

LAW ENFORCEMENT

SOCIAL MEDIA INVESTIGATIONS

KENTUCKY STATE POLICE
ELECTRONIC CRIMES
BRANCH READY TO MEET
THE CHALLENGES OF AN
EVER-CHANGING WORLD
OF SOCIAL MEDIA AND
INTERNET CRIME

PAGE 14

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This publication is produced 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.

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ON THE COVER:
Detectives and forensics experts with the Kentucky State Police's Electronic Crimes Branch face the daunting task of combating the seedy, unsavory side of social media and the internet. Challenges include keeping up with tactics of predators and never-ending changes in technology and social media sites.



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WHY FITNESS REALLY MATTERS

I have been around this job for a long time. During this time, I have heard numerous discussions, read countless articles and attended more training classes than I care to remember, all on the topic of fitness for law enforcement. It should go without saying that fitness plays an important part in the life and career of today's modern law enforcement officer. There are many reasons why this is true and here are just a few.

CONFIDENCE

Physically fit officers are far more confident in their ability to physically perform any and all tasks that the demanding job of law enforcement may throw at them. This includes simple things like getting in and out of a patrol car numerous times during a shift to more complex activities such as physically controlling resistive behavior. Officers who lack a functional level of physical fitness will also lack confidence when their physical fitness level is tested on duty. This leads to poor decision making, injuries and excessive force claims, just to name a few of the negative things that can happen.

ATTITUDE

Have you ever noticed that the better you feel physically, the better you feel mentally? Ask

someone you know who may have been overweight, feeling bad about themselves and then decided to do something about it. That same someone became motivated, changed their lifestyle – eating habits, sleeping habits, etc. – and see what that person tells you about their overall attitude about life before and after. Let me give you a hint, the attitudes will be total opposites. Bottom line – the better you feel about yourself the better you will feel about everything else. Who would not want that attitude within their police officers?

APPEARANCE

I can still remember how goofy I used to think the old Kentucky State Police motto used to sound. LOOK GOOD, FEEL GOOD, BE GOOD!! Whoever came

up with that back in the day probably had no idea how close to reality they were with that statement. I can honestly say now that I was absolutely wrong thinking those words were just that, words. It really is sort of an elementary, fat pencil, wide-line paper way of summing up fitness and law enforcement.

I have listed a few reasons and there are obviously many more that I don't have the time to dig into with this column, so I am going to reveal the most important reason to maintain your physical fitness throughout your career.

RETIREMENT

Why would anyone put themselves through 20, 30 or 40 years of this profession and then have nothing physically left in the tank to enjoy what retirement is like? I do not believe anyone knowingly would. I believe this creeps up on people and before they realize it something bad happens. The only way to prevent this is to see your doctor! I don't care what kind of shape you appear to be in on the outside, because what really matters is the inside. I have seen far too many of our law enforcement family fall victim to heart disease over the years. According to the American Heart Association, "someone dies from heart disease, stroke or another cardiovascular disease every 43 seconds in this country."

My personal doctor informed me that heart disease claims more lives than cancer and all other diseases combined. He might have been trying to scare me with that statistic and he was successful. There is also a new definition of high blood pressure that everyone should be familiar with. The old standard was that if the top number was 140 or higher and the bottom number was 90 or higher that was considered to be high. The new numbers are 130 over 80, which means that roughly 46 percent of the population will be considered as having high blood pressure. At the end of the day, be there for your retirement with both the physical and mental capacity to enjoy it. This job forces us to miss out on too many precious moments. Don't miss out on anymore because you didn't take care of yourself. It's never too late to start taking better care of yourself. Step one is making regular visits to your doctor so you can work on prevention instead of treatment. God bless each of you and your families, stay safe! 🙏



BY WM. ALEX PAYNE
COMMISSIONER, DEPARTMENT OF
CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING

CHECK YOUR 6

RESPECT

The phrase, "respect is earned, not given," is a common mantra. But in law enforcement, it's misguided. You will interact daily with individuals who may not have "earned" your respect in the traditional sense. Treating everyone with dignity and kindness isn't about making friends, it's about being a positive community leader.

EYES IN THE SKY



AIRPORT POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS ENJOY WIDE SCOPE OF DUTIES

Written By
MICHAEL A. MOORE

Photography By
JIM ROBERTSON

The calls for service are much like what one would see in any police department or sheriff's office: alcohol intoxication, thefts, drugs, car lockouts and domestic disturbances.

But airport police and public safety officers at Cincinnati-Northern Kentucky International Airport (CVG), Louisville International Airport and Blue Grass Airport face challenges beyond what a city or county law enforcement agency typically deals with.

One of the main challenges at Kentucky's big three airports is an ever-changing population, as the airports see a combined 12 million people who fly in and out of the airports every year.

By comparison, Kentucky's population is an estimated 4.3 million, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

DIVERSE AND FLUCTUATING POPULATION

In every airport, officers are bound to interact with people from other countries, with different cultural backgrounds and belief systems.

"We just completed a diversity and inclusion course," CVG Police Chief Shawn Ward said. "It is common that we deal with folks from different cultures and different parts of the world. All of our officers have a language line card, and if they know what language (the person is speaking), they can get someone on the phone who can speak and translate."

With a high number of people coming and going through airports, repeat offenders are rare, which makes working in an aviation environment nice, Louisville Public Safety Director Josh Ball said.

"This job isn't all rainbows and unicorns, but it's a great environment," Ball said. "I was a deputy in Bullitt County, just south of here, and when you deal with the same person over and over and over, or when you get the address, and you say, 'Oh, I'm going to Kent's place,' you lose faith in humanity. It got to the point where I was miserable to be around. My family didn't want me around, and Christmas was miserable. I came here, and I've dealt with the same person more than once. It was a homeless person who found a way into the airport."

Many people utilizing airports often find themselves in need of basic information such as where a gate is located, directions to the nearest bathroom and the like.

Because of that, customer service plays a key role for law enforcement in an airport setting, according to Ward. For example, Ward said many agencies typically don't provide car lockout services, but that isn't the case at the CVG airport.

"We have lockout tools in our cars and many agencies don't because of liability reasons," Ward said.

Most of the people airport police deal with on a daily basis are those who are having a bad day and simply need to let off steam, Ball said.

"About 95 percent of the time, they go on their way," he said. "The other 5 percent of the time, we find other arrangements for them."

Blue Grass Airport Public Safety Director Scott Lanter said customer service, in many ways, is another means of community-oriented policing. When it comes to a new hire, Lanter said his agency is looking for someone with customer-service skills.

"When we're hiring, we really try to drill down into the candidate and see if he or she is going to help that person who is having a bad day, and freaking out at a checkpoint, or who has lost their car in the parking lot," Lanter said.

With that in mind, Lanter added that it's a delicate balance between policing and customer service.

"When we train our folks, (customer service) is what we key in on, but we never let customer service water down our (law enforcement) skills," Lanter said. "You always look through the law enforcement lens when you're providing good customer service."

At Louisville, the "on campus" population spikes at night, Ball said. That's because more than 15,000 United Parcel Service (UPS) employees show up for work.

"We're the third busiest cargo airport in North America and seventh largest in the world, and that's because of UPS," Ball said. "We tag team that with Louisville Metro; they have more resources than we do. We can actually go straight to the site, where they



(TOP) From left-to-right, Maj. **DUSTIN FLANNERY**, Chief **JOSH BALL**, Officer **PETER LAMB**, K9 **RAJ** and Officer **JEFF ROGERS** pose in front of a Southwest Airlines plane on the tarmac at the Louisville International Airport.

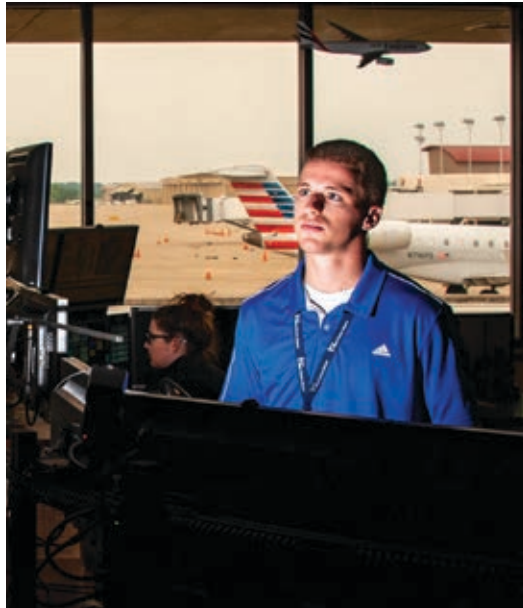
(LEFT) Cincinnati-Northern Kentucky International Airport Cpl. **CALVIN GARDNER**, left, helps a man unlock his van outside the main terminal.

(BOTTOM, LEFT) Blue Grass Airport Public Safety Capt. **KEITH MOORE** patrols outside the main terminal.

have to go through security and get escorted. It's an ant farm (at UPS) at night. We go down there and they're zipping across the (tarmac) and there are planes ... we're talking about 200 flights at night. To put it in perspective, we only have 76 passenger flights a day here."

POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

In the event of a fire or medical emergency, Blue Grass and Louisville public safety officers don a different hat, one of firefighter and EMT.



(TOP, RIGHT) Operations Supervisor **CHRISTIAN NELSON**, right, and Operations Specialist **SARAH RYAN** monitor for an assortment of calls. Operations is in charge of dispatching public safety officers as well as other aspects of airport functions such as maintenance 24-hours a day.



(RIGHT) Cincinnati-Northern Kentucky Airport Police Officer **MATT MERCER** and K9 **JET** prepare to go inside the main terminal for patrol.

(BOTTOM) From left-to-right, Blue Grass Airport Public Safety Officer **KEN RIDGE**, Assistant Chief **PAUL PUNGRATZ**, Public Safety Director **SCOTT LANTER** and Capt. **KEITH MOORE** pose on the flight line outside the public safety facility.



“In aviation, it’s pretty prevalent,” Lanter said of adding other public safety duties to their law enforcement services. “There is a lot of training involved. We have to have 100 hours of fire training every year on top of the 40 hours of law enforcement training each year,”

To that end, some of the physical and training requirements are different from other law enforcement agencies.

“On the firefighter side of the house, there is the Candidate Physical Agility Testing – CPAT,” Lanter said. “It’s typical firefighting rescue requirements like climbing obstacles and moving large amounts of weight. So it checks your ability to do gross-motor functions and cardiovascular conditioning.”

Both Blue Grass and Louisville have modified their respective Field Training Officer (FTO) and Police Training Officer (PTO) training to incorporate the entire scope of public safety.

“Once (an officer) comes back from (DOCJT basic) training, they are put on FTO with a sergeant or field training officer,” Lanter said. “But it’s not just law enforcement FTO. It’s everything we would do at our job here – aircraft rescue, firefighting and EMS response.”

Once a public safety officer goes through the FTO program, they’ll work with the shift commander, he or she will take a written test and the entire platoon will evaluate them by sitting around a table and “firing off questions to them,” Lanter added.

Blue Grass and Louisville work shifts of 24-on and 48-off, which is a typical firefighter’s shift. During the 24-hour period, they perform all aspects of public safety – police, fire and EMS, Ball said.

But when it comes to the law enforcement side, Ball said the mission and tactics aren’t any different from other agencies.

“Our patrol duties resemble what most people think of a community-oriented police officer,” Ball said. “We’re patrolling for visibility. We do that for two reasons – deterrence and reassurance for our passengers.”

CRIMINAL ELEMENT AND WILDLIFE

Being a city within a city also means that airports have their fair share of bad guys, the chiefs said.

One of the biggest issues nationwide is rental car theft, Ward said.

“It’s challenging to get the rental-car companies on board so we can help them,” he said. “A lot of them have a fraud number they want to stay below, so as long as they’re below that number, they’re happy. One is too many for us, so we get a little antsy working those.”

In Louisville, Ball explained the agency is being proactive to try to curb the number of rental-car thefts.

“We’re looking at putting (rental cars) in a secured parking garage,” he said. “It’s not foolproof, but it gives

our customers better service because they’re not standing out in the rain when they’re loading, and the cars are in a secure lot.”

Another means the three airports utilize to combat crime, in general, is simple communication. The three chiefs routinely meet and talk about common issues.

“It has helped us identify some trends, and once we identify the trends, we can disrupt them,” Ball said.

Aside from crime, wildlife can be troublesome, Ward said.

“We get coyotes, geese, deer and some others on the runways,” he said. “We have to ‘shoo’ them off or get rid of them for good ... it depends on the circumstances.”

Louisville has a contract with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to help with the wildlife problem, but anything that occurs after business hours falls on the public safety officers, Ball said.

“We have different techniques,” Ball said. “The first one is a car horn. We also have a starter pistol that fires off bird bangers or bird screamers. One is a loud pop and the other is an ear-piercing scream. We will go to lethal force, if needed. The only thing exempt from the lethal force is a bald eagle. We can harass a bald eagle, but lethal force is not an option.”

POST 9/11

In the wake of world events, people are afraid of airports, and it all began on 9/11, Ward said.

“It changed everything,” Ward said. “Airport policing is much more susceptible to change due to world events; you can see something on the 6 o’clock news and it immediately affects us here.

“That is how it was post-9/11. We didn’t have Transportation Security Administration or Homeland Security,” Ward continued. “While all of that was taking shape, we dealt with the Federal Aviation Administration and its response to the threat we had all of a sudden.”

Lanter echoed Ward’s assessment.

“Prior to 9/11, we were running the roads looking for impaired drivers, speeding and a few drug cases here and there,” he said. “But 9/11 was a game-changer, and we brought our focus internally, initially, and now we’re trying to push it back out to keep the bad guys away from the terminal.”

Ultimately, the job of airport police and public safety officers is to keep the public safe, and Ball said it is something he stresses to his staff constantly.

“I tell (his officers) if someone takes a small explosive and detonates it in the empty cell-phone parking lot (a free lot dedicated to people who are waiting to pick someone up from the airport) and the only damage it does is to the asphalt ... on the world news, it’s going to say, ‘A bomb exploded at the Louisville airport,’ Ball said. “That’s the mindset we have to be



(TOP) Cincinnati-Northern Kentucky International Airport Police Lt. Col. **STEVE SCHMIDT**, left, and Chief **SHAWN WARD** pose inside the airport, near the departure gates.



(LEFT) Officer **KEN RIDGE** sits in the cab of one of the public safety agency’s fire suppression vehicles. Public safety officers at Blue Grass Airport and Louisville International Airport are certified in police, fire and emergency medical services.



(BOTTOM, LEFT) Louisville International Airport Public Safety Officer **JEFF ROGERS** surveys the airport’s tarmac from his SUV.

in. (Terrorists) don’t have to be successful in order to be successful. Our job is to be vigilant and be out on patrol and know what is going on and knowing what normal behavior is at the airport.”



GET REAL!

WHAT DO OFFICERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT NEW ID'S?

Written By
SHAWN HERRON
STAFF ATTORNEY

Photography By
JIM ROBERTSON

It's About To Get REAL – ID, that is. The REAL ID Act became federal law in 2005. It was born out of concerns about the underlying security of operator's licenses as de facto national identification cards that can be used to access federal facilities and board domestic flights. Making it nationally operational proved to be more difficult than expected, due to the patchwork methods used to issue such documents across the 50 states as well as U.S. territories. The long, complicated road to implementation in Kentucky, nevertheless, has led to several extensions to the commonwealth achieving full compliance with the law.

In 2017, Kentucky passed House Bill 410, creating the framework for the Commonwealth to become compliant. Due to the complexity of the changes needed in the underlying laws for the state, however, changes do not become effective until Jan. 1, 2019. In the months since the bill was signed, the Kentucky Transportation

Cabinet has been developing the process to make the law operational.

From a law enforcement perspective, in the next few years, officers will be presented a variety of documents by individuals as identification. Determining the validity of such documents may require additional scrutiny, especially to determine if the document is current. It might be expected that officers will encounter more expired credentials in the short term, as individuals are not able to renew identification cards in a timely manner due to a lack of required breeder documents. Having some awareness of the underlying complexities of the process should ensure that Kentucky officers are able to give guidance to the local communities to maintain compliance of a valid identification credential.

Kentucky's road to compliance with REAL ID has been longer than most states, because of the unique way Kentucky issues operators licenses and personal-identification cards.

In the past, these documents have been issued by local circuit court clerk's offices, rather than a central office with a staff having expertise in scrutinizing the validity of breeder documents – those documents used to obtain additional identification documents. For example, a birth certificate and Social Security card will be breeder documents for obtaining an operator's license (OL), and it is critical to ensure the breeder documents are valid to provide credibility to the secondary credential.

REAL ID requires that such documents be inspected more thoroughly, and as a result, Kentucky has created a new office to provide that level of scrutiny.

So how will the new process work?

Kentucky residents will make a choice between an OL (or non-driver personal identification card) that is REAL ID compliant and will serve as identification for air travel and other federal purposes, or one that is not. If the latter is elected, while there will be some changes, the process will be much simpler. However, if the choice is to have a single compliant travel ID, planning will be needed in advance to avoid delays and confusion.

To obtain a compliant travel ID, even if the resident holds a current Kentucky OL, a number of documents will be needed. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet has developed an excellent website outlining the process, under the title Confident Kentucky. The website explains many different scenarios, such as if the resident would like to upgrade to the new identification but is not due for renewal.

The new identification will not be available until Jan. 1, 2019, but there are several steps that can be taken to prepare for obtaining the new identification at that time.

First and foremost is to determine if travel-compliant identification is needed. If the answer is no, and the

individual already holds a Kentucky OL or ID card, the process requires a standard renewal, much like the holder would have done in the past.


However, if the applicant wants to upgrade to a travel-compliant document, planning in advance will be essential.

Of most importance is obtaining appropriate copies of needed documents. Starting the process of compiling such documents long before they are needed is the best course of action. Documents from three different categories will be needed: proof of identity, proof of Social Security number and proof of residency.

For proof of identity, a certified copy of one's birth certificate or passport will be needed. The process for obtaining a birth certificate, of course, will depend upon where the individual was born, and may take some time. For proof of Social Security number, it will be important to have either an original Social Security card (not laminated) or a current W-2 tax form. Obtaining a duplicate Social Security card is a simple process through the Social Security office.

Proof of residency (one's actual address) can be shown with utility bills, deeds or postmarked letter, but it could be problematic if the person does not have documentation of that sort that shows their name.

Finally, if the applicant has changed their name (such as through marriage, divorce or adoption) or has officially changed their gender, additional documents will be required as well. In effect, the goal of the process is to track one's identity from birth to the present, without any gaps in the timeline.

For more information, including lists of specifically acceptable forms of identification, visit <https://drive.ky.gov/ConfidentKY/Pages/default.aspx> or scan the QR code on page 13 with your smart device. 

NEW LICENSES OFFER MANY SECURITY FEATURES

A Kentucky driver's license is more than a pass to drive. It also serves as your wallet's most important identity credential for multiple uses like making age-restricted purchases or passing through airport security checkpoints. To enhance the security of this trusted credential and offer new

options to keep travelers on the move, state licenses will undergo significant upgrades.

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) is spearheading the Confident Kentucky initiative to revamp the issuance and production of driver's licenses, permits and personal IDs. They will introduce a new Voluntary Travel ID credential that meets federal

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CABINET
OFFICE OF PUBLIC
AFFAIRS

standards to board U.S. flights and enter restricted federal facilities, including military bases and nuclear power plants.

WHAT SHOULD LAW ENFORCEMENT LOOK FOR?

A noticeable difference of the new card is the new grayscale photo of applicants. This laser-engraved image details precise facial features without the distraction and distortion of color. The new cards are produced on a high-quality material that is durable enough to withstand the longer lifespan of licenses.

The new background includes renditions of Kentucky symbols, like the state seal and goldenrod state flower, using intricate repetitive patterns in colors that are difficult to counterfeit. The image of the capitol has a 3D appearance and the duplicate photograph over the gold look-through window turns clear when backlit.

Voluntary Travel ID credentials will display a clear star with a black seal indicating it is REAL ID compliant for domestic air travel and entry into restricted federal facilities. New standard credentials will display the text “Not For REAL ID Purposes” – a Department of Homeland Security requirement since standard credentials will not be accepted to board a domestic flight or access restricted federal facilities, including military bases, once nationwide enforcement begins Oct. 1, 2020.

To curb underage drinking, credentials will remain oriented horizontally for cardholders 21 and older and vertically for those under 21.

STANDARD LICENSE VERSUS TRAVEL ID

On Oct. 1, 2020, Kentucky’s current standard licenses will no longer be accepted to board U.S. commercial airlines or enter military bases and restricted federal facilities.

Through a phased rollout beginning in January 2019 and extending statewide by the spring, all Kentucky driver’s licenses, permits and personal IDs will have new security features, arrive in the mail 5 to 10 business days after residents apply at their local circuit court clerk’s office and will transition to an eight-year lifespan. New pricing will be in place to account for the doubled renewal cycle and additional security improvements.

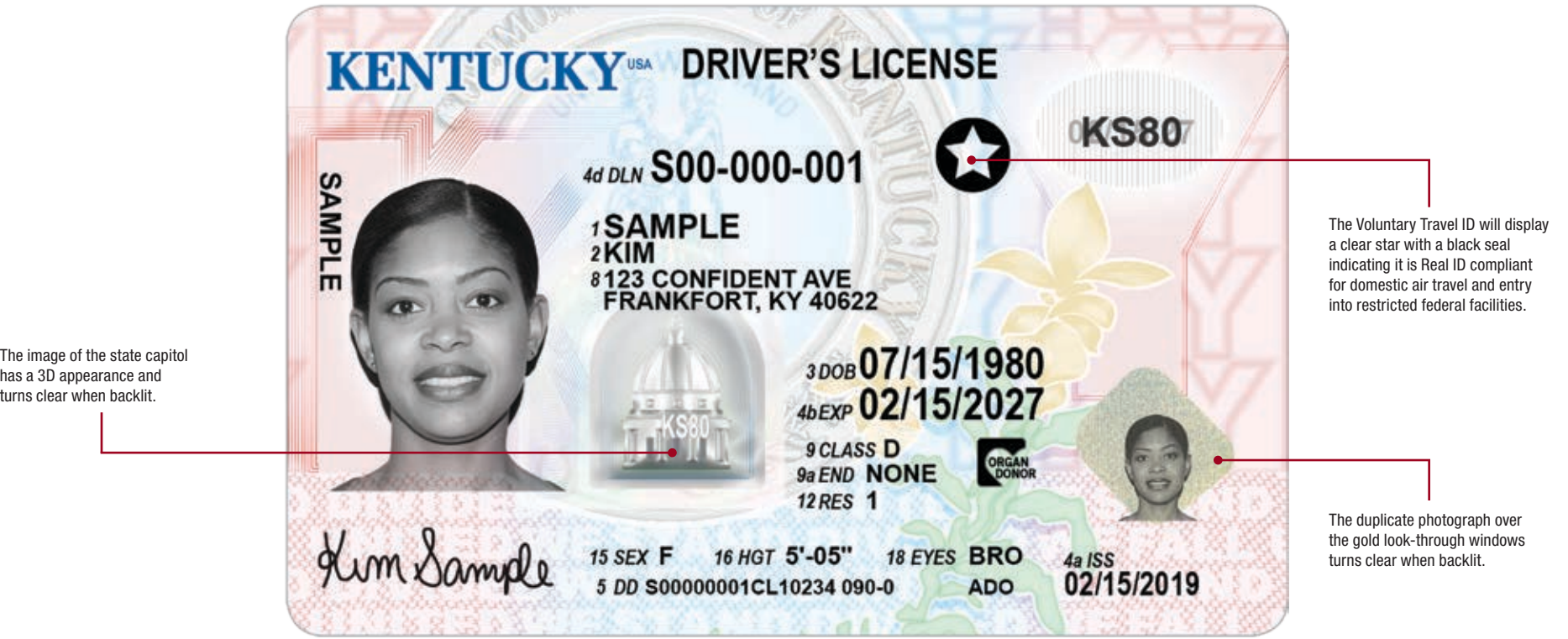
Once the rollout reaches a local circuit court clerk office, Kentuckians applying for a driver’s license, permit or personal ID for the first time, or those renewing their current credential, will choose a card in one of two new versions: a standard credential or a Voluntary Travel ID credential.

Standard driver’s licenses and permits are acceptable to drive, vote, access federal and social benefit

2019 Kentucky Standard Drivers License



2019 Kentucky Voluntary Travel ID



services (such as VA hospitals, Social Security offices, and federal courthouses) and for general identification purposes (such as signing a lease or purchasing age-restricted goods). Kentucky’s new Voluntary Travel ID is a state-maintained, federally compliant license accepted for domestic air travel and military base entry.

A Voluntary Travel ID doubles as a license or permit and offers all the benefits of a standard credential.

As long as Kentucky maintains an extension from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), a standard driver’s license and ID card can be used to board U.S. commercial flights — until REAL ID enforcement begins Oct. 1, 2020. At that point, travelers will need a new Voluntary Travel ID, or another acceptable form of identification like a passport, for domestic air travel and military base entry.

Air travelers younger than 18 do not need a Voluntary Travel ID if they are accompanied by an adult with acceptable documentation. A passport is still required for international travel.

For the first four years of the new licensing program, non-CDL applicants and those 21 or older may choose between a 4-year or 8-year credential. To account for the longer lifespan and security improvements, an 8-year standard license will be \$43 and an 8-year Voluntary Travel ID license will be \$48. Four-year versions of each are half the cost.

All first-time cardholders or those requesting a Voluntary Travel ID will present required documentation to their local circuit court clerk to establish their identities. This includes documents that show proof of identity, a Social Security number and residency.

All applicants will receive a 30-day temporary document that can be used to drive, vote or visit Ft. Campbell or Ft. Knox until the requested card arrives in the mail. The applicant’s current credential will be altered by the circuit court clerk and returned to the applicant. A resident may present both the temporary document and altered card to board a U.S. flight.

Credentials will be mailed due to a change in how credentials are produced. To boost security, card production for all new credentials is shifting from over-the-counter at more than 140 locations to one secure printing location. The new credentials feature nearly double the security features compared to current credentials.

To learn more about the initiative, scan this QR code with your smart device or visit drive.ky.gov/confidentky



SHINING A LIGHT ON THE DARKWEB

KSP'S ELECTRONIC CRIMES BRANCH FACES CHALLENGES

A 13-year-old girl met someone she thought was her age in an online chatroom. After nearly a year corresponding with this person, the young girl agreed to meet the “fellow teen” around the corner from her house.

What she discovered was the other 13-year-old turned out to be a 38-year-old man who coerced her into his van and abducted her, drove her back to his home and proceeded to rape and abuse her over a four-day period. The man filmed the acts and streamed the video online for others to view.

This isn't a movie synopsis. This was a real-life case involving Alicia Kozakiewicz from Pittsburgh, Pa., who, on New Year's Day 2002, was abducted by Scott Tyree of Herndon, Va. Since her horrifying experience, Kozakiewicz has become a champion of internet safety and a missing persons advocate. She also founded the Alicia Project, an advocacy group designed to raise awareness about online predators, abduction and child sexual exploitation. Her story has been featured on several network news programs, such as Good Morning

America, CNN, MSNBC and A&E Biography Channel.

Her story, and many others like it, spur on a dedicated group of detectives with the Kentucky State Police's Electronic Crimes Branch, whose sole job is to combat the seedy side of social media and the internet.

TARGETING KIDS

If it is a social-media crime, chances are that a child has been victimized in some way, KSP Sgt. Craig Miller said.

“Every social-media case that I've worked, a child has been affected,” he said. “It may be a case where the child has been identified, been rescued and an arrest was made, but the image is out there. And there are many images out there of children who have not been identified, and that's the biggest thing.”

According to enough.org, in 2014, 14 percent of teens reported friends have invited someone over whom they had only met online, and another 18 percent of teens have considered meeting someone in person whom they first met online.

Additionally, just 28 percent of parents have installed software on computers to prohibit certain website visitations; only 17 percent have such software on mobile devices, according to enough.org.

KSP's Electronic Crimes Branch primarily deals with child exploitation, and keeping on top of the latest schemes of predators is a full-time job as technology and methodology constantly change, KSP Lt. Mike Bowling said.

“A lot of agencies are trying to catch up with technology,” Bowling said. “We all know that technology changes every day. It seems like every week there are more apps, and more people are using devices. Every Christmas, we give new phones, laptops and other computer devices to new users.”

Nowadays, it is common for children to carry smartphones and tablets such as iPads. They also have various social media accounts, and predators know this. Being social-media savvy is how they hunt.

“The people we arrest look for people online with open profiles, and a lot of information is available, pictures that are open and not private, that school background, that school letter jacket or the school shirt on or something like that,” Bowling said. “They also look for one compromising picture. If they get one, they've got that person hooked and they start the blackmail. They tell the person, ‘You're going to send me 10 more pictures and some videos, or I'm going to send this picture to your parents, your school or something along those lines. Imagine the mindset of that child. They're afraid to tell, but they're also afraid to go along with what this person is saying.’”

Many times, children begin online relationships with a predator on one site, and after a period of time, they are lured to a different app, such as Snapchat or KIK Messenger, where the predator can further manipulate them, Bowling said.

The reason is simple, many apps can be used to send videos and photos over WiFi, Bowling said.

In worst case scenarios, this leads to human trafficking.

“I've not worked a human-trafficking case, but I've attended training where I've heard about people targeting children,” Miller said. “This is happening. Those involved in human trafficking are targeting children; they're on Facebook, and they are luring children and coaxing them to come and meet, and unfortunately, they're getting kidnapped, and they're put into the world of child-sex trafficking.”

OTHER VICTIMS

While the Electronic Crimes Branch primarily focuses on crimes involving children, cybercrime doesn't have an age limit, as plenty of other victims are targeted.

From cyber-bullying to scams, the internet is a haven for a criminal to victimize people, Miller said, recalling a case where an older gentleman was scammed out of his life savings because he was told he won a large sum of money, but in order to collect, he had to pay various legal fees.

“The man ended up sending so much money, that the clerks at the store refused to fill anymore Western Union (money) orders from him because they knew he was being scammed,” Miller said. “That's how I came across (the case). He was so focused that he was going to get the money from these people, that he sent them his entire savings.”

According to the FBI's 2017 Internet Crime Report, people over the age of 60 were victimized to the tune of more than \$342.5 million.

Cyberbullying is another disturbing trend, Miller and Bowling said.

“When I was a kid, bullying typically happened at school and it stayed at school,” Miller said. “With social media, it happens in-person at school, and when a child goes home, the bullying goes home with them. The



Kentucky State Police Lt. **MIKE BOWLING** said it is a daunting task for KSP and other agencies to keep up with the ever-changing world of social media and the internet.



Kentucky State Police Sgt. **CRAIG MILLER** said a child has been affected in every social-media case he has worked for the Electronic Crimes Branch. He said there are many people who use social media as a tool to lure children.

Written By
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Photography By
JIM ROBERTSON

EUGENE SERGEEV / 123RF.COM

unfortunate part of the internet is it is there all the time. The only way to stop it is by reporting it to school officials and law enforcement and us stepping in, or parents handling it properly, and appropriately.”

It’s no secret that bullying affects a child’s psyche. “If you think about a child’s mentality; they want to feel loved, they want to feel secure and they want to feel safe,” Bowling added. “You have all of these people coming at them on various social media sites and jumping on the bandwagon, for lack of a better term, and being that keyboard warrior trying to harass one person. It’s very burdensome, and it causes severe depression and problems. It’s a huge problem.”

Thieves are also using social media to lure unsuspecting victims. “People are selling an iPhone for \$150 and someone says, ‘That’s a good deal,’ so they agree to meet at a location, and people are getting robbed,” Miller said. “I haven’t worked any of those, but I’ve had (law enforcement officers) call and ask if I can help track down IPs. It’s very broad, as far as crimes on social media. It’s a new trend.”

AHEAD OF THE CURVE

Having an unbridled passion to keep up with trends, in terms of new social media sites and technology trends, is a must in order for law enforcement to stay on top of cybercrime.

“Every day, if not every hour, technology is changing and we have to adjust with it,” Bowling said. “This is what we call being hungry and never being complacent. Go to conferences and attend training. If we stay on top of what is current, we’ll be ready for anything that comes our way.”

Additionally, go to the source, Bowling said. Meaning, talk to those using the various social media apps to see what is hot. “When I go to schools, I talk to the kids,” Bowling said. “I tell them, ‘My presentation is about this, but what are you on?’ They’ll tell me stuff I haven’t heard of or they’ll tell me something like Snapchat is back in when we thought it was out. The kids will tell you. Plus, cyber-tips, we get those through electronic service providers and I’ll see it every month. The cyber-tips give an indication of what is hot – it changes every day.”

EDUCATION IS KEY

While KSP has resources 100 percent devoted to this issue, many smaller agencies simply don’t have the personnel to dedicate on a full-time basis. But that doesn’t mean they are helpless.

Education – teaching children, parents and guardians – is one of the best tools an agency, no matter the size, has in its arsenal, KSP Capt. Jeremy Murrell said. “Education plays a huge role in combating this because we’re getting more and more self-production, and that means kids are the ones taking pictures,” he said. “Whether they’re groomed or convinced to do it, or if they’re sending it to their boyfriend or girlfriend, it gets out from there. Now we have victims producing child pornography.”

One of the best messages KSP or any department can stress is the importance of parental or guardian involvement in the lives of children. “We live in a society where we spend most of our time buried in a phone, or buried in an iPad or buried in a TV. It comes back to Andy Griffith – Mayberry

times,” Bowling said. “We need to sit around a table, we need to talk and be involved.” I tell (parents) when your child turns 16, would you hand them the keys to a Corvette and walk back in the house and say have fun?” Bowling said. “Nobody has raised their hand and said yes. That’s because you would give them instruction and you’d watch them and monitor them. You would also set times for them to be back home, you’d ride with them every so often ... you would monitor them almost like you would an infant child. It’s the same way with the internet.” Having well-established rules of who they can friend and where they can have the device. “Even then, there’s going to be a minority who are going to try to bypass that,” Bowling said. “They’re the ones who are going to get up in the middle of the night and get the device and things like that. Still, it’s always best to have a common area in the house to use those devices, know the child’s password and know who they friend on social media.” Also, know who your children “friend” on these sites. Many of these ideas seem simple enough but are often overlooked, but rest assured, predators are doing their due diligence in stalking and learning everything they can about the child. “If you see your child has 500 friends on Facebook, ask yourself, ‘Do they know 500 people?’” Bowling said. “I would say probably not. If you can’t touch them, then why are you adding them? A lot of the times what we see involving a school, if somebody is looking to exploit a child, if they get one person to friend, they can get more because friends will add because this friend added. Once they get into the school system and start learning about people, it goes from there.”

Aside from preaching the education message, there are other tools any agency can use. “There are some training materials,” Bowling said. “They can go to netsmartz.org, it has materials to look at. They also can go to the National Center For Missing and Exploited Children, that’s missingkids.org, and there’s a lot of information under the law enforcement tab of the site. If you’re talking to members of your community, you can instruct them on how to make a cyber-tip on that website. Those two (websites) alone are very beneficial.” The Kentucky State Police Electronic Crimes Branch is also a ready and willing resource, Bowling said. “We are here as a resource. If we can point somebody in the right direction, we will,” he said. “We don’t necessarily want to feed people fish. We want to teach people to fish. We want to give them the tools and we’ll walk you through it from start to finish ... we’ll even help you type the report so you’ll get that first one under your belt. We don’t care if you’re a one-person department or a department of 1,200. We’re here to help.” Additionally, don’t get discouraged if the audience size is small, Bowling said. “I’ve presented to one person before at a school,” he said. “One person showed up and I set my computer and equipment up and presented to that one person. I’ve also presented to 1,800 people at a school. So it doesn’t matter to us; we’ll present the material because it needs to be heard.”

ICAC TASK FORCE In addition to the above, a nationally-recognized means of battling the issue of cybercrime is through the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force Program, which KSP is a member.



I MEAN, IF IT WAS A NATIONWIDE BURGLARY TASK FORCE, AND THE PHONE RINGS AT FOUR IN THE MORNING, AND THE PERSON ON THE OTHER END SAYS, ‘THIS GUY HAS COMMITTED 500 BURGLARIES AND WE NEED HIM INTERVIEWED TODAY,’ WE’D BE LIKE, ‘YEAH, WE’LL GET TO THAT ...’ BUT WHEN WE SAY SOMEONE IS MOLESTING A KID AND VIDEOTAPING IT AND PUTTING IT ON THE INTERNET, THAT GETS EVERYBODY’S UNDIVIDED ATTENTION.

— CAPT. JEREMY MURRELL, KENTUCKY STATE POLICE ELECTRONIC CRIMES BRANCH

Kentucky State Police
Detective **MIKE
VIERGUTZ**, is one
of two KSP sworn
troopers who serve as
forensics examiners at
the Electronic Crimes
Branch. In all, the
ECB received 6,351
cyber-tips between
2012 and 2017.



ICAC is a network of 61 coordinated task forces representing more than 4,500 federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. ICAC's mission is to "continually engage in proactive and reactive investigations and prosecutions of persons involved in child abuse and exploitation over the internet," according to icactaskforce.org.

"The Kentucky State Police is the ICAC Task Force head for the Commonwealth," Bowling said. "We get between 150 to 200 tips a month from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's cyber-tip line. Each one of those tips is a complaint. Complaints can be from an internet service provider or someone reporting to the cyber-tip line."

Each complaint is a "call" that has to be answered, Bowling added.

"We're staying really busy doing reactive complaints – cyber tips, call in complaints, calls from KSP Post or helping other agencies," Bowling said. "We would love to get out there in these chat rooms and be proactive. We're growing and getting to where we need to be, but we're really busy and we could always use more help."

KSP employs 10 dedicated KSP detectives and utilizes 30 affiliated agencies – local and federal law enforcement agency that works with KSP on the task force – across the state. In addition to the detectives and

affiliated agencies, KSP has two sworn forensics officers and five additional civilian forensics experts.

Between 2012 and 2017, the Kentucky State Police Electronic Crimes Branch received 6,351 cyber-tips, which resulted in 297 cases being opened, 396 search warrants executed and 191 arrests for a myriad of crimes against children, and that keeps its detectives hopping.

"If we get a call about some other internet complaint, we will direct it to the local KSP post or Louisville (Metro) or Lexington (Police Department) (if it comes from one of those cities)," Bowling said. "Now we will assist with those, if we can, but we stay so busy with child exploitation, we just don't have the personnel to work every internet crime."

"We have a forensics side, which does the examinations of the evidence, and we have an investigative side, which does proactive and reactive investigations for crimes against children," Bowling continued. "Right now, we could give 100 different complaints to 100 different troopers. There is that much activity out there."

Additionally, the task force isn't limited by state borders, Murrell said.

"It's really a big team and a force multiplier for us," he said. "Alabama (authorities) called us with two hands-on offenses that were occurring in Louisville, and we are able to go and look into that. And that works

vice-versa. If we came across an offense that is happening somewhere else and we needed an interview done today, we can call any of the other ICAC task forces in the nation and have people interviewed today."

The main reason the task force works in near perfect harmony is the subject matter, Murrell added.

"I mean, if it was a nationwide burglary task force, and the phone rings at four in the morning, and the person on the other end says, 'This guy has committed 500 burglaries and we need him interviewed today,' we'd be like, 'Yeah, we'll get to that ...' But when we say someone is molesting a kid and videotaping it and putting it on the internet, that gets everybody's undivided attention."

By adhering to the same standards, the methods remain the same, which creates a smooth transition when one agency hands off a case to another.

"It's very fluid ... it's like a ripple in a wave in that it can reach many places quickly," Bowling said. "We are bound by ICAC standards to work an investigation the same way across the nation. I may start an investigation here in Frankfort and eventually hand it off to Louisville Metro, and they'll work it the same way I did. It's the same no matter if you're in Kentucky, California or Canada. That is what is great about Internet Crimes Against Children. I would say it leads the way in any type of investigation with the ability to hand that case off to another investigator."

Though the "team" is large, Murrell said there is still plenty of room for other agencies – no matter the size – to join the task force.

"Some of the larger agencies like Lexington and Louisville are affiliated with us, and that's simply because they have more resources," Murrell said. "Smaller agencies are limited simply because of numbers. They don't have the manpower. If an agency is interested in joining the ICAC task force, it doesn't cost them anything. We have grants for equipment, and it's something we can discuss on a case-by-case basis."

By joining the task force, Murrell said it is a strength in numbers situation.

"It's a force multiplier for us and it hastens the response," he said. "We have a full-service digital forensics lab available to all agencies at no cost to them. We are here to aid and assist. As the commander here, I don't care if you're proactive or reactive. I'll train you either way."

There is never too much help, Miller added.

"I've been here since February 2015, and I know the people we deal with and we've successfully apprehended, and knowing how many more people are out there and there are not enough people doing this work," he said. "That's the big eye-opener for me. Coming here, I knew there was a lot of (cybercrime)

out there, but I didn't how much there actually was until I got here."

ALICIA'S LAW

No doubt that Alicia Kozakiewicz suffered greatly in early 2002, Murrell said.

"To show you how lucky she was, one of the guys who was watching (the porn) on the internet, maybe like-minded as Scott Tyree, actually called from a pay phone (from Florida)," Murrell said. "He had seen her flyer from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, so he called the hotline, and he admitted watching it as fantasy. But as he was watching it, he thought it was egregious enough to call it in. The ICAC from northern Virginia/Washington, D.C. area and the FBI kicked in the door and saved her."

This case raised the much-needed awareness on this issue, and as a result many states, including Kentucky, have passed Alicia's Law.

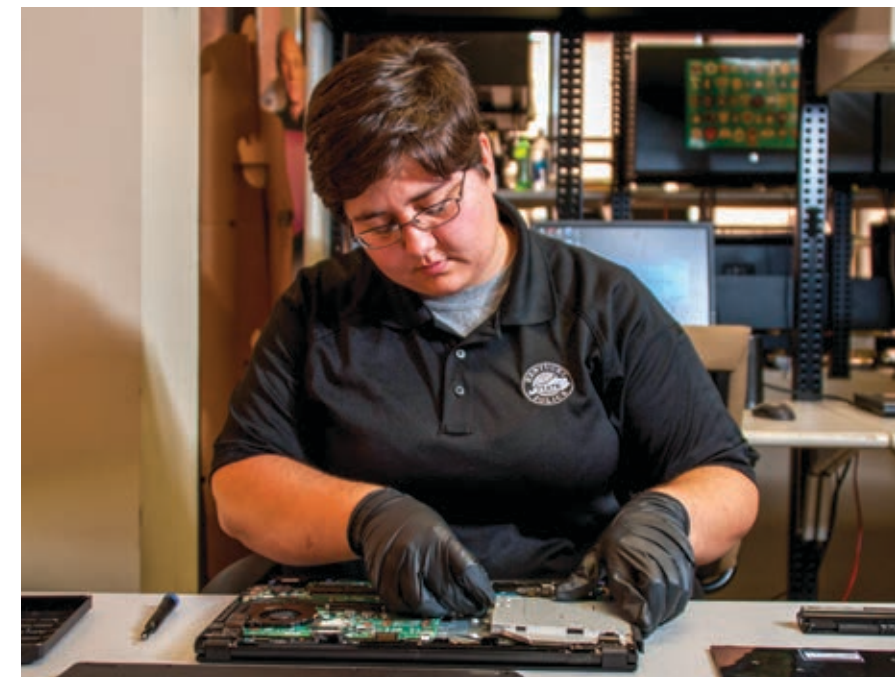
"We got Alicia's Law passed in Kentucky in 2015," Murrell said. "The law allows for a \$10 fine for a misdemeanor or felony, no matter what it is, and that money goes to the ICAC Task Force. So we have our federal ICAC grant and we have Alicia's Law (money) here in Kentucky. It's a force multiplier for us (and) it allows us to buy equipment for the task force and training for our members."

Those agencies wishing to become a "force multiplier" for the task force can call Capt. Murrell at 502-782-9769 or email jeremy.murrell@ky.gov.



The Alicia Project
Scan this QR code with
your smart device or visit
www.aliciaproject.org/

Forensics examiner
CAROL SMITH
inspects a hard drive
for the Kentucky State
Police Electronic
Crimes Branch.
She is one of five
civilian forensics
experts at the ECB.





INJURY PREVENTION

Sprained ankles. Back pain. Knee strains. Needle sticks. Vehicle collisions.

Law enforcement officers are subject to a number of potential injuries on the job. Some factors are uncontrollable. But there are a number of ways officers can prevent injury – or reduce the potential severity of injuries.

“Younger officers with less than seven years of experience are more prone to injury because they’re more active,” said Troy Pitcock, law enforcement specialist for Kentucky League of Cities’ Insurance Services (KLCIS). “Older officers’ injuries are more likely to be expensive.”

KLCIS tracks injuries for its municipal clients and works together with police departments to offer prevention techniques for a variety of potential risks. In its Claims Awareness bulletin, KLCIS reports injuries relating to arrests, cuts, exposures, falls, strains and training. The August 2018 published report showed exposures as the leading cause of law enforcement injuries at 33 percent of all injuries reported.

Exposure injury claims spiked in 2017, but 2018’s numbers are a little more than half of what were reported during the previous year.

“According to a study in the American Journal of Preventative Medicine, one in 50,000 officers in the United States is killed by a firearm, while one in three will suffer a wound from a syringe,” Pitcock wrote in a KLCIS article about law enforcement needle sticks. “A contaminated needle can expose an officer to HIV or hepatitis A, B and C. It is estimated that 60 to 80 percent of injection drug users have hepatitis C.”

Pitcock offered a variety of recommendations for needle-stick prevention, such as not recapping needles, placing needles in a sharps container and ensuring all vaccines are up to date. He also suggests adding a portable hand wand to officers’ equipment.

“The wand goes in the (suspect’s) pocket, you twist it, and it pulls out of the pocket so you don’t have to reach in there and get stuck,” Pitcock said.

STRAINS AND SPRAINS

The second highest type of injury reported in 2018 are those caused by slips and falls.

“Especially in adverse weather conditions like snow and ice, not having the proper footwear can lead to injury,” Pitcock said. “A lot of officers are injured in foot

pursuits, slipping and falling while chasing somebody, hitting the ground, those kinds of things.”

In the KLCIS Law Enforcement Safety and Liability Review, Pitcock said a section relating to falls is included. KLCIS encourages officers to wear shoes with slip-resistant soles and to add traction devices for snow and ice that fit over the shoe soles. Departments should have a foot pursuit policy and include yearly training on slip and fall issues.

Falls often lead to strains and sprains. Especially when an officer’s muscles are cold from driving a cruiser and then he or she gets out on a call that requires them to be physical. Pitcock said KLCIS recommends a simple stretching program officers can use to keep their muscles limber during their down time.

KLCIS also tracks training injuries, and Pitcock said strains and similar injuries also occur with the recruits.

“More and more recruits are showing up for their basic training academy out of shape, which leads to injuries,” Pitcock said. “They haven’t done what they should do to be in shape when they get there.”

The recruits should be encouraged to think beyond passing the Peace Officer Professional Standards physical exam, and begin thinking about their overall health – especially before entering the physically-demanding academy. Training injuries for seasoned officers attending in-service have been reduced utilizing the Training Safety Officer program, Pitcock said.

“We are a big proponent of the TSO program,” he said. “In the Safety and Liability Review, we recommend all departments utilize a training safety officer for any kind of defensive tactics or firearms training in particular.”

CHECK YOUR 6 BASICS

The Department of Criminal Justice Training has encouraged officers to practice “Check Your 6,” an initiative reminding officers about the core tenants of staying safe on the street: wear your vest, wear your seat belt, slow down, practice situational awareness, maintain your physical fitness and have respect.

In the International Association of Chiefs of Police study, “Reducing Officer Injuries,” two of those issues – seat belts and body armor – showed a significant impact on the amount of work missed following an incident.

“Officers wearing their seat belts during a vehicular crash missed an average of five fewer days compared to those who did not,” the report states. “Officers who reported wearing body armor while sustaining an injury missed fewer work days than those who did not.”

Preventing injuries is important for individual health, but it also is important for both the officer’s and department’s bottom line. The IACP study was conducted over one year with 18 participating national agencies. During that year, 1,295 injuries were reported.

“

ACCORDING TO A STUDY IN THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PREVENTATIVE MEDICINE, ONE IN 50,000 OFFICERS IN THE UNITED STATES IS KILLED BY A FIREARM, WHILE ONE IN THREE WILL SUFFER A WOUND FROM A SYRINGE. A CONTAMINATED NEEDLE CAN EXPOSE AN OFFICER TO HIV OR HEPATITIS A, B AND C. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT 60 TO 80 PERCENT OF INJECTION DRUG USERS HAVE HEPATITIS C.

— TROY PITCOCK, LAW ENFORCEMENT SPECIALIST FOR KENTUCKY LEAGUE OF CITIES’ INSURANCE SERVICES (KLCIS)


Those injuries led to:

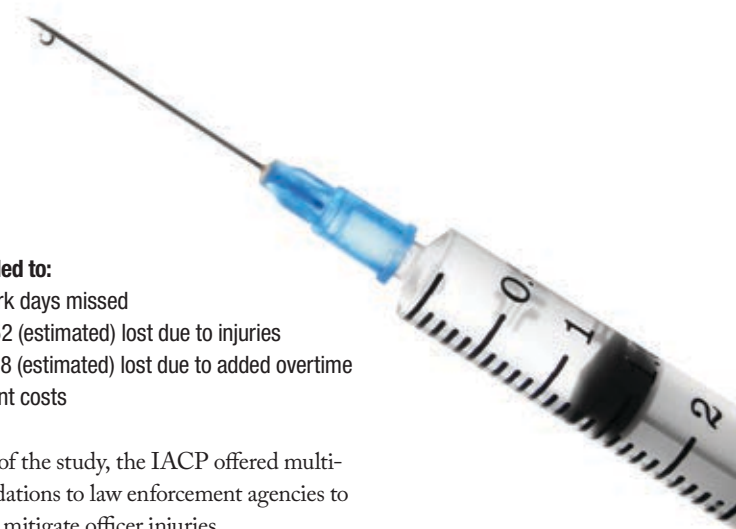
- 5,938 work days missed
- \$1,211,352 (estimated) lost due to injuries
- \$1,817,028 (estimated) lost due to added overtime assignment costs

As a result of the study, the IACP offered multiple recommendations to law enforcement agencies to prevent and/or mitigate officer injuries.

Those recommendations are:

- Develop injury reduction efforts for at-risk officer groups
- Incorporate advanced arrest procedure and tactics training, as well as use-of-force training, in academy and in-service curricula
- Implement mandatory seat belt policies and address speed and pursuit policies
- Implement physical fitness programs and nutrition education programs for officers

No one wants to be injured, but sometimes taking shortcuts, like not wearing a seat belt, can be life altering. Make individual safety and physical health a priority to prevent serious loss. 



Written By
KELLY FOREMAN

PASIPHAEE/123RF.COM

REDSTAR_IN_UA/123RF.COM



OWENSBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT

THERE'S A LOT MORE TO OWENSBORO THAN JUST MOUTHWATERING, AWARD-WINNING BARBECUE

Written By
KELLY FOREMAN

Photography By
JIM ROBERTSON

Yes, the western Kentucky city is renowned for outstanding barbecue, but it also offers a beautiful riverfront, Kentucky's only municipal ice arena, several museums and enough festivals to fulfill all your funnel cake cravings.

It also is home to a police department committed to its mission of community partnership and leading with professionalism, honor and integrity.

One of Kentucky's larger agencies, the Owensboro Police Department employs 102 sworn officers and more than 40 civilian personnel. In 2017, officers responded to 40,722 calls for service and conducted 7,502 traffic stops in the community of more than 57,000 residents.

The ranks are led by Chief Art Ealum, who began his career with the department in 1991 as a patrol

officer after getting his feet wet as a volunteer reserve officer in Evansville, Ind.

"You can test somebody's willingness to do the job and whether or not they were called to do it if they're



willing to do it for free, which I did," Ealum said. "And I knew this is what I wanted to do."

The chief said he didn't have command staff aspirations when he began his career. Like many, he loved patrol work. As a probational rookie, Ealum earned a beat in one of Owensboro's hot spots.

"It was unheard of then for a rookie to get their own beat, but nobody wanted to work there," Ealum said. "It was right when crack cocaine was making its way here and there were a lot of drug dealers. I loved the excitement, so I said, 'Hey, I'll take it.'"

About seven years in, Ealum was feeling the burn-out of working that beat and applied for the Criminal Investigations Division. The captain in charge at the time knew Ealum wanted to work narcotics, but due to some shifting within the agency, he asked Ealum to work a general detective slot for about 30 days before he could move into narcotics. When the 30 days were over, Ealum said he requested to stay put.

"My first week I had an assault, I worked my first homicides and I fell in love with the job," he said. "As an investigator, I realized the value of good relationships with the community because I needed them to tell me information and I learned a different way of talking with people and appreciated the value they have."

While Ealum said it was one of his favorite assignments, the promotional bug hit and he quickly began to climb the leadership ladder. Serving as a sergeant for a little more than a year before he was promoted to lieutenant, Ealum said he then went "kicking and screaming" into the department's Professional Standards Unit, which handles all the agency's internal affairs.

"It turned out to be another great assignment because I realized I was getting to see another side and I was working to protect the integrity of the organization and ensuring people were abiding by policy and doing the right thing," he said.

It wasn't easy, though.

"I sat there and interviewed people with the same uniform I had on, and the first few times I thought, 'Do I ask this question?' Because I know where we're going if I ask and it could cost someone their career. But when I wake up in the morning and I gotta look at this ugly mug every morning, I have to make sure that I'm doing the right thing. Because it's not about me and what I'm doing, it's about what the officers did. Once you get over that hurdle, you can appreciate that position."

Ealum continued rising through the ranks until finally he was named chief in 2011.

"Once you get a taste of leadership and see the influence you can have – not over people so much, but the change you can have in an organization – wow. I had people like (former chiefs) Glenn Skeens and John Kazlauskas who believed in me, and when your peers are pushing you in that direction ... it all worked out for me with the assistance of others. Left alone, I would have sat back and stayed in Criminal Investigations forever until they ran me off."



(OPPOSITE) The Owensboro Police Department employs 102 sworn officers and more than 40 civilian personnel. The officers serve and protect the western Kentucky community of more than 57,000 residents.

(LEFT) **ART EALUM** began his career with Owensboro as a police officer in 1991. He became chief in 2011. His rise to leadership was supported by great officers and leaders who believed in him and encouraged him often, he said.

(BOTTOM) The Owensboro Bridge is a truss bridge that connects Owensboro to Indiana across the Ohio River. Owensboro officers have a successful working relationship with law enforcement in Spencer County, Ind. because of the shared traffic the bridge brings to both communities.





(TOP) Owensboro Police Sgt. **COURTNEY YERINGTON**, who leads the department's Crime Prevention Unit, shared resources with citizens during a recent Senior Day Out event at Towne Square Mall.



(RIGHT) Owensboro Police Chief **ART EALUM** visited with seniors during the Senior Day Out event. The department joined multiple other county and community organizations to provide safety information and resources for elderly citizens.

SPECIALIZATION

Like Ealum, Owensboro officers have a multitude of choices when it comes to assignments. Officers can choose to join the department's honor guard, Emergency Response Team, Hazardous Devices Unit or Street Crimes, for example.

Owensboro Sgt. Courtney Yerington leads the agency's Crime Prevention Unit (CPU), which specializes in community programs. As a high school student and again in college, Yerington interned with OPD, giving her both a foot in the door and a grasp of what policing her hometown entails. Today she spends most of her time grooming the next generation of OPD recruits through D.A.R.E., Citizens' Police Academies, a summer camp and more.

"We love being out in the community and letting them know we are here for them, that we're here to serve them," she said.

The Citizens' Police Academy (CPA) for adults is a longstanding OPD program, but last summer, the CPU

created a junior CPA. Fifteen high school and college students joined the first class and their only request on the final review of the program was that they still wanted more. Yerington hopes that by giving attendees an early look at law enforcement, it will create interest and retention for OPD, just as it did for her.

"It also gives them the opportunity to show us them, so when they decide to apply in the future, we have already met them and have that connection from the beginning," she said. "It shows them what we do, that it's different than what's on TV, and allows them to see the opportunities that are here for them."

For the slightly younger residents, every summer the CPU takes boys who are going to be in fifth grade to Camp KOPS, which stands for Kids Obtaining Positive Structure. The children spend their time on team building and outdoor activities, such as fishing, archery, swimming and canoeing. They craft pinewood derby cars to race for the win at the end of the week. Five children from each city elementary school are chosen to attend.

"It gives them a positive interaction with police officers, gives them role models and an experience away," Yerington said. "These are not bad kids who are getting in trouble at school. These are good kids who are doing what they're supposed to, but who may need more positive influences in their lives. Sometimes the schools realize that a kid is not going to be able to go anywhere that summer, or a kid may need a male role model."

There are plenty of opportunities to learn during the week too, including first aid classes and demonstrations from the agency's Hazardous Device, K-9 and Emergency Response units.

"Some have never been out in the country at all," Yerington said. "Some have never seen pitch black and stars because they live in the city. It's a great experience to see them change from the beginning of the week to the end and realizing, 'Wow, this is really cool.'"

During the school year, CPU teaches D.A.R.E. and Character Counts programs to kindergarten through eighth graders. Yerington, who was named the 2017-2018 D.A.R.E. officer of the year, said she and her partner teach D.A.R.E. to odd grade levels and Character Counts to even grades to maintain a regular connection with students and avoid repeating curriculums.

Officers throughout the department also are assigned to all Owensboro public schools as well as city Catholic schools through the Adopt-a-School program. The combination of these efforts provides a steady presence both during school day interactions with students and administrators and after hours checking buildings and surroundings to ensure their security.

OPD Officer Jennifer Haynes is assigned to Owensboro Catholic Middle School, her

self-proclaimed second home. During her shift, Haynes is dedicated to carving time out daily to visit the school, whether that is during the morning drop-off line or walking through to check doors and communicate with staff about any possible concerns.

"I like to spend at least 30 minutes in my school every day," Haynes said. "I like to be there when the kids get off the school bus so I can lay eyes on every student. They see that I'm there, all the teachers see I'm there and I think, especially right now with the rise in school violence in the past few years, seeing me there harbors more of a safe feeling for parents, too."

Haynes has provided her phone number to both teachers and administrators and built a relationship of trust wherein they know they can call her anytime to assist them with issues or provide resources.

"It is significant to me because I have a child in middle school who has been through the lockdowns and lockouts before, and I know how important it is to feel safe when they see me coming through the school," Haynes said. "Also, if – God forbid – anything does happen at the school, (responding officers) can come to me and ask about the building layout, how many students and teachers are there and if something seems out of place.

"It's just an extra resource in case of crisis," Haynes continued. "Not only can I look at the schematic of the

building, but I walk those hallways every day. I know what they are supposed to sound and feel like. I think that's important. I can go in and check doors and make sure after class starts that everything is secure, so these students don't have to worry about anybody coming in while they are trying to learn."

HE HAMMERED THE GAS

Haynes is not unfamiliar with a crisis. Six weeks after completing her Police Training Officer program, she found herself at a stoplight behind the vehicle of an attempted kidnapping suspect. Haynes verified the license plate number on the sticky note where she had recorded it earlier when dispatch issued a BOLO. After requesting backup, Haynes attempted a traffic stop. But upon seeing Haynes' cruiser behind him, the suspect fled, lost control of his vehicle and wrecked into a fence. The perpetrator spotted an ACME company van nearby that was warming up with keys in the ignition.

"He hopped in the van and backed up, and at that point, I tried to create as many witnesses as I could, yelling, 'Police! Get out of the Van! Stop!' I repeated my commands several times. He looked at me and goosed it a little bit. The van lurched forward and I drew my firearm and yelled more commands. He raised his arms up, put them across his face and just hammered the gas trying to run me over."



Owensboro Police Officer **JENNIFER HAYNES**, right, greets students at Owensboro Catholic Middle School alongside Principal Sara Guth. Haynes serves OCMS as part of Owensboro Police Department's adopt-a-school program.

Owensboro Police Reserve Officer **DANE HOLDER** is responsible for the department's property and evidence maintenance. The agency recently completed renovations on a new 6,388 square foot building, adjacent to the police department, to expand its evidence maintenance facilities.



Haynes quickly jumped clear of the oncoming vehicle and discharged her weapon twice, one round hitting a headlight and the other grazing the bottom of the van. The suspect fled the area and was captured about three blocks away.

Following the incident, Haynes said she didn't have a lot of anxiety initially. She took a little less than two weeks off. The first time she saw an ACME van driving in town she felt apprehensive. It wasn't until her first traffic stop that she felt the effects of her post-traumatic stress.

"At the first traffic stop I tried to do, I completely froze," she said. "I saw the intersection and I couldn't move. The car had gone through the intersection and pulled to the side of the road – they knew I was going to stop them. But I felt like somebody had punched me in the chest."

Haynes gave the driver a warning and got to an area where she could calm herself down. Her department had been very supportive, the chief and several officers offering a listening ear. About a week later, Haynes began having nightmares.

"My sleep was affected a long time," she said. "I had a lot of anger toward him and the way things went. I try to treat everybody with the same respect they treat me, and it didn't really sit well with me that I hadn't done anything to this guy and he tried to take my life. I'm a single mom. I have a 12-year-old at home. I was going

to go home at the end of the day, and it was hard for me to deal with it in that sense as well."

Chief Ealum has been an ardent supporter of the Kentucky Post-Critical Incident Seminar, now having sent nine officers through the program since it began last year. Like he had those before her, Ealum suggested Haynes attend KYPCIS to seek help.

"I had talked to a couple officers a little at a time on my terms, and of course, I chose bits and pieces of what I wanted to talk about," Haynes said. "PCIS had me talk about my incident in its entirety. The feelings, the dreams, the anxiety – and all in a place where I knew nobody could say anything because it was covered confidentially."

"Knowing other people had been through similar – or more serious – incidents and they were brave enough to talk about it brought that comfort to a level where I didn't feel angry when I was telling my story," she continued.

A candidate for Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) offered at KYPCIS, Haynes said she was able to seek treatment and no longer suffers from nightmares.

"I don't know what I would have done without (KYPCIS) training," she said. "I will forever be indebted and grateful to this department and (KYPCIS team member) Travis Tennill. This is something every officer should go to. Everyone can benefit from the services they provide." 🌩

Owensboro Police Evidence Collection Unit a Unique Team

When a former FBI and U.S. Secret Service certified latent fingerprint examiner offered to teach the Owensboro Police Department's Evidence Collection Unit (ECU) what he knows in his free time made possible by his retirement, they seized the opportunity.

Roughly 10 years since the department's fingerprint system was put into place, the officers who operate the ECU – Jim Parham, Ken Bennett, Jeff Roby and reserve officer Dane Holder – still are amazed by the results they have seen.

Owensboro's ECU is responsible for all property and evidence custodial functions as well as forensic functions responding to major crime scenes, Parham said. Unit members process crime scenes, examine evidence and provide expert court testimony.

Prior to obtaining the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) and latent print training, Owensboro officers sometimes didn't bother with fingerprinting scenes, Bennett said. It's a misconception that fingerprinting is an old technology.

"It's very relevant," he said. "You have to do what your resources allow you to do. But I think one of the advantages of having a specialized unit like this for evidence collection at crime scene investigations is that we are able to bring these specialized skills to the table and actually bring cases and suspects to the Criminal Investigation Division with fingerprints."

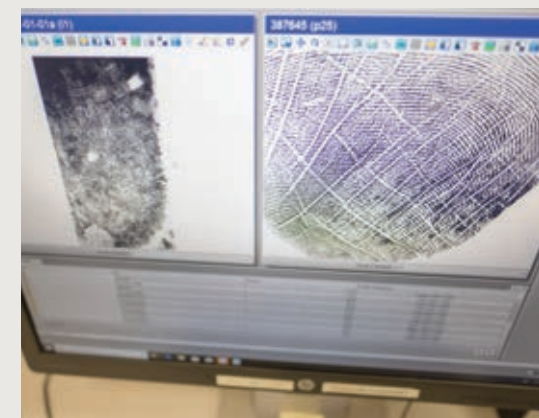
After receiving a Kentucky Office of Homeland Security grant for the necessary tools to process latent prints and being mentored by latent print examiner Sam Durrett, Parham has himself become a certified latent print examiner and Bennett still is working toward earning his certification as well.

"I had no idea what we were getting into," Parham said. "I've been here 29 years in December, and this has been the most complicated thing I've worked on my entire time here, and also the one I've gotten the most satisfaction from. It's very rewarding."

Today, an ECU staff member can process a fingerprint, send it off through the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) and have a response with 25 potential matches in a matter of minutes.

"When we submit a print workup and encoding, don't bother getting up," Parham said. "Because it's going to be back before you can get into anything else. In two or three minutes, something like that, it's back."

The computer identifies legitimate characteristics of the submitted print and returns matches it thinks looks the closest. It then takes a human examiner to review them side by side to determine if a proper identification is there.



(TOP) Owensboro Police Officer **JIM PARHAM** processes evidence using the department's Automatic Fingerprint Identification System, better known as AFIS.

(LEFT) Owensboro Police officers **JIM PARHAM, KEN BENNETT** and **JEFF ROBY** have been extensively trained to operate OPD's Automatic Fingerprint Identification System. Housing AFIS at OPD has led to an increase in fingerprint collection and, ultimately, to the identification of numerous suspects that otherwise may not have been identified.

"It's a complicated process," Parham said of reaching the point where they are able to assist in solving cases using the AFIS system. "We had a very experienced mentor, we have gone to training with different companies, there are proficiency tests that have to be maintained and there is a lot of scrutiny on forensic science right now. You have to be on top of the current research to be able to testify to the science and get it accepted in court. You can't just phone it in. But that's good for everybody – it does provide for stronger investigations."

"We have had cases where there's no suspect at all – and there wouldn't have been a suspect had we not identified a latent print," he continued.



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