centers and academies across the nation can come into an agency or even officers' homes, via the DVD player and provide state-of-the-art training.

When sending even one officer to out-of-state training is more expensive than an agency can budget for, not to mention dealing with the extended absence of an officer and others covering shifts, bringing the ideas and techniques of those highly-qualified trainers to you in the form of video training can help bridge the gap between diminished budgets, manpower and exposure to top-notch training instructors.

On a smaller scale, demonstrations of techniques, such as baton strikes, can be recorded by a supervisor or instructor. The video then can be followed by officers performing bag drills. KLCIS also offers training videos on its website, including two on handcuffing and foot chase/off duty officers, as well as links to webinar resources.

DIY ON THE FLY

"Reminding the brain is fine, and even a brief demonstration of proper technique is better than nothing," Root said, "but there is nothing like hands-on training — doing it yourself and getting in the repetitions."

Being cost effective in training does not mean sacrificing vital hands-on exercises where the repetition of doing the activity sets in muscle memory and creates safe habits.

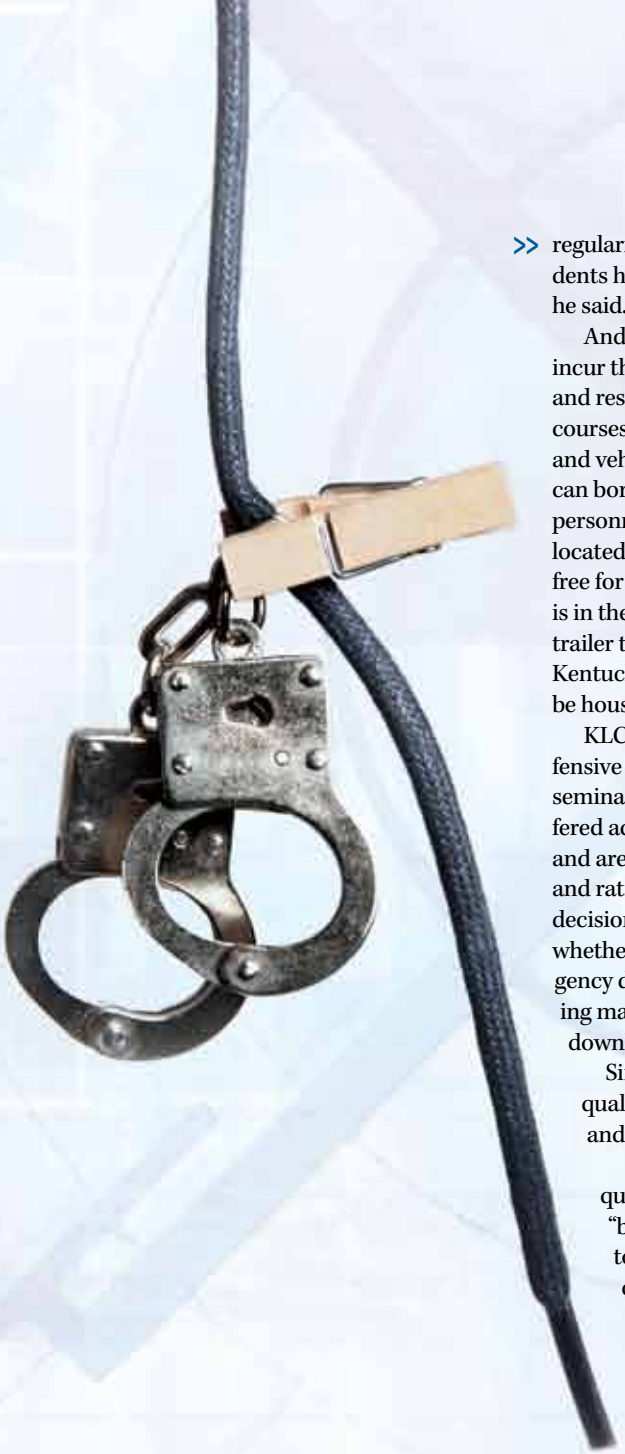
Driving is one of those skill areas in which it is easy for officers to grow complacent. Most officers were driving vehicles long before they chose a career in law enforcement, so their familiarity with the act of driving a vehicle usually is higher than with any other police-related skill. Moreover, officers spend a large amount of time inside their vehicles patrolling and driving to and from incidents.

However, the number of officers killed in vehicle-related incidents is staggering. In 2013, of the 107 officers killed in the line of duty, 45 were in vehicle-related incidents.

Driver's training doesn't have to take considerable resources to be effective and allow officers to practice regularly and stay proficient, Root said.

"A lot of agencies don't have tracks, but all they have to do is get permission from Wal-Mart to use a quadrant of their parking lot, cone it off and run practice courses," he said.

Knox agreed, emphasizing that agencies should focus on good backing position, with >>



>> regularity. Nearly 65 percent of all accidents happen in the backing position, he said.

And now agencies don't even have to incur the cost of the cones or the time and resources required to create various courses. KLCIS has a trailer with cones and vehicle operations courses agencies can borrow and use for training their personnel. Currently, KLCIS has one trailer located in the Elizabethtown area that is free for KLC-insured agencies to use, and is in the process of obtaining a second trailer to be used in conjunction with the Kentucky Association of Counties, that will be housed near Lexington.

KLCIS also is offering eight-hour Defensive Driving/Pursuit Decision Making seminars. These training sessions are offered across the state to insured members and are designed to encourage objective and rational thinking coupled with proper decision making in regard to determining whether to engage in a pursuit or emergency driving situation. The driver's training manual is available to any agency for download on KLCIS's website.

Similarly, firearms training and qualifying is imperative to the safety and effectiveness of officers.

"Agencies are responsible for qualifying people yearly," Root said, "but we would encourage them to go to three times a year with different courses of fire, as well as encourage officers to practice on their own."

A new training aid called a SIRT gun may make it easier for agencies to offer their officers firearms training on a consistent basis, Root said.

"You can practice your marksmanship, your moving and shooting and trigger pulls without the worry of having a safe range and hearing and eye protection," Root said. "It's an invaluable kind of tool.

"I encourage adopting training regimens with things like that," Root continued. "The pistol has action like a Glock, but is safe to practice with anywhere — even in your home — without hazard."

One idea that may prove useful for agencies trying to find time for skills training, is the law of diminishing returns, which suggests the further officers get from a training event, the more their skills deteriorate. Agencies may see better results by training more frequently for shorter bouts of time. Eight, one-hour training blocks may be better than one eight-hour in-service training day.

IN YOUR HANDS

But all training doesn't have to be administered through the agency. There are simple things officers can do on their own to keep their skills sharp and deter complacency. One skill officers can practice every day before they leave home for a shift is making a conscious effort to retrieve tools from their belts, Tennill said.

The Kentucky League of Cities Insurance Services

offers free Firearms Simulator Training to KLC insured agencies. In 2014, the simulator training will be offered in 43 locations across the commonwealth. For a detailed training location schedule, as well as information on firearms qualification course training, visit their website at http://www.klc.org/news/2280/TI_Simulator_Training_for_police_offered_at_more_than_40_locations_during_2014, or scan this QR code. ■

For more information

on available Kentucky League of Cities courses and resources for law enforcement training, contact Mark Filburn or Troy Pitcock at 1 (800) 876-4552. ■

"Thinking 'TASER' and then pulling their TASER from their belts and making it ready to use is quick and easy and can be accomplished in less than a minute," Tennill explained. "The same can be done for their expandable baton, OC, handcuffs, flashlight and duty weapon.

"Just as important as being able to retrieve the correct tool, they need to be able to place the tool back on the belt without having to divert their eyes from a potential threat," Tennill added.

Training is the life blood of a police agency and drastically increases the likelihood of officers making it home at the end of their shifts. Instead of cutting training when budgets must be trimmed back, agencies and officers have to become creative in ways to conduct realistic and relevant training.

"Agencies have to pick it up themselves," Root stressed. "We can't do enough follow-up skills training, except at the instructor level, to do them any good. Agencies have to be willing to dedicate the time and available resources to training.

"Whether implementing roll-call training at the beginning or end of shift or actually setting aside a day where everyone has to show up, it has to be done," Root continued.

Abbie Darst can be reached at abbie.darst@ky.gov or (859) 622-6453.

For specific course

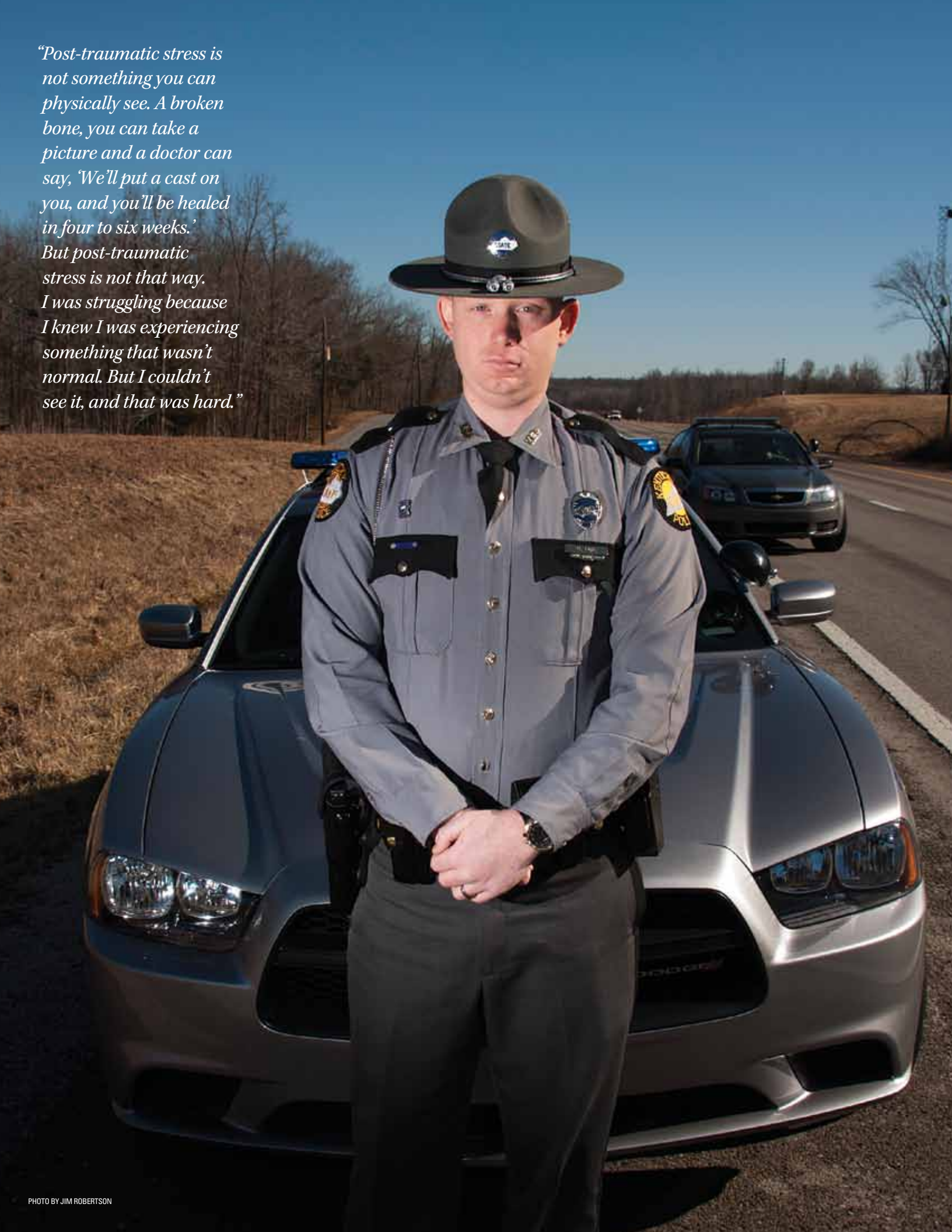
exercises, including detailed vehicle operations course set-up, objectives, materials, and specific student take-away lessons scan this QR code to link to a Law Officer.com article.

traumatic stress

unmasking PTS

KELLY FOREMAN | PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER
PHOTOS BY **JIM ROBERTSON**
PHOTO ILLUSTRATIONS BY **TRANG BASEHEART**

Traumatic stress may be an undeniable part of the job. But unending suffering is not. Recognizing stress exists and knowing what to do about it may mean the difference between a long, healthy career and a life shortened by hopelessness and fear.



"Post-traumatic stress is not something you can physically see. A broken bone, you can take a picture and a doctor can say, 'We'll put a cast on you, and you'll be healed in four to six weeks.' But post-traumatic stress is not that way. I was struggling because I knew I was experiencing something that wasn't normal. But I couldn't see it, and that was hard."

PHOTO BY JIM ROBERTSON

HEALING FROM THE UNSEEN: Kentucky State Police Trooper Ryan Fox's Story of Post-Traumatic Stress

KELLY FOREMAN | PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

The falling December rain gathered and slipped from the shoulders of Kentucky State Police Trooper Ryan Fox's water-proof jacket, the cold water trickling down his sleeve, across his hands and onto the carefully-held trigger of his shotgun with every heaving breath.

As the minutes passed, Fox peered through the sight of his weapon, keeping a close eye on the movements of the hooded man inside the Hanson, Ky. residence. Posted behind the engine block of his cruiser, he listened intently, trying to gain information about the subject from overheard conversations local deputies were having with the man's distraught fiancé.

Sleep heavy on his eyelids, Fox still was recovering from a long evening's work. He had worked the afternoon shift Sunday that spilled over into the daylight hours of Monday after responding to a tractor trailer that turned over on the parkway. A quick nap at his Hopkinsville home had given him just enough rest to return to his KSP post that afternoon and catch up on paperwork from the late-night shift.

But less than an hour into his day, Fox found himself within close range of a man who was about to lose everything. Twenty-five-year-old Dustin Barnes was engaged to be married, but after an argument the previous night, Barnes' fiancé was ready to call it quits. The situation only intensified when the drug court participant tested positive that day for methamphetamine in his veins, the consequences of which were more than Barnes could bear.

Behind Fox, Hopkins County sheriff's deputies evacuated a nearby house with an elderly man and his grandchild to keep them safe from potential gunfire. Inside, Fox watched Barnes through the glass of the home's storm door and caught a glimpse of the shotgun he held down beside his right leg as he removed his sweatshirt.

Just then, deputies relayed a message to Fox that if Barnes was coming out, he was going to end it all. And with that, Barnes pushed through the door and raised his double-barrel shotgun straight at the officers.

"I had just enough time to say, 'Look out, here he comes!'" Fox said. "Then he fired two shots. A deputy was standing about three feet away from me. He grabbed his neck and fell to the ground and said, 'I'm hit!' At the same time, I felt something hit my head."

* * * * *

As a student at Murray State University, Fox pursued a job with the campus police department helping with security.

"We did building checks and escorts of students, walked parking lots, checked vehicles," Fox said. "It was a good program. Through that I learned about an internship with the Kentucky State Police at the Mayfield Post. It sounded interesting.

"I started out in the office learning the paper trail," Fox continued. "I got to observe dispatch and the office clerks. Then they let me do ride-alongs, and that's when my eyes opened and I knew I was hooked."

After college, Fox joined the state police as a telecommunicator, where he worked for about 15 months before he applied to become a trooper.

"I remember asking somebody how long it takes to feel like you know what you're doing," Fox said. "Really, that long? But I've found that to be true — every day is still something new and a learning experience. One perk of the job is not sitting at the same office every day, but getting out in the community and meeting people from different walks of life. The learning experience keeps continuing."

On Dec. 5, 2011, Fox's year-long probation had just ended and he was finally on his own. As the pellets began to spray from the barrels of Barnes' gun, Fox said he heard the voices of his academy instructors in his mind.

"I didn't even have to think about what to do," he said. "The training kicked in, and I did exactly what they tell us to do."

Fox returned fire as Barnes fled back into the home. After firing all five rounds, Fox reloaded his weapon and advised dispatch of the gunfire, and that a fellow officer was down.

"He came out a second time after he reloaded his gun," Fox said of Barnes. "He came running out, this time straight toward the car with me and the one (officer) down. The officer down was defenseless. I knew I had to stop [Barnes], because if he got to me or the defenseless deputy, it would be an execution.

"I dropped the shotgun and transitioned to my sidearm," Fox continued. "I fired 15 rounds and hit him six times. He fell to his knees and then onto his chest. Another deputy came up behind me and was ready to approach him. I reloaded my sidearm. We gave [Barnes] verbal commands to roll away from the shotgun. I didn't know if he was playing dead, and I didn't want him to pick it up and fire at us when we approached." >>

>> As the scene unfolded, Barnes' family members began to arrive. When the shooting began, Fox said Barnes' father began fighting through police officers and got between his son and Fox. He picked up the gun and threw it over his shoulder to get it away from his son.

"We had to forcefully pry his father away from his son so we could handcuff the son," Fox said. "He had just shot at — and hit — the police and we weren't going to take any risks. I remember I had to ask for help to cuff him. I couldn't lift his arms to put them behind his back. He wasn't fighting me, he was limp. But all my strength had been spent just firing my weapon at him."

With the suspect in custody and headed to the hospital, Fox said he looked up to see additional troopers arriving on the scene.

"It sure was good to see a gray uniform there," he said.

Then he realized he was hurt.

"I was grazed in the head with one round from the shotgun," he said. "I had two racing stripes down my head. It looked like someone had taken clippers and put a line in my hair. Even as small as a shotgun shell is, that's why we all got sprayed — because there was a high number of rounds in the shell."

Fox's trigger finger also had been hit, the ammunition still lodged above the bone. Fox was transferred to the local emergency room, along with Barnes and two deputies who had been injured in the gun fight.

"At the hospital, when they took me back for my X-ray, I remember seeing a trail of blood down the hallway where they had wheeled the shooter back for an X-ray or CAT scan," Fox said. "It looked like someone had taken a paint brush, dipped it in paint and let it drip down the hallway. That's what I had to do to survive, but I hated to do that to somebody."

I would feel extremely happy then extremely sad — very grateful to flat-out pissed off. Those were definitely the first signs.

Barnes died at the hospital. The two deputies hit by the shotgun's spray were treated and released.

"After they stabilized me, my blood pressure was really high and I was pretty white in the face," Fox said. "I was worried that I had an open wound on my hand and had his blood on me. We found out later he had Hepatitis — fortunately none of us were contaminated. I was running a 101.5 fever that lasted for three days. I started having tremors when I thought about the situation — my body would physically shake, sporadically, like a jerking motion.

"I knew this wasn't a normal situation," Fox continued. "Some officers go their whole career without ever firing their weapon and some have to shoot it four to five times."

Fox took the mandatory administrative leave along with an extra four weeks to recover following the shooting. During that time, the tremors and fever began to fade, but hyper vigilance set in.

"My first night back, I rode with another trooper," Fox said. "I was so hyper vigilant during the beginning of the shift, I couldn't make it through the rest of the shift without falling asleep. I was so high at the beginning, my body couldn't sustain it, and I crashed.

"I made a DUI arrest and got $4,000 in marijuana off a guy," Fox continued. "Other than being with the other trooper, it was like being right back on the street. It was tough, because I wasn't the same. I would tell people, 'I'm going to tell you what to do one time, and if you don't [do what I say], I'm going to make you do it.'

"Before, I would be more patient," Fox continued. "But now, I know what it's like to give someone the chance to pull a weapon on me. Now, it's, 'You're going to do what I say, when I say, or there will be consequences. I'm not going to give you the opportunity to try to hurt me.'"

About six months after the incident, Fox began to feel depressed and lacked pride in himself. His appearance suffered and a self-described roller coaster of emotions flooded his daily thoughts.

"I was feeling extremely grateful for being in a gun fight and surviving," Fox said. "But I was extremely agitated that I had to go through it. My family was there for support, but I had this hatred toward this person who made me shoot him because he wanted to die. He made somebody else do what he wanted. I would feel extremely happy then extremely sad — very grateful to flat-out pissed off. Those were definitely the first signs."

Dr. Chuck Biebel, KSP Employee Assistance Program psychologist, visited Fox immediately following the shooting. Fox said Biebel explained that telling his story would

Post-Traumatic Stress Statistics

(Courtesy of Officer.com)

4-14 the percentage of law enforcement officers who suffer from PTS. The discrepancy in this range may be due to underreporting.

8 the percentage of Americans who will experience PTS at some point in their lives.

7 Million the number of U.S. adults who experience PTS during a given year.

2 Women are twice as likely as men to develop PTS.

61 the percentage of men who report at least one significant traumatic event in their lifetimes.

30 the percentage of men and women who have spent time in war zones and experience PTS.

help desensitize himself to the event. In the beginning, all Fox's co-workers and family members wanted to hear the story, and talking about it did help. But as life began to return to normal for everyone else, Fox still was fighting his own internal battle.

"Post-traumatic stress is not something you can physically see," Fox said. "A broken bone, you can take a picture and a doctor can say, 'We'll put a cast on you, and you'll be healed in four to six weeks.' But post-traumatic stress is not that way. I was struggling because I knew I was experiencing something that wasn't normal. But I couldn't see it, and that was hard."

Fox sought counseling to help deal with the stress his body was enduring. He couldn't connect with a counselor who was unfamiliar with law enforcement. Eventually, though, he found comfort in the familiar experiences of other officers who had survived the worst of what law enforcement has to offer. One of those officers shared with him a book by Dave Grossman called "On Combat."

"There was a lot of information in that book that allowed me to educate myself on what was happening to me," Fox said. "Though I couldn't see it or grasp it, having that little bit of knowledge, reading something and saying, 'Hey, that's what I'm going through, that's what I'm experiencing' — made me feel like I'm not the only one. Other people experience this, too, because this guy wrote a book on it. That's one thing I did on my own that allowed me to grasp what I was going through and be a little more OK with it.

"More importantly, I talked to a supervisor who had been in my position as a trooper," Fox continued. "He has been involved in shootings and I felt like we had a bond because we had been in the same place. He talked to me about his situation, and I talked to him about mine."

Six months after his shooting, while Fox was battling his own depression, he attended Crisis Intervention Training with CIT State Program Director Denise Spratt.

"I would highly suggest the CIT training," Fox said. "You never know when you may be the one going through the crisis. We were talking about all these disorders and what they go through and I was relating it to myself. Denise Spratt is a very nice lady. She was probably one of the first people at that six month mark that I talked to and she listened to me and propelled me to talk to someone. That's when I called Chuck [Biebel] and said, 'I need to see a therapist.' And I still talk to one — but they don't have a PhD, they wear a grey uniform."

More than three years after his shooting, Fox has good days and the occasional bad ones. But he is learning to recognize the signs of affliction and how to handle his stress.

"It's like a roller coaster — it decides how I feel," Fox said. "I don't decide. If I could decide how I felt, I'd never feel this way. It takes control of you. It comes and goes like a roller coaster, and when it wants to pop its head, it does. I'll go a week or two where I don't even want to get out of bed. Then, I won't feel it for a month or two."

When the roller coaster bottoms out, Fox stressed again the importance of finding someone to talk to.

"My wife has been very patient and supportive," Fox said. "My family, my co-workers — I went to my doctor and had some blood tests done to make sure everything was fine, and it was."

Working in a profession full of men and women who are at a high risk of susceptibility to post-traumatic stress, Fox also feels an obligation to his fellow officers when he sees the same signs in them of trauma he has experienced himself.

"A lot of the responsibility falls on people like me who have been through this situation and recognize the symptoms," he said. "Initially, I knew the fever and tremors and being physically traumatized were from this event. But six months later, I was feeling things and I didn't know if it was going back to that shooting situation or not. Did I have a medical issue that caused me to be non-motivated and depressed?

"I think those are the times that it's important for people like me and others who have the experience to keep a look out for their fellow officers and ask how things are going," Fox continued. "To find out how things are REALLY going, pry into how they are doing without being too far in their business. Because if I'm going to be out on the street working with you, it is my business."

Kelly Foreman can be reached at kelly.foreman@ky.gov or (859) 622-8552.

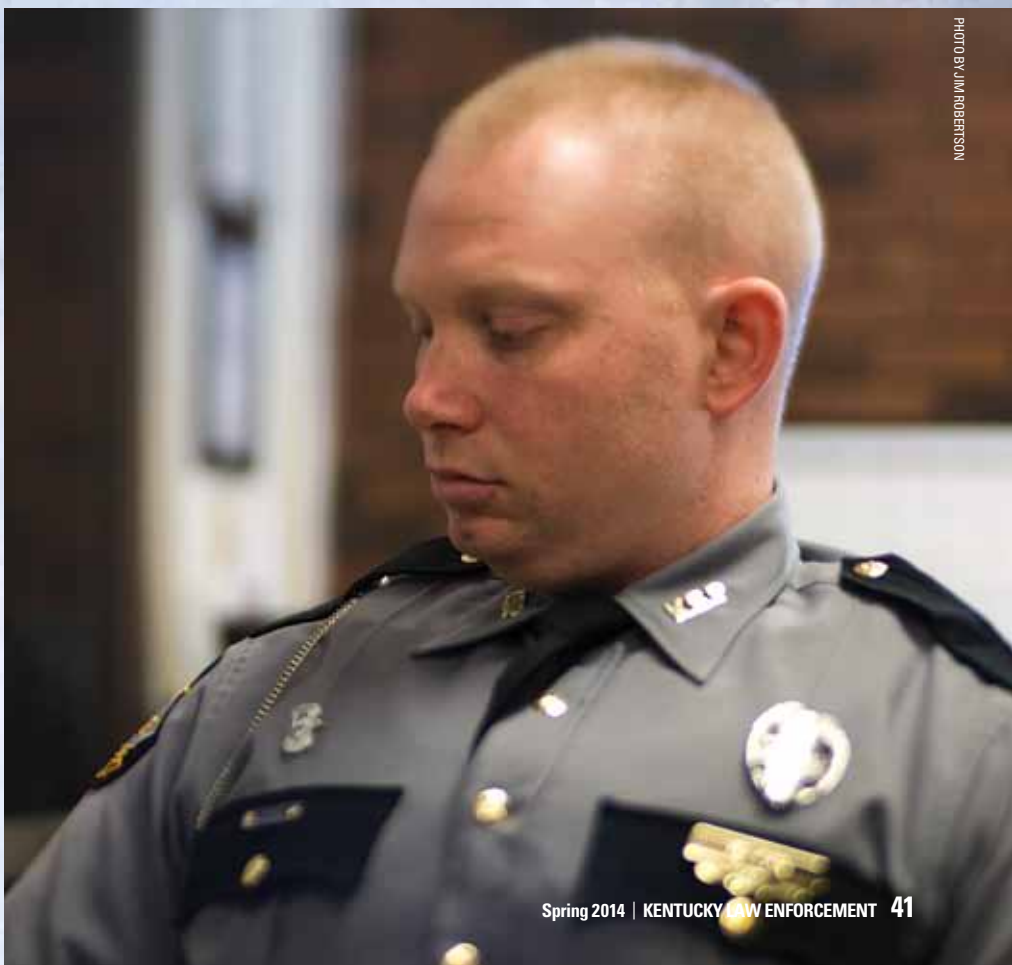


PHOTO BY JIM ROBERTSON

post-traumatic STRESS:

A Normal Reaction to an Abnormal Event

KELLY FOREMAN | PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

If you knew that every day for the rest of your career someone was going to punch you in the stomach, would you act when their fist jabbed toward your midsection? Would you take the beatings and tell no one? Would you allow the bruises and broken ribs to fester untreated?

You may not be able to prevent contact with your gut, but you can learn to prepare your body for the inevitable. And once you recognize the pain, you can certainly plan a course of action to lessen the blow.

In law enforcement, traumatic stress is much like that unavoidable punch to the stomach. Each day as you witness the tearing apart of families by drugs and abuse, the unnecessary deaths of helpless victims and the carnage left behind by car crashes, the impact of that stress can take your breath away. The pain of repeated trauma can knock you off your feet and weigh heavily on your whole body, while fear and helplessness fill your thoughts.

The human body was not meant to endure the traumas officers are tasked to handle as part of their daily duties. And as a result, experts like Mental Health Counselor Gary G. Felt argue that first responders are destined for a life with post-traumatic stress.

"In fact, by the very definition of and by the diagnostic criteria for PTSD, I inform [officers] that law enforcement is a natural 'set up' for PTSD," Felt wrote in his article, The Relationship of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder to Law Enforcement. "I educate them about their expected responses to trauma (i.e., 'normal' reactions

◀ **Kentucky State Police Sgt. Tim Sales reflects on his experience with post-traumatic stress and the ways he has treated its symptoms. Sales first experienced PTS after years of working accident reconstructions.**

PHOTO BY JIM ROBERTSON

Dr. Chuck Biebel, Kentucky State Police Employee Assistance Program psychologist, discourages the idea that suffering from post-traumatic stress is a disorder. Instead, he reiterates the concept that PTS is a normal reaction to an abnormal event.

PHOTO BY JIM ROBERTSON

to 'abnormal' events). From this perspective, they begin to understand. Ultimately, this paves the way for them to begin to truly heal — transitioning from victim to survivor. And, they learn to take better preventative measures to lessen the impact of future traumatizing events that are sure to occur during their careers."

Traumatic stress may be an undeniable part of the job. But unending suffering is not. Recognizing stress exists and knowing what to do about it may mean the difference between a long, healthy career and a life shortened by hopelessness and fear.

DEBILITATING MENTAL HEALTH ISSUE

Post-traumatic stress is the most debilitating mental health issue affecting Kentucky officers hands down, said Dr. Chuck Biebel, Kentucky State Police Employee Assistance Program psychologist. It is so common, in fact, that Biebel suggested every officer has probably experienced it to some degree during his or her careers whether he or she knows it or not.

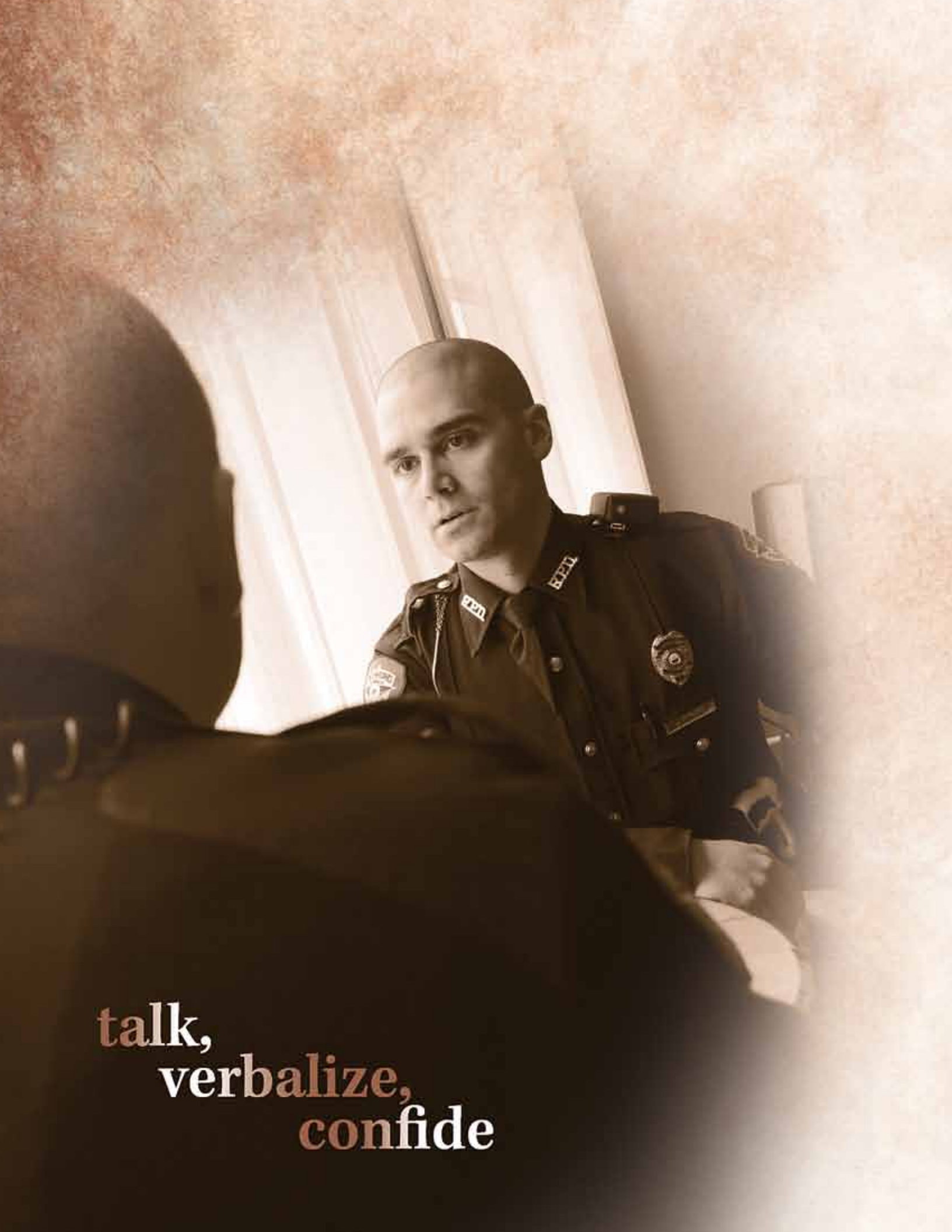
"If you look back at what you have experienced as a police officer, generally, you will see patterns in your life," he said. "After you worked a car wreck, you were anxious, depressed, irritable with your wife, things like that. That is why it is so important not to call it a disorder. You think about those words themselves. It is not a normal thing to shoot and kill someone, or to see a child run over by a car. That is going to cause some stress. It is normal and prevalent for people to have these responses. Post-traumatic stress is a normal reaction to an abnormal event."

So how do you know if what you're experiencing is the result of a bad day or PTS? There is a long list of symptoms that tend to be common with PTS, the most prevalent of which may be outbursts of crying, Biebel said. If you find yourself sitting on the edge of your bed in the morning putting your boots on for work and tears begin to stream down your face for no apparent reason, that is a good indicator of PTS. Experiencing anxiety, agitation and less patience with your spouse or children also may be signs of stress, he said.

"Hyper vigilance is one reaction that is a very logical response to me," Biebel said. "If you get into a shooting, your world changes. All of a sudden it is a much more dangerous place. Also, low mood, mental exhaustion and fatigue, nightmares and intrusive thoughts and images are pretty common ones.

"Your brain takes snapshots all the time," Biebel continued. "If the blast illuminated your suspect's face or you have an image of him lying on the ground bleeding out — intrusive images like that you sometimes can't shake. Replaying the incident repeatedly in your mind — you just can't stop thinking about it — that's pretty common, as are night sweats, waking up drenched in sweat."

Your family, friends and co-workers may begin to notice behavioral indicators as well. You may become more withdrawn if you are experiencing PTS, be more hostile, have increased issues at home and low >>



talk,
verbalize,
confide

>> activity at work. If your personality changes or you begin making major purchases, those, too, are good indicators.

"On the other hand, if the officer starts giving a lot of stuff away, that's an indicator of thoughts of suicide," Biebel said.

"SEE IT FOR WHAT IT IS"

In February 2011, KSP Sgt. Tim Sales was ending his second full week at his new post in Madisonville. A 14-year veteran of law enforcement, Sales had served the Mayfield post since 2002 and previously worked for both the Calloway County Sheriff's Office and Murray State University Public Safety.

For nearly nine years, Sales worked as a traffic accident investigator, reconstructing vehicle crashes, many of which involved fatalities.

"That's really where my PTS came in," Sales said. "It stemmed from those."

As a trooper, Sales had found himself on scene during officer-involved shootings, usually after the incident. So when he arrived at a Webster County residence to assist with a subject engaged in a standoff with police, it wasn't his first time in a tense situation.

Thirty-two year old Larry Brown's family had called for help when they became concerned about his welfare. Brown suffered from a mental health condition and told police he would not return to Western State Hospital for help, Sales said. Brown had fired several shots inside the home with a long gun and refused to cooperate with the officers on scene.

"He came outside with the long gun after having been told repeatedly not to," Sales said of Brown. "He said he was coming out and came out with the gun. They asked him why he brought it out and, talking to the sheriff at this point, he said, 'I'm going to kill you with it.'

"At that point, he began to raise the long gun and I fired at him, one of my sergeants at the time, Brenton Ford — he's now the lieutenant here — he fired as well and one of the deputies fired," Sales continued. "Mr. Brown went down at the time. From what I understand, when he raised his gun, he was struck by our rounds and he did fire, but it fired into the ground in front of him."

Brown died at the scene. Because of his experience with PTS, Sales said he had a "head start" on what to expect.

"I recognized the stress," Sales said after the shooting. "The symptoms and the reactions to it were completely different, just being two completely different situations. One, there was a hopelessness of not being able to do anything as far as the reconstruction goes. Dealing with the families, looking at the people and not talking about my problems. This wasn't a decision I made. It was a decision he made, and it was just the reaction that we had to take. So there wasn't that sense and feeling of hopelessness for me.

"I felt sorry for his family," Sales continued. "They were in the area and I distinctly remember, right after the shots being fired, a female voice screaming out. And it was a terrible feeling, you could tell for her, she knew something had gone wrong. I don't know if she was where she could see it, but she knew what happened and I remember distinctly hearing that behind me."

Three years later, it's a sound Sales said he still can hear clearly.

"I can still tell you a lot of the reactions from people of death notifications I've made and traffic fatalities," he said. "They're very similar."

Even though the stress was different this time, Sales' previous experience with feeling that traumatic stress allowed him to accept it and handle it quickly, he said.

"The first thing I had to do was face that there was stress there and not hide from it," he said. "Not try to be macho, I guess. I just noticed it was there, saw it for what it was, then had to relax and focus on the task at hand."

One technique Sales has found to be effective is self-hypnosis.

"I had gone to see a psychologist before, and it's something I had gone through after a lot of those fatals," Sales said. "And it is something I was able to work on and, in fact, I used it right after the shooting. It was very calming."

Within a few hours of the shooting, Sales said Biebel was on his doorstep. His advice?

"He basically said with anything stressful like that, talk about it until you're tired of talking about it," Sales said.

TALK, VERBALIZE, CONFIDE

"You don't have to go to a psychologist or a licensed counselor," KSP Psychologist Biebel said. "The important thing is that >>

Post-traumatic Stress Check List

(Reprinted from www.policeptsd.com)

DO YOU:

1. Have repeated, disturbing memories, thoughts or images of a stressful police experience?
2. Have repeated, disturbing dreams of a stressful police experience?
3. Suddenly act or feel as if a stressful police experience was happening again (as if you were reliving it)?
4. Feel very upset when something reminds you of a stressful police experience?
5. Have physical reactions (e.g., heart pounding, trouble breathing, or sweating) when something reminds you of a stressful police experience?
6. Avoid thinking about or talking about a stressful police experience or avoid having feelings related to it?
7. Avoid activities or talking about a stressful police experience or avoid having feelings related to it?
8. Have trouble remembering important parts of a stressful police experience?
9. Have a loss of interest in things that you used to enjoy?
10. Feel distant or cut off from other people?
11. Feel emotionally numb or being unable to have loving feelings for those close to you?
12. Feel as if your future will somehow be cut short?
13. Have trouble falling or staying asleep?
14. Feel irritable or have angry outbursts?
15. Have difficulty concentrating?
16. Find yourself being "super alert" or watchful on guard (hyper vigilance)?
17. Feel jumpy or easily startled?

Has anyone indicated that you've changed since the stressful police experience?

Yes __ No__ ■

>> you talk to somebody you feel is not judgmental, who isn't going to tell you how to think or feel. Usually somebody has that kind of person in their life."

Sales found talking to be helpful.

"People would ask me what happened," Sales said. "A lot of people wanted to know the story, whether they were friends in law enforcement, people I knew or my family."

It seems like such a simple solution, but Biebel said research shows those who don't talk about the incident, their feelings or reactions, report much higher numbers of long-term issues with PTS. If you experience a major incident and it is the first time you have felt the symptoms of traumatic stress, Biebel said, talking to a trained listener can be helpful. Many agencies have employee assistance programs, and every region has private practice clinicians with community-supported mental health care, Biebel said.

But talking, no matter how you do it, is key.

"I know people who developed PTS, talked to other troopers, a psychologist or their wife over and over again for months as they worked through it," Biebel said. "There is no secret psychologist treatment. The number one thing is talking. Without some outlet, I don't know of cases where it just diffuses naturally."

One of the reasons talking helps is because once you have told the story enough times, you become desensitized to it, Biebel said.

"If you've ever been involved in an upsetting situation, whether it's a fight with your boss or a shooting, your first time retelling it, you can feel your heart rate rising as you relive the situation," Biebel said. "But after you've told it a few times, it loses that power. You're desensitizing to it."

As part of his own therapy, Sales has talked to recruit academy classes about his experiences with PTS. While it's uncomfortable, he said, it helps him continue to heal from his trauma, while teaching future officers about what they may experience and how to handle it.

"I have had guys I've worked with come tell me, 'I remember you coming up and talking to us,'" Sales said. "With everything I've gone through, there have been some things I'm very embarrassed of that I have done. But if I tell them and they don't do it, it's worth it for me."

The symptoms of post-traumatic stress can make you feel isolated and you may withdraw from people who you think don't understand what you're going through. But just as important as talking about your experience can be opening yourself up to hearing what others have to say about changes they see in you.

"Listen to your family and friends — the people who know you," Sales said. "If they notice something, pay attention to it. People who care about you will often notice the stress before you notice it. You could try to prove it to me and unless I see it, I wouldn't have believed it. But looking back now, it helped after the fact seeing the things I had done and what they had noticed. It essentially ended my first marriage. But fortunately we're able to remain friends because I did see it in time.

"It's a whole lot more difficult to face your fears than try to be macho and say you don't have fears," Sales continued.

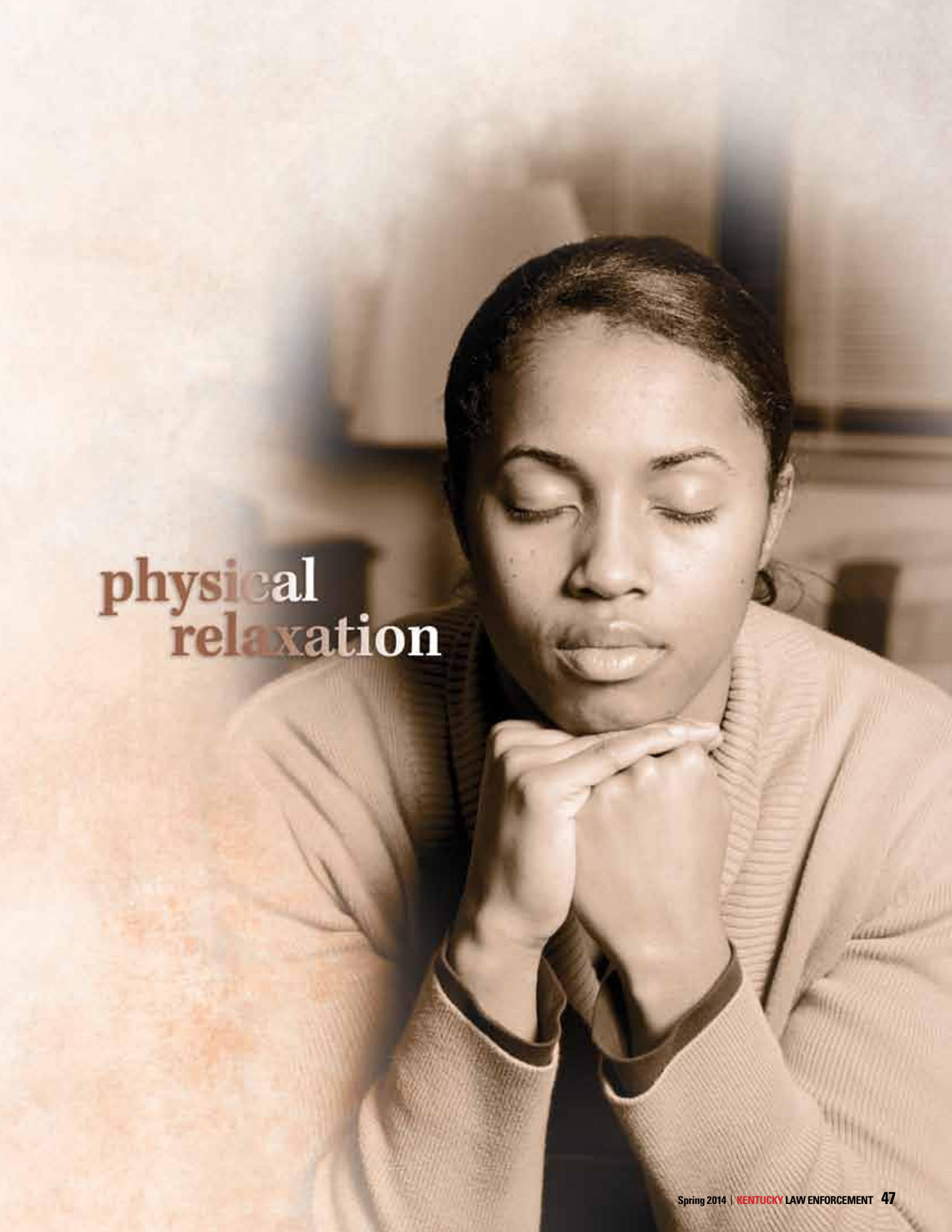
DO YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS?
Contact Dr. Chuck Biebel at charles.biebel@ky.gov

PHOTO BY JIM ROBERTSON

THE PATH TO RECOVERY

"The thing I try to emphasize is that it's going to take A LOT of talking," Biebel said. "People say, 'God, it's been three weeks, why can't I get past this?' Sometimes it takes a lot longer. Trauma creates a huge amount of stress for your mind to absorb."

In the meantime, there are many other types of therapies that can help ease the stress and put you back on the path to recovery. Many of these therapies have to do with re-evaluating counterproductive thinking and training your body to relax in times of anxiety. >>



physical relaxation

>> "We know the response with post-traumatic stress is an anxiety response," Biebel said. "What we're trying to do is pair that anxiety with physical relaxation."

Exposure therapy is one of those treatments.

"Initially, I would have the officer tell me in general detail what happened," Biebel said of the treatment. "Then we step it up and I have them tell me more details. Eventually I will have them close their eyes and envision being at the scene."

Biebel offered the example of a returning military veteran who begins hyperventilating, sweating and whose blood pressure skyrocketed when he sees a middle eastern person.

"I'm going to take you down the hallway to this middle eastern person's office and we're just going to walk by," Biebel said, explaining the process of exposure therapy. "Then we're going to look at them. Maybe, eventually, I will take you down to the community center. Whatever we do, we try to combine that exposure with physical relaxation and breathing."

Progressive muscle relaxation also has proven successful in treating PTS, Biebel said.

"With progressive muscle relaxation, I will have them progressively relaxing all these parts of the body, working their way down from their face to their jaw, to the neck, shoulders, midsection, to their toes," Biebel said. "They're in a safe place and completely relaxed. Then I might have

surround yourself with friends and family

PHOTO BY ELIZABETH THOMAS

them tell me part of an anxiety-provoking situation connected with their traumatic stress. As we're doing this, we focus on keeping blood pressure down and breathing slowly.

"What we have found is that you cannot have an anxiety reaction if you are completely relaxed," Biebel continued. "It is incredibly successful. People learn they have a lot of power over their bodies. They think they have to let it happen, when in reality, everybody has the ability to slow things down, to bring down their heart rate and realize it is not an emergency. It really empowers clients when they realize they have some control and don't have to be a victim. That's a big thing with PTS. It's a really big thing — because there often is a sense of being victimized, and empowerment is really important."

There are many simple, daily activities officers can do to keep themselves from sinking into risky behavior or depression that often accompanies PTS. Avoiding major fluctuations in normal routine is important, Biebel said. Surround yourself with friends and family. Avoid major purchases or making decisions about relationships — maintaining a sense of normalcy can help keep you on a steady track.

"We are genetically designed to be outside creatures," Biebel said. "Walking, hiking, whatever you enjoy, just get outside. We also know with sunlight, we synthesize vitamin D. If you're feeling down and not getting outside, that can increase PTS symptoms."

Regular sleep patterns, eating well and maintaining an exercise routine also will help. For some, writing and art therapy may help relieve the stress, Biebel said. Whatever course of treatment you choose, the important thing is not to suffer in silence.

"Too often in law enforcement, personnel equate mental disorders with being 'crazy,' and they feel that an emotional response to trauma indicates weakness," said Counselor Felt. "This myth must be erased. Law enforcement personnel must come to admit that they, too, are normal human beings who react in normal ways when exposed to abnormal events that make up their job environment."

Kelly Foreman can be reached at kelly.foreman@ky.gov or (859) 622-8552.

PHOTOS BY JIM ROBERTSON

AIT

ABBIE DARST |
PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Human Trafficking and Hate Crimes Investigation

CURBING CRUELTY

The Human Trafficking and Hate Crimes Investigation course is designed to enhance the skills of law enforcement officers in recognizing, reporting and investigating human trafficking and hate crimes. The 40-hour class is offered three more times in 2014:

- Ashland – Sept. 22 to 26
- Elizabethtown – Nov. 17 to 21
- Richmond – Dec. 8 to 12

Did you know:

- In a four-month span in 2013, the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services investigated 20 cases of child human trafficking?
- Nearly 85 percent of victims trapped in the human trafficking sex trade are U.S. citizens?
- There are 10 identified, organized hate groups in Kentucky?
- The number of Patriot groups, including armed militias, grew 813 percent after President Barak Obama was elected — from 149 in 2008 to 1,360 in 2012?

Human trafficking and hate crimes are real issues facing Kentucky communities every day. However, because of the secretive nature of the crimes and the lack of awareness among citizens and officers alike, many cases go uninvestigated and many victims remain entrenched in their victimization.

The Department of Criminal Justice Training's 40-hour Human Trafficking and Hate Crimes Investigation course is focused on raising officer awareness for both crimes and teaching officers best methods for investigating these crimes.

"In one sense, the course is two separate classes put together to make 40 hours," said Instructor Eddie Farrey, "but because we talk so much about how people are treated in hate crimes, it carries directly over into

PHOTO BY JIM ROBERTSON

how people are victimized in human trafficking, as well."

TARGETING TRAFFICKING

Under federal law, victims of human trafficking include children involved in the sex trade, adults who are coerced or deceived into commercial sex acts and anyone forced into forms of labor or services, such as domestic workers held in a home, or farm workers forced to labor against their will. Instances of these crimes are popping up throughout the commonwealth. In one case Indian nationals were discovered in forced labor at a Lexington Subway, returning to questionable living conditions in the owner's home. In another case, a Jefferson County teen was drugged and forced into prostitution by her guardians. The reality of human trafficking is hitting closer to home for many Kentucky officers.

"Human trafficking victims rarely contact law enforcement for assistance," Farrey said.

Because of his background in elder and domestic abuse investigation, Farrey understands the nature of a victim and the circumstances that put victims in these situations. Farrey has been an investigations instructor at DOCJT since 2002.

"We talk about what will lead [officers] to this crime — what are the indicators, things to look for," Farrey explained. "The information provided in the class assists officers in identifying the victims and prosecuting those who commit this type of crime."

Simply making officers more attuned to the calls they investigate frequently — such as prostitution — can allow them to uncover a trafficking ring behind the scenes of what they would normally work as a surface prostitution case, said Farrey, >>

PHOTO BY JIM ROBERTSON

>> who finished his bachelor's degree with an independent study on human trafficking.

"Some officers talk about things they've seen and cases they've been involved in — they are very open," Farrey said of class discussions. "It's an awareness issue — understanding we are busy and we go places and don't think about who is waiting on us or what situation or circumstances they may be in."

Presenting information about human trafficking conditions and how to recognize potential victims, coupled with an in-depth look at the newly instituted laws on human trafficking, Farrey equips class participants with the knowledge they need to change the way they investigate cases in their own communities.

"[Learning about the laws] definitely helps because it lets you know what you need to be looking for to meet the criteria to charge those offenses," said Louisville Metro Police Detective John Grissom, who has served the Metro Sex-Crimes Investigations Unit for nearly six years.

In an interview for a human trafficking video project Farrey is creating, LMPD Sgt. Andre Bottoms said LMPD officers are now approaching every prostitution arrest as if the suspects were actually potential victims of human trafficking.

"I'd say 85 percent of these individuals are not doing this on their own," he said. "Most are forced or coerced or abused and our job as detectives is to detect that they are victims and try to get the perpetrator."

Instilling awareness of the crime, knowledge of the indicators and laws and a healthy understanding of the helplessness surrounding the victim are key goals of the human trafficking portion of this course, Farrey said.

HONING IN ON HATE

Hate can take on many forms and wear many faces, spewing its damaging slander against any race, gender, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation it perceives as different from itself.

In the hate crimes portion of the course, officers are confronted with a myriad of extreme beliefs that exist and action various hate groups have taken in defense of their beliefs. During the class, Farrey goes through the list of hate groups listed as active in Kentucky, explaining their beliefs and backgrounds, he said.

The goal of the hate crime portion of the course is to enhance the safety of law enforcement officers and the communities they serve.

"Some groups are active in Kentucky, and others participate in parades or demonstrations," Farrey explained. "Groups come and go — alternating between times of activity and involvement to disappearing for periods of time.

"When I first started teaching this class, the Southern Poverty Law Center listed 15 groups in Kentucky, now it is 10," he continued. "But it's not that there are fewer hate groups, they just aren't as active … or are acting more cautiously. We still talk about the groups, so [officers] understand them, knowing that they come and go."

However, the main goal of the class is not merely to educate officers on the existence and beliefs of Kentucky's hate groups. The course provides information about how the ideology of each of the groups can be a threat to law enforcement officers and their communities, Farrey said.

"The goal of the hate crime portion of the course is to enhance the safety of law enforcement officers and the communities they serve," he said.

PHOTO BY JIM ROBERTSON

DISCUSSION ADDS DEPTH

The course boasts a healthy balance of lecture and class discussion. This allows officers the freedom to examine their personal experiences, beliefs and on-the-job encounters in an often diverse class setting, with officers spanning from Hickman County to Harlan and a wide-range of personal and professional backgrounds.

"Anytime you talk about race (and diversity) people will argue, and there were some heated discussions in the class," Grissom said of the class he completed in December 2013. "It kept us awake, and it was a good class. I would recommend it — I've told the others I work with that it's a good one to take."

For Farrey, the depth and perspective class discussions bring to the course enhances the overall learning experience for the officers.

"If we don't talk about what you believe, then you're just hearing what I believe and we're not talking about it and examining it," Farrey said.

In addition to personal and professional experience, course readings of various articles and the viewing of the movie, "Shadow of Hate," also fuel class discussion and help students fully grasp the concepts and issues surrounding hate crime issues across the nation and in the commonwealth.

"The most satisfying part of the class has to be the interaction with the officers and their willingness to discuss the subjects that are brought up," he added. "Whether they agree or disagree with the course material, they are willing to express and explain some of their views."

Abbie Darst can be reached at abbie.darst@ky.gov or (859) 622-6453.

COMPILED BY THE DOCJT LEGAL STAFF

LEGAL SHORTS

Request for Assistance

A statute that has not been interpreted by the courts in many years, KRS 431.007, was discussed in an unpublished case in the Kentucky Court of Appeals in the summer of 2013. In McGlennen v. Com., 2013 WL 3238936 (Ky. App. 2013), the Carroll County sheriff sought the assistance of Owen County in apprehending a wanted subject. The original plan was for the Owen County deputy sheriff to make the arrest, but that deputy was called away. He contacted the Carroll County sheriff and deputy who had come to Owen County and authorized them to execute the warrant. During the arrest, McGlennen escaped and was promptly recaptured. With the issue of their authority to make the arrest (which led to the escape charge) in question, the Court agreed that the Owen County deputy's request was, in fact, a proper request for assistance under KRS 431.007(1). The court agreed that there was no requirement that such a request be in writing, and in fact, since most requests would be under "emergency circumstances," that to add such a requirement would "render the statute meaningless."

Dealer Plates

Occasionally, a question arises as to who is allowed to drive a motor vehicle that bears dealer plates. A qualified dealer may drive such vehicles on the highway, pursuant to KRS 186.070, and may also permit bona fide salespersons and employees to do so as well. Vehicles may also be driven in transport, and a customer is permitted to drive a vehicle for a demonstration. Such vehicles must also have a monroney sticker visible, if new, and if used, a Federal Trade Commission buyer's guide sticker. (A vehicle simply being transported to the dealer's place of business is exempt from this requirement.) A monroney sticker, required under federal law, provides certain official information about the vehicle, including fuel economy. Under the same statute, the dealer must provide a verified statement to the county clerk, on a quarterly basis, as to the names of each bona fide salesperson or employee permitted to drive a vehicle using dealer's plates. Amended statements should be filed, in the interim, so that county clerk, will, at all times, show the bona fide salespersons and employees. This information shall be entered by the county clerk into the automated vehicle information system so that it will be readily available to law enforcement agencies.

Moped Licenses

With the advent of warmer weather, officers will see more mopeds and small motorcycles on the road. Remember, under KRS 186.410, all such vehicles, whether designated as a motorcycle or a moped, require an operator's license. If the vehicle is classified as a moped, a rider may possess either an operator's license or a motorcycle license, under KRS 186.450(1). If the vehicle is a motorcycle, however, the rider must possess a motorcycle operator's license, under KRS 189.285, and, of course, meet all requirements listed under the statute as well.

Execution of an Arrest Warrant for Subject in Third Party's Dwelling

A frequent question that arises is whether officers, with an arrest warrant for a subject, may enter the residence of a third party to make the arrest solely on the basis of the arrest warrant. The answer generally is no. In Steagald v. U.S., 451 U.S. 204 (1981), the U.S. Supreme Court held that an arrest warrant for one person does not give officers the right to make entry into the home of a third party to arrest him without a search warrant, the resident's consent or an exigent circumstance. The subject of the arrest warrant cannot claim that his rights were violated and the arrest invalid because he does not have a reasonable expectation of privacy in somebody else's residence. The arrest is good. However, the resident's rights have been violated and any evidence found in the residence against the third party may be excluded because of the unlawful entry. Additionally, it creates potential liability for a civil rights lawsuit under 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

DOCJT Legal Website Information

For more information on legislation that affects the Kentucky law enforcement community, visit www.docjt.ky.gov/legal.

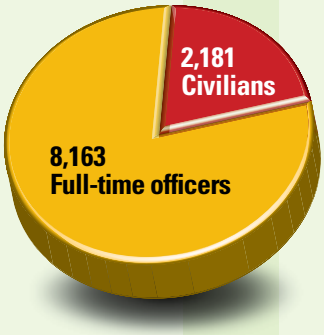
CRIME IN KENTUCKY

Based on 2012 Kentucky Crimes Statistics as reported to the Kentucky State Police and the Kentucky Uniform Crime Reporting System.

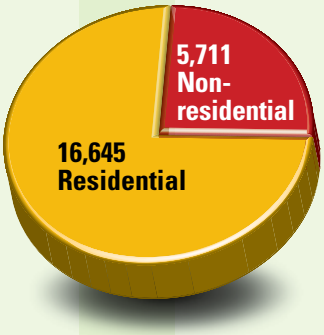
A Serious Crime Occurs in Kentucky Every

2 MINUTES,
28 SECONDS

781
OFFICERS ASSAULTED



10,344
LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL



22,356
BURGLARY / B & E OFFENSES

212,934
SERIOUS CRIMES COMMITTED

210,743
FINGERPRINTS SUBMITTED TO KSP

277
HOMICIDES

52,597
ARRESTS FOR DRUG VIOLATIONS

4,772
CREDIT CARD / ATM FRAUD OFFENSES

Further numerical breakdowns, definition and additional pertinent information available in the 2012 Kentucky Crime Report. Compiled by the Kentucky State Police. www.kentuckystatepolice.org

> "... and our department has been awarded approximately $967,000 in funding for various projects. The grants have benefited all agencies in our city and county, and by doing so it creates a better relationship with those agencies. "

Chief Shane Allison

Eddyville Police Department

Shane Allison began his law enforcement career in 1998 as one of the first of three patrol officers hired for the newly formed Eddyville Police Department. Prior to law enforcement he served in the U.S. Army and graduated from Murray State University with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and political science. He completed the Academy of Police Supervision and Criminal Justice Executive Development as part of his leadership training. He and his wife, Ann, have been married for 18 years and have one child, Connor.

WHAT IS MOST REWARDING PART OF BEING CHIEF?

As chief, I feel I am the same as any other officer in the department. All members of the department have their shift to work, and as the chief I have mine too. I feel I am part of a team that shares the workload. I answer calls, investigate cases, investigate accidents, make arrests and handle anything that any officers might handle. Because I do these things I think I better understand what officers need for the job, and I take pride in allowing them flexibility when they need time for their families. I often will work a holiday so they can spend time with their families.

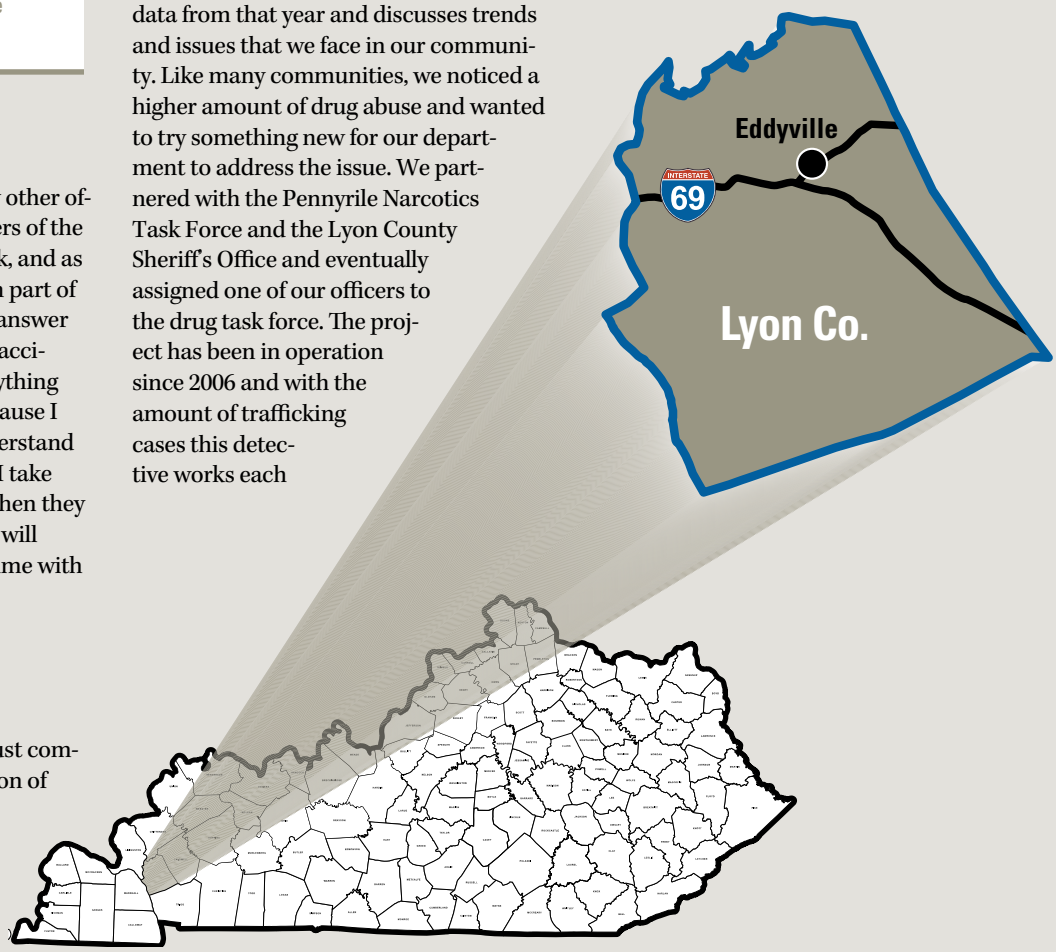
WHAT ARE SOME OF THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF WHICH YOU HAVE BEEN MOST PROUD?

The Eddyville Police Department just completed its third Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police accreditation, the first was achieved in 2003. For a small agency to become accredited takes teamwork. I think our officers accepted the challenge and their inclusion in the process helped them understand the importance of being accredited. In 2010, the department received the Golden Eagle Award from the Kentucky League of Cities for receiving 100 percent on its scorecard. This award is just another example of how our officers wanted to go the extra mile to show they are part of a professional agency.

WHILE WORKING AT EDDYVILLE, WHAT ARE SOME PROJECTS YOU HAVE SEEN COMPLETED AND THEIR SIGNIFICANCE TO YOU AND YOUR DEPARTMENT OR COMMUNITY?

Every year the department compiles the data from that year and discusses trends and issues that we face in our community. Like many communities, we noticed a higher amount of drug abuse and wanted to try something new for our department to address the issue. We partnered with the Pennyrile Narcotics Task Force and the Lyon County Sheriff's Office and eventually assigned one of our officers to the drug task force. The project has been in operation since 2006 and with the amount of trafficking cases this detective works each year, it is apparent there was a need for the position.

Other projects we have seen completed and have been very useful were through grant writing. In today's economy, paying attention to new grants and collaborations is important to keep up with the rest of society. Lt. Jaime Green has written countless grants since 2003 and our department has been awarded approximately $967,000 in funding for various projects. The grants have benefited all agencies in our city and county, and by doing so it creates a better relationship with those agencies.



> "By their service to Woodford County, both professionally and personally, we continue to make Woodford County stronger."

Sheriff Wayne "Tiny" Wright

Woodford County Sheriff's Office

Wayne "Tiny" Wright is a lifelong resident of Woodford County. Wright began his law enforcement career in 1985 with the Versailles Police Department and has continued to serve Woodford County. He is a member of the Versailles Lions Club, Buford Lodge #494 F&AM, Versailles Rotary Club and the United Way of the Bluegrass. Wright is a member of the Forks of Elkhorn Baptist Church. He also serves as the second vice president of the Kentucky Sheriff's Association for 2014. He and his wife, Tracie, have been married for 28 years and have one daughter, Brittany, who is employed by the Fayette County Sheriff's Office.

WHAT IS THE MOST REWARDING PART OF BEING SHERIFF?

I wear this badge with honor knowing that the reward is trust, integrity, professionalism and the duty to serve everyone. I have been entrusted by so many people who I may never get to personally thank for their support.

HOW HAVE YOU PROMOTED COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS IN YOUR AREA?

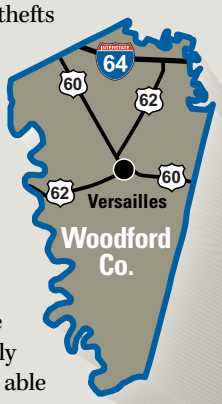
I am a firm believer that you have to be a part of your county and be active in civic organizations and causes that promote your office and staff. I am actively involved with the DARE program, Woodford County Cops for Kids, Project Graduation, Woodford ASAP, Kentucky Sheriff's Association as well as the annual Woodford County Farm Tour.

I encourage my staff to get involved as well through activities such as coaching sports teams or participation in cancer awareness/fundraising. By their service to Woodford County, both professionally and personally, we continue to make Woodford County stronger.

We have several deputies who have been assigned to task forces on the federal level, including the DEA, to target high-level drug trafficking and the U.S. Marshal's Sex Offender Task Force. Both agencies work with us locally to combat the increasing drug problems in our area. We participate in National Drug Take Back Day, which allows citizens to drop off old or unused medicines to be disposed. This program keeps these medicines from getting into the wrong hands or being disposed of in our sewers and waterways.

WHAT PROPOSED STRATEGIC PLAN DO YOU THINK WOULD IMPROVE LAW ENFORCEMENT?

I would work with my legislators to develop a registration decal to establish ownership of ATVs and utility trailers to help cut down on the number of thefts of these items.



I also would work to improve training for electronic crimes. This is such a new area for law enforcement because the technology we use today changes daily and we need to be able to keep up. Electronic transfer crimes are an area that we are seeing more. I frequently receive calls from the public, especially our elderly population, regarding sending money to a caller because a loved one needs help. More often than not, this is a scam and the citizen has already sent the funds which cannot be recovered by the time they report it.

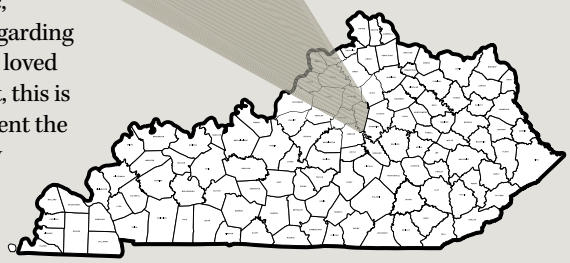
I would increase training for court security officers. These individuals need extensive training in searches, first aid, defense tactics, public relations, juvenile crimes and prisoner escorts. Finally, I would work to establish a mandatory body armor policy for all law enforcement officers. While this won't prevent all line-of-duty deaths, it would significantly decrease the number of deaths that occur because the officer wasn't wearing body armor.

HOW DO YOU FOSTER AN ENVIRONMENT THAT RECOGNIZES AND VALUES YOUR DEPARTMENT STAFF?

I believe it's important to be a true leader to them. I have one of the best groups of employees, and I strive to show them how much I appreciate their hard work. I never ask my deputies to perform tasks that I wouldn't.

DO YOU HAVE ANY NEW OR UPCOMING PROJECTS?

In the coming year, I am on track to obtain accreditation for my office, which I have wanted since I became sheriff in 2007. I want the public to know that my office is a professional organization and is committed to a high standard of public service. We continue to keep our vehicles and equipment modern and seek grant funding for this as well as budgeting for them. One other area I am working toward is increased training through online classes; training employees can do on their own to better themselves for their careers in law enforcement.



After the Boston Marathon bombing on April 15, 2013, news outlets made much of the fact that the surviving suspect, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, was interrogated following his arrest without being given warnings pursuant to Miranda v. Arizona, 384 U.S. 436 (1966).

Although it wasn't clear that Tsarnaev was in any physical condition to be questioned (due to serious injuries he sustained around the time he was taken into custody), federal law enforcement authorities announced they would be using the public safety exception to Miranda with respect to his interrogation.

WHEN YOU NEED IT

Even prior to the April bombing, it had been anticipated that using the public safety exception as developed under New York v. Quarles, 467 U.S. 649 (1984), might be necessary in the context of criminal investigations involving terrorist acts. In late 2010, a memorandum from Attorney General Eric Holder had been circulated to all U.S. attorneys throughout the country, approving FBI guidance for how the federal law enforcement agency would proceed with the "interrogation of an operational terrorist arrested within the United States."

The rationale of the FBI guidance is that the nature of such a crime "may warrant significantly more extensive public safety interrogation than would be permissible in an ordinary criminal case." Prior to the issuance of the FBI guidance, two cases illustrated the need, an attempt to detonate a bomb on a plane from Amsterdam to Detroit on Dec. 25, 2009, and the detonation of a bomb in Times Square in May 2010. Both suspects were interrogated at length several hours prior to being given Miranda, and of course, both were in custody at the time. However, the expanded use of Quarles in terrorism cases has been untested by federal courts.

In the original Quarles decision, a rape suspect (Quarles) fled into a grocery store. The victim had indicated to police the subject had a firearm. Police located a man matching the description inside the grocery store and apprehended him; he was found to have an empty holster but no weapon. They asked him about the gun and he indicated where he had hidden it in the store. Only after they retrieved the weapon, which was certainly incriminating, did they read Quarles his Miranda warnings. From these facts, the U.S. Supreme Court developed the "public safety exception" doctrine,

RIGHT NOW

Is there an exception to Miranda when public safety is in question?

SHAWN HERRON | STAFF ATTORNEY, DOCJT LEGAL TRAINING SECTION

which permits pre-Miranda interrogation of a subject in custody limited to that which has an objectively-reasonable purpose to protect law enforcement, or the general public, from an immediate danger. The Court noted that the "exception [to Miranda] … will be circumscribed by the exigency which justifies it."

Since Quarles was decided, Kentucky has had the opportunity to apply it several times. Kentucky first addressed the use of the Quarles exception in Henry v. Com., 275 S.W.3d 194 (Ky. 2008). In Henry, Louisville officers had an objectively-reasonable belief that Henry had abandoned a handgun just a few minutes before he was apprehended, in an area accessible to the general public. An officer asked Henry the location of the gun and he admitted to having had possession of a firearm, but that he no longer had possession of it, having "put it up." Although the gun was not located in the area in question for some hours, officers did eventually find it. Henry, a convicted felon, was charged with its constructive possession. He argued that his statement about the weapon should not have been admitted, but the trial court, finding the situation "strikingly similar to Quarles," disagreed. The Kentucky Court of Appeals, and the Kentucky Supreme Court, both ruled that the prewarning questioning did relate to an articulable public safety threat and was appropriate in Henry's case.

In subsequent cases, the Kentucky appellate courts clarified its holding with respect to Quarles. In Smith v. Com., 312 S.W.3d 353 (Ky. 2010), Smith's home was being searched with a warrant. Smith was seized, handcuffed and immediately asked if she had any drugs or weapons. She admitted to having "something" in her pocket, and the officer promptly found several rocks of crack cocaine. Smith >>

With Tsarnaev, any statements he might have made before being warned would likely be moot, anyway, as the quantity of other incriminating evidence against him is overwhelming. However, in other cases, the unwarned statement or the physical evidence found as a result of that statement might be absolutely critical.

>> was subsequently charged with possession of the cocaine, convicted and appealed. The Kentucky Court of Appeals affirmed her conviction. The Kentucky Supreme Court agreed that Smith was in custody at the time she was questioned, although not formally under arrest. Further, it agreed that the question asked was interrogation, as it focused on getting an incriminating response. In Smith's situation, however, since the questioning was "not made in relation to any quantifiable public safety threat," it should not have been admitted. A "vague belief" that a weapon might be present somewhere in the apartment was not enough to invoke the Quarles public safety exception, as a firearm inside a private apartment posed "no danger to the public at large," nor to the officers present, presuming that all suspects were under control. The Court reversed Smith's conviction and remanded it back to the trial court.

In a 2011 decision, Dike v. Com., 358 S.W.3d 495 (Ky. App. 2011), an officer questioned a subject who was drug-impaired and in apparent medical distress about what she had taken. She admitted to having injected methamphetamine and told him where the drug and needles would be found. Dike was then taken to jail, and subsequently to the hospital. After taking a conditional guilty plea to drug charges, Dike argued that the trial court should have suppressed the statements she made to the officer that led to her charges. Since the parties agreed that Dike was "in custody" at the time, the Court only had to address whether the interrogation fell under the "public safety exception." The Court agreed that the officer's questioning of Dike was "not made in relation to any quantifiable public safety threat" as the hazards (drugs and needles) were inside a private residence, no threat to either the officer or any member of the general public. As such, the Court agreed the questioning was improper and her admission should have been suppressed.

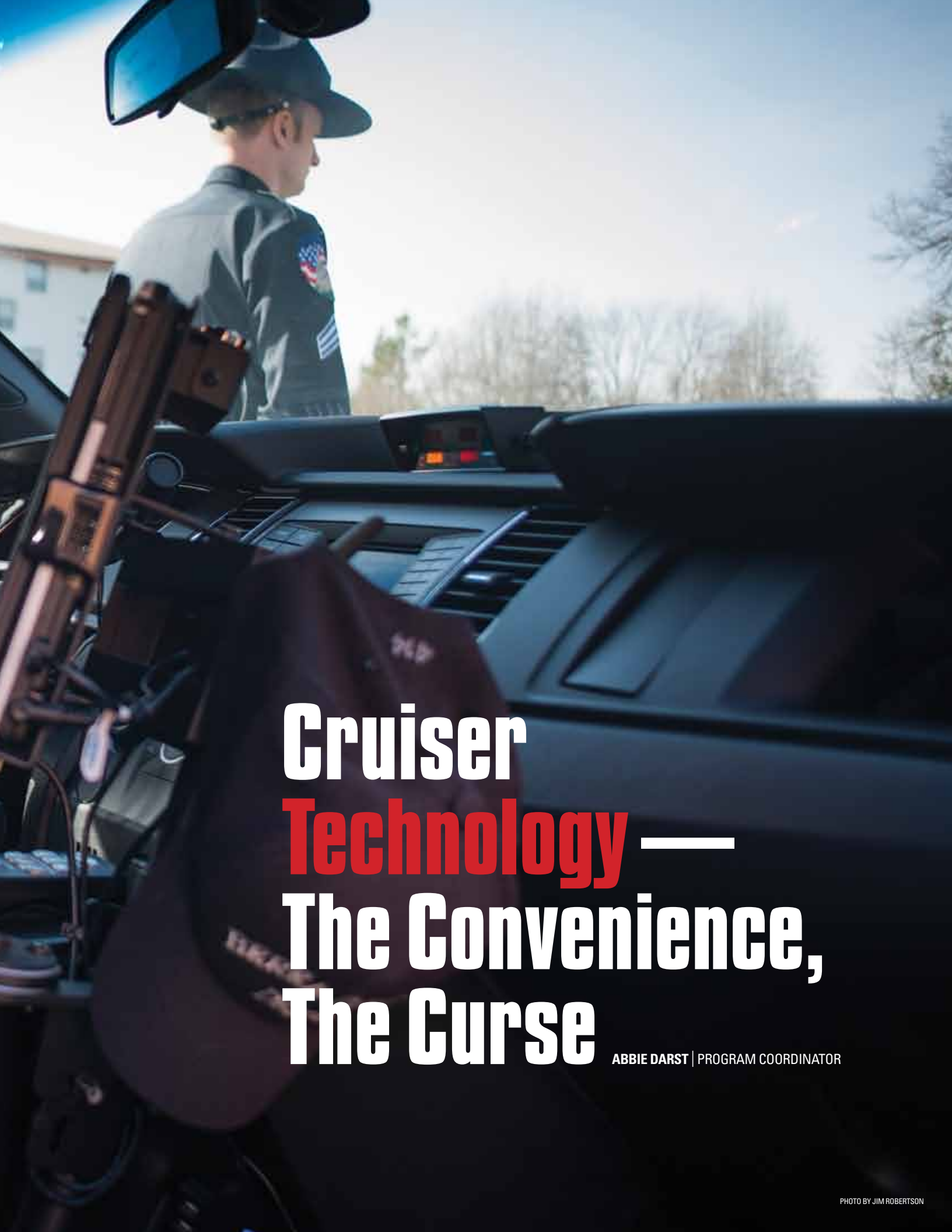
Even when a statement about contraband or evidence is suppressed, however, that does not necessarily mean that the physical evidence located as a result of questioning is necessarily excluded as well. In U.S. v. Patane, 542 U.S. 630 (2004), the Court agreed that physical evidence obtained as a result of an unwarned statement could be admitted, although care would have to be taken at a trial to ensure that any indication of the unwarned and inadmissible statement is not allowed to be presented to a jury.

Although not directly on point, in Welch v. Com., 149 S.W.3d 407 (Ky. 2004) has been quoted in support of the Patane doctrine in Kentucky. In that case, Welch revealed information about

◀ Dzhokar Tsarnaev, 20, faces 30 federal charges and the death penalty if convicted of his alleged role in the 2013 Boston Marathon bombing. Given the nature of the crime and subsequent attempt to flee from law enforcement, federal authorities considered it a public safety exception to interrogate him before he was Mirandized.

uncharged sex crimes during his treatment in a juvenile detention center. Those statements were used to prosecute him for those offenses. He took a conditional guilty plea and appealed, arguing that his initial statements, and later his confession to a deputy sheriff after receiving Miranda warnings, should have been suppressed. The Court agreed that although he was questioned initially by counselors, they were "state actors" and thus it was a custodial interrogation. Welch argued that the later warned statements were the "fruit of the poisonous tree," first described in Wong Sun v. U.S., 371 U.S. 471 (1963), but for the initial statements to the counselor, he would not have been interrogated by the deputy in the first place. The Court acknowledged the ruling in Patane, but held that his statements were not actually given voluntarily, but coerced, his confession and the evidence derived from it were inadmissible. The trial court's decision not to suppress was reversed and the case remanded. In a case in which the evidence was admitted, Fischer v. Com., 2008 WL 1921319 (Ky. App. 2008), the court noted that "the failure to give a suspect Miranda warnings does not require suppression of the physical fruits of the suspects unwarned but voluntary statements because the introduction at trial of physical evidence does not implicate the Self-Incrimination Clause, which Miranda is designed to protect." More recently, in Allen v. Com., the suspect told officers, after being asked if the officer missed anything in a search that "it" fell down his leg during the earlier chase. He failed to clarify what "it" was, but with the help of a K-9, a baggie of cocaine was found. The Court agreed that even though the statement was unwarned, the cocaine was admissible under Patane. Another case, however, Dye v. Com., 411 S.W.3d 227 (Ky. 2013) emphasized that if the information is provided due to coercion by the law enforcement officers, the physical evidence would be suppressed.

With Tsarnaev, any statements he might have made before being warned would likely be moot, anyway, as the quantity of other incriminating evidence against him is overwhelming. However, in other cases, the unwarned statement or the physical evidence found as a result of that statement might be absolutely critical. In those situations, when a subject is interrogated about the location of dangerous items while in custody, prior to receiving Miranda warnings, and provides a damaging admission, Quarles might be applied. It will be essential, however, that the questioning not be done in a coercive manner, but instead, the statement be given voluntarily. By limiting questioning in these cases to what is actually needed to respond to an articulable emergency, Quarles should provide a safe harbor for any evidence found as a result.



Cruiser Technology — The Convenience, The Curse

ABBIE DARST | PROGRAM COORDINATOR

PHOTO BY JIM ROBERTSON

With the increase in technology, police cruisers have literally become mobile offices, cruising down the highways, side streets and back roads of counties and communities across the commonwealth. With the addition of cell phones, mobile-data computers, and systems such as e-Warrants, e-Citations and even digital roll call, few officers have to leave their cruisers to complete paperwork or communicate effectively with their constituents.

But the added technology is a double-edged sword. While there is extreme convenience and efficiency in officers running license plate information on MDCs, filling out incident reports and searching databases for outstanding warrants at traffic stops, there also is plenty to distract officers whether they are actively driving their cruiser, or simply parked in the back corner of a convenience store parking lot. These distractions can lead to devastating or even deadly consequences for officers.

"Technology has come so far since the early 90s when I first started in law enforcement," said Greenville Police Chief Darren Harvey. "One concern I have is the fact that everything is electronic — push button — in the (newer) cars. It's the only drawback; I don't want the car to become a distraction."

Picture a third shift officer sitting in his cruiser at 2 a.m. Despite the darkness surrounding his vehicle, the screen on his MDC lights up the interior. Head down staring into the glowing screen, he focuses on maneuvering through his report quickly. His cell phone gently buzzes beside him, diverting his attention for a moment. The screen lights up with his wife's text message wishing him a good night before she drifts off to sleep after finally getting their new baby down to sleep. His ears pique at a noise outside and he glances up, but blinded by the illuminated screen, the darkness outside his car turns to complete blackness. He can't see anything outside but the night.

In a dark car, the illuminated screens inside the vehicle make the officer a highly visible and easy target. And because he cannot see clearly outside his vehicle, his reaction time and situational awareness are greatly diminished; a perfect scenario for an ambush attack.

"It's what many officers fear most," said Tom Fuentes, a former FBI assistant director in a CNN interview. "Rookie officers are taught, generally, you're not concerned about the bullet with your name on it, but about those addressed 'To Whom It May Concern.'"

The FBI counted 15 officer deaths by ambush in each year of 2011, 2010 and 2009, and said that ambush situations were the biggest category of circumstance behind 543 officers feloniously killed between 2002 and 2011 at 23.2 percent.

TECHNOLOGY TO PROTECT

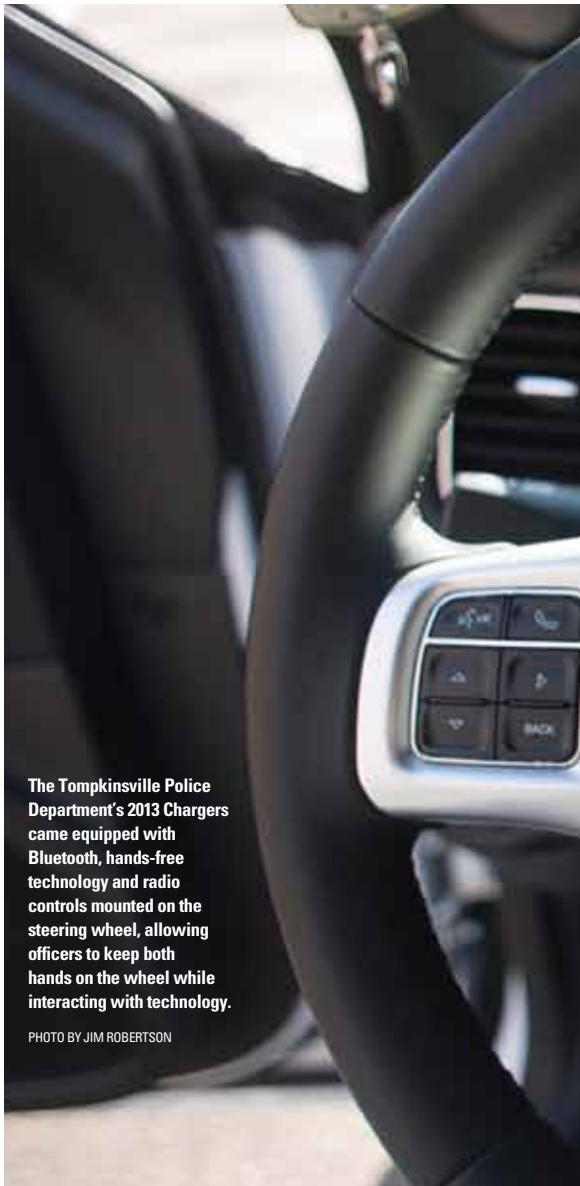
But wait, there is a bright side — not all new technology in police cruisers has the aptitude for distracting officers or making them easier targets. Police-cruiser manufacturers are taking steps to ensure that officers remain as safe as possible inside the cruisers in which they have to spend so much time.

Part of helping officers lessen distraction, the Tompkinsville Police Department's new fleet of five Dodge Chargers, purchased in March 2013, were equipped with hands-free Bluetooth technology, Assistant Chief Jimmy Carter said. Paired with controls for the radio on the steering wheel, Tompkinsville officers can take care of business without taking their hands off the wheel.

Moreover, the Ford offers a sensor option on its newest Interceptors which will sound a chime, lock the doors and roll up the windows if it detects someone approaching the motionless car from the rear. In addition, available back-up cameras can be used to assist officers in monitoring what is happening behind their vehicle.

"If an officer is in a parking lot doing paperwork, he can set the emergency brake,

Police-cruiser manufacturers are taking steps to ensure that officers remain as safe as possible inside the cruisers in which they have to spend so much time.



The Tompkinsville Police Department's 2013 Chargers came equipped with Bluetooth, hands-free technology and radio controls mounted on the steering wheel, allowing officers to keep both hands on the wheel while interacting with technology.

PHOTO BY JIM ROBERTSON

put it in reverse and have a camera to see anything approaching from the rear," said Harvey, whose department purchased nine new 2013 Ford Taurus Police Interceptors this past November, replacing their fleet of 2006 Ford Crown Victorias. "I think Ford has mastered safety issues. But we have to train officers to pay attention on the road. The distraction of in-car technology is no different than a cell phone, and can be mitigated."

Of course, back-up camera technology can keep officers safe from more than just rear-ambush attacks.

"For us as police officers, 65 percent of all police incidents are in the backing position," said Jeff Knox, an instructor in the Department of Criminal Justice Training's Vehicle Operations Section. "Back-up cameras, a cross traffic alarm and reverse park assist can help."

But new in-car changes also keep officers safer from people inside the car with them, not just those who may potentially approach from outside.

But new in-car changes also keep officers safer from people inside the car with them, not just those who may potentially approach from outside. Ford's newest police vehicles have been updated to protect officers when an assailant is in custody in the back seat. Going beyond the safety of the cage, steel-intrusion plates are built into the front seat backs. >>

>> "Should handcuffs fail, it keeps officers from being stabbed through their seat, if a weapon was missed beforehand," Knox said.

Furthermore, Ford's vehicles feature rear door-lock plungers that are hidden and only operable manually by the officers in the front.

Outside the vehicle, protection continues with the availability of ballistic door panels. Designed to withstand special threat rounds, such as AK 47s, Knox said.

"Currently, if an officer jumps behind a door while being shot at, about anything will go through it," Knox explained. "But one of those [ballistic doors] you could use for cover."

OBJECTS IN MIRROR …

Both Harvey and Knox also tout advancements in side-view mirror technology, such as blind-sight detection, designed to notify the driver if someone is in their blind spot before switching lanes. Engineering professors at Hanbal National University in South Korea and Portland (Ore.) State University have crafted a mirror that works much like a no-line bifocal lens in a pair of eyeglasses. PoliceOne explains that the two focal lengths — up close and in the distance — are continuous, so that distant objects are viewed at the outer edge of the mirror, and are seen in the inner portion as the object comes closer, leaving no blind spot for the driver.

Additional side-view mirror advancements are on the horizon that will deliver a much larger view of what is behind the vehicle. According to PoliceOne News, Dr. Andrew Hicks at Drexel University has designed a mirror that is composed of a single piece of glass, but has a slight non-continuous curve that provides the driver with a view of about 45 degrees with very little distortion. In comparison, the typical driver-side mirror view is only 15 to 17 degrees.

SAFER VEHICLES

But across the board, it's what can't be seen that may keep officers safer and potentially save lives. Advancements such as all-wheel drive, electronic stability control and electronic-traction control help officers better keep control when high-adrenaline incidents push them out of their comfort zones, Knox said.

"If officers are in an incident, the adrenaline pushes you and you make mistakes," Knox explained. "I think these new vehicles will help you when you make these small mistakes."

Most understand the differences of an AWD vehicle versus the typical rear-wheel drive used in previous police vehicles. But those differences may affect the job of an officer different than the average citizen driver.

"New AWD vehicles have electronic traction, so if we're sitting at a stop sign and someone passes us at 100 mph, and we flip on our lights and sirens and aggressively get on the gas, the car will shift traction to the rear tires automatically," Knox said. "If the car anticipates it's about to flip over, a sensor will kick in and it electronically corrects itself.

"These new cars will save lives," Knox added.

In terms of training, the new technology is a big deal for instructors in DOCJT's Vehicle Operations Section. On Wednesday, the third week of their 18 weeks of basic training — their first week in driving — recruits are introduced to the wet

Advancements in side-view mirrors, such as blind-spot detection, make new police cruisers safer for officers while patrolling.

PHOTO BY JIM ROBERTSON

track, to teach them how to control their vehicles and come out of a skid on wet or slick surfaces.

"We can take a 2003 Crown Vic and hit the first curve and give it a little gas and it will spin around," Knox said. "If you enter a curve at 15 mph with a new Ford, Chevy or Dodge, it's almost impossible to get it to spin around on you. You'd be amazed; it's doing the work for you."

Knox acknowledges that changes in cruiser performance and technology will change some aspects of training. He emphasized that it's important for officers who may be switching from an older vehicle to a newer one with advanced features to know what to expect before they get into a scenario that causes it to engage.

For example, Knox said if an officer is going into a curve and it's wet and he or she has too much speed, DOCJT driving instructors teach straight-line braking. But if officers don't brake in a straight line and the front end starts pushing, electronic stability control will take over and correct it.

"In older equipment we teach to get off the gas and allow the vehicle to get back on and then go back on the gas to come out of the turn, if you can get out of the turn at all," Knox said. "With ESC, as you start to turn, the car will correct, but you're not supposed to get off the gas."

Minor modifications can make a difference in best using technology to keep officers safer.

"Right now we can get by with teaching officers in older Crown Vics because many of them are going home to the same type of vehicle, but in four to five years we can't," Knox said.

But Knox stressed that current training is still entirely applicable, no matter what car an officer will drive after leaving the academy.

When you get down to it, driving is still driving, but when you get help from your vehicle, you can actually feel that vehicle helping you, and that's pretty cool.

"We aren't going to present these cars like they can do it all," he explained. "When you get down to it, driving is still driving, but when you get help from your vehicle, you can actually feel that vehicle helping you, and that's pretty cool.

"I can see us telling [recruits] what the vehicle offers, but not encouraging them to test it," Knox continued. "The law of physics will still come into play — if you take a 50 mph curve at 100, the electronic stability control will not work — it's not going to save them."

With the numerous changes on the horizon involving police cruisers, it is important for officers and agency heads to stay informed as to what the choices are and how they can both help and hinder their mission to protect and serve their communities. Despite whether an agency has the very latest in cruiser technology and in-car gadgets, ultimately the officers still are responsible for making wise choices on how and when to best use that technology — remembering that getting home safely each night is still a priority.

"It's something we've sat down and talked about," said Greenville's Harvey. "We try to ensure safety first and instill the fact that distracted driving is dangerous. The increase in technology made me nervous at first, but it is just a matter of getting used to it.

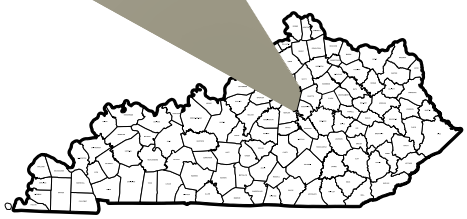
"These new vehicles are so much different than what we are used to," he added. "They are literally designed for the officer and I've just been totally impressed with them."

Unlike older-model vehicles, the newest police cruisers are equipped with all-wheel drive and electronic stability control. These advancements allow the vehicle to react to changes in tire traction to keep officers safer.

PHOTO BY JIM ROBERTSON

Abbie Darst can be reached at abbie.darst@ky.gov or (859) 622-6453.

PHOTO BY JIM ROBERTSON



Versailles Police Officer

Steve Sparkman

KELLY FOREMAN | PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

> *The best part of this job is working with people, by far. I love to work with people and help any way I can.*

Being in the public eye is nothing new for Versailles Police Officer Steve Sparkman. The 41-year-old, former Clinch Mountain Boy spent 18 years on stage strumming his banjo, earning a Grammy and several International Bluegrass Music Association awards along the way. But in 2010, Sparkman traded one Stetson for another when he hung up his cowboy hat and donned a campaign brim instead. The Harlan County native has one daughter and is married to Carolyn, his bride of six years.

In October, I will have worked for the Versailles Police Department for four years. I had not worked in law enforcement anywhere else before. It was a big turnaround for me. I always wanted to be a police officer. I have always respected the trade, the people involved and the position itself.

I worked with Dr. Ralph Stanley in Virginia as a bluegrass musician for about 18 years. Things were slowing down on that end. Ralph was getting a little older and the business was kind of fading, you could say. I wanted to do something else. I knew what I wanted to do, it was just a matter of getting the opportunity.

A friend of mine, Don Evans in Lexington — Officer Don — he introduced me to a lot of the guys here in Versailles and told me if I ever got an opportunity to work here, it's the place to be. The way it's set up, the government here — it's a really good place to get a start and most people end up staying.

I met Chief John Wilhoit and things just kind of fell in place. I filled out an application and it went from there. It has been a great opportunity. There's a good atmosphere and great leadership.

I went to the DOCJT academy from November 2010 through April 2011 — I was in Class No. 422. It was a challenge. Fortunately, I was in decent physical shape, for a musician anyway, being on the road all the time. And that helped. I had prepared myself for a couple years mentally and physically for the opportunity to get into law enforcement. That way if it did come, I would be ready. And that helped, too. But it was a big change in lifestyle all around.

Being home every night, after the academy of course, it took some getting used to. That was a big change. I was gone every weekend from Thursday through Sunday for 18 years. Not travelling as much and meeting different people with different lifestyles, I saw that law enforcement is like a family of its own. They were all good changes.

Most of my family was good with me becoming an officer. I think they were glad to see I was focused on trying to further my career instead of just sticking with music and toughing it out. My mom still says, 'Oh, please be careful!' But other than that, it's been really good.

The best part of this job is working with people, by far. I love to work with people and help any way I can. It makes every day worth doing and makes you look forward to the next. That's No. 1 on the list by far.

Public relations is very important, too. We strive here for an officer-friendly community. We want the public to know we're here to help them, to serve and protect the people and the property of Versailles and Woodford County.

I'm assigned to patrol. We don't have as much activity here as Lexington or Nicholasville, and that's a good thing. I love to investigate. I love to take a case from the second I get it and take it as far as I possibly can. I have the freedom here to be able to do that. That's a great tool, in my opinion.

I mostly investigate theft cases. We work a lot of death investigations, unfortunately, and we get to investigate those. The detectives give us a little room as far as how deep we can go into a case. I like it even more when I can find and interview suspects and actually get somewhere with the case. And that's how you learn. You can't just learn by hearsay. I love the opportunity to do that.

We recover a lot of property and the public is a big asset in that. People really appreciate it. We strive to also see that we stay in contact with victims throughout the cases. We don't just take a report and forget about it until we get a call on something. We'll investigate and every turn we find, I'll notify the victims — 'Hey, this is something we've got, it may turn into something, it may not.' But it makes them feel better and assures them that we're doing everything we can to help their situation.

I still play a little banjo and do some session work with Ralph. Being a full-time musician professionally holds its own amount of stress. Once I got out of that and switched my focus to this, it became a stress, too. I go back to the music and they help balance each other out. So right now, I can have a bad day here and go home, maybe pick up the banjo and play a little something, and it makes for a better day.

With this job — let's just use a traffic fatality, for example. As hard as it is, you have to remind yourself, somebody has to be here to help these people. You have to keep that in mind and focus on the job. That's how I get through it.

The Versailles Police Department has a great program called Cops for Kids. Every Christmas, we raise money to take less-fortunate children shopping. We dress in our class A's, pick up those children at their homes and take them shopping. It allows them to have a Christmas when they normally wouldn't. It's all about serving. The kids are excited, obviously. You don't know what some of them have gone through, and it is amazing to see their faces.

There are a lot of challenges out there. Keeping the citizens on your side is always a challenge. I think that's why most agencies strive so hard to maintain that relationship — because if you lose that, you've lost everything. If you don't have the citizens to back you, it makes this job a heck of a lot harder.

Kelly Foreman can be reached at kelly.foreman@ky.gov or (859) 622-8552.

Book Review

Dana Todd | Associate General Counsel, DOCJT

The Book of Matt

Hidden Truths about the Murder of Matthew Shepard

Journalist Stephen Jimenez started with a lofty goal: re-examine the facts of the 1998 murder of Matthew Shepard in Laramie, Wyoming.

Shepard was beaten, tied to a fence post in a remote area, and left to die. He was found alive the next day with a crushed skull. As he languished in a coma, his parents flew from across the world to tell him good-bye. Word spread far and wide that a gay college student had been beaten to death by two straight men he met for the first time in a bar and executed for revealing himself as gay. One defendant later asserted a "gay panic" defense — claiming that the victim 'coming on' to him provoked irrational, violent rage.

The murder and subsequent convictions of two defendants became a rallying point for gay rights and generated an outcry for anti-hate crimes legislation. For some, the powerful image of an innocent victim left essentially crucified on a wooden fence, painted in sharp contrast with images of hate groups demonstrating outside the victim's funeral service, were enough to provoke awareness and commitment to recognizing civil rights of homosexuals.

An attorney for the Shepard family stated, "Matthew Shepard is to gay rights what Emmett Till was to the civil rights movement."

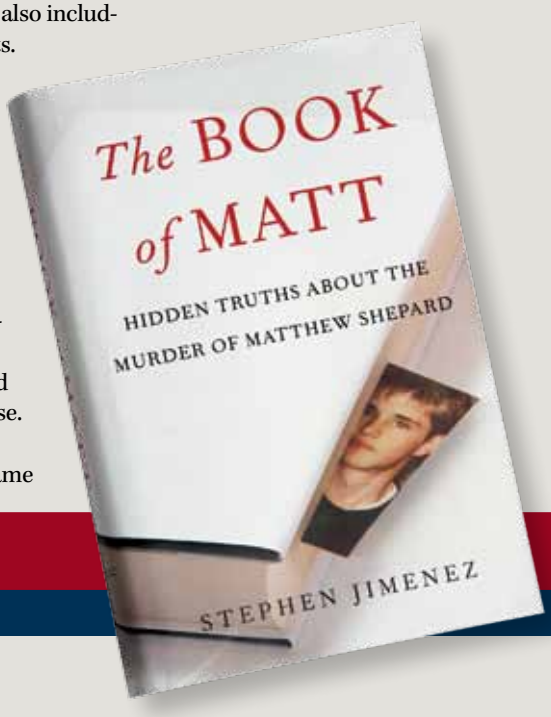
Andrew Sullivan, a journalist and blogger quoted heavily in the book, states, "People really do want to mythologize important events in history. … And in almost all cases, the mythology, to some extent, takes on a life of its own, and you forget what happened, or what might have been the reality."

Rumor and innuendo surrounding the untold stories of the Shepard case led journalist Stephen Jimenez to go back to the town and the people involved over and over to explore whether the mythology of this "hate crime" had glossed over the nuanced relationships and people involved. That 10-year journey of Stephen Jimenez resulted in many complex questions. Unfortunately, Jimenez fails to answer them in this book.

Jimenez set out to journalistically present alternate theories behind the murder. However, mingled in with documented sources are fabricated conversations and layer after layer of hearsay from unnamed sources. Jimenez also criticizes the media and advocacy groups that exploited the murder to promote an agenda and turned Matthew Shepard, an imperfect human, into a mythological symbol. However, he cites heavily from the reports, blog post and articles found in this same media. Jimenez hints at a massive police cover-up of drug involvement in this crime. To support this half-baked claim, he points to the fact that drugs were mentioned in the investigation. Jimenez purports to reveal that Matthew Shepard not only used and distributed methamphetamine; he was involved in sex-for-drugs exchanges that also included the two murder defendants.

Jimenez finds gossip gathered from users and dealers credible support for his cover-up theory. However, even from the limited citations to the record, it is obvious that the defense attorneys made a strategic decision to keep evidence of methamphetamine dealing by the defendants and the victim out of the court case. Trial strategy to limit which facts get to a jury is not the same as a cover up. Jimenez interviewed a vast lineup of colorful characters surrounding the Matthew Shepard story. Unfortunately this book is so disorganized that it is nearly impossible to distinguish those who were actually connected to Shepard from those who appeared years after the fact to claim knowledge never tested in court.

Jimenez repeatedly cites the laments of officials who look back 10 years to the roots of the destruction wreaked by meth in the western United States. The court, public health and law enforcement systems were woefully unprepared for this devastation. Jimenez suggests that Shepard shouldn't have been turned into the poster child for anti-gay hate crimes, yet he clearly wants to be respectful of Shepard's lifelong wish to do good work. If Jimenez wanted good to come of Shepard's murder and a more realistic, less mythologized view of it, he could have done so by properly documenting the role of methamphetamine in this young man's tragic end in the context of epidemic methamphetamine addiction, and leaving the other disjointed theories out of it.



by Stephen Jimenez, Steerforth Publishing, Sept. 2013

STRANGE STORIES FROM THE BEAT

Freezing escaped prisoner turns himself in

During a winter cold snap, an inmate escaped from a minimum-security facility in Lexington, Ky. As temperatures dropped into the low single digits overnight, officials said the man walked into a motel and asked the clerk to call police.
He told the clerk he wanted to turn himself in, it was 'too cold' outside. The prisoner was treated for hypothermia and returned to prison.

Woman stabbed spouse with ceramic squirrel over beer

A 41-year-old South Carolina man was left bloodied early Christmas morning after his spouse attacked and stabbed him with a ceramic squirrel for not bringing home beer. The victim told police he went to the store to get beer, but returned home because the store was closed.
Angered, his wife allegedly hit the victim over the head with a ceramic squirrel, and stabbed him in the chest with it.

Peanut butter alleged weapon of choice in sibling dispute

A Florida woman was arrested for allegedly throwing peanut butter in her brother's face, during an argument about a urinating dog.
The two began arguing because the dog was urinating in the living room of the house they shared.
Deputies said the sister flung a spoonful of peanut butter at her brother, and somebody called 911 but hung up. A dispatcher called back but no one answered, so a deputy was sent to the home. The deputy said the brother did not want to press charges against his sister, but noted that peanut butter was running down his face.

NYC robbers turned down older cell phone

Two men were robbed at gunpoint in New York City's Central Park, but the robbers turned down an older cell phone one of the victims was carrying. One robber flashed a gun and told the men not to make a noise or he would kill them. The robbers took a briefcase, a cell phone and a wallet, but when one of the robbers saw the victim's 2010 LG Quantum cell phone, he looked at it, scoffed and handed it back. The victim then used the same phone to call 911 after the robbers ran off.

Fla. man tries to pay water bill with cocaine

A man allegedly handed an envelope containing cocaine to officials at the Deltona Water Office.
Since officials did not know the origin or identity of the white powder, the office was initially evacuated while sheriff's deputies, as well as HAZMAT teams, investigated the matter.
Once the powder was tested, it was identified as cocaine. By the way, cocaine is not considered an acceptable way to pay your water bill.

IF YOU HAVE ANY funny, interesting or strange stories from the beat, please send them to jimd.robertson@ky.gov

DEPARTMENT OF
CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING

FUNDERBURK BUILDING,
EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
521 LANCASTER AVENUE
RICHMOND, KY 40475-3102

615-010