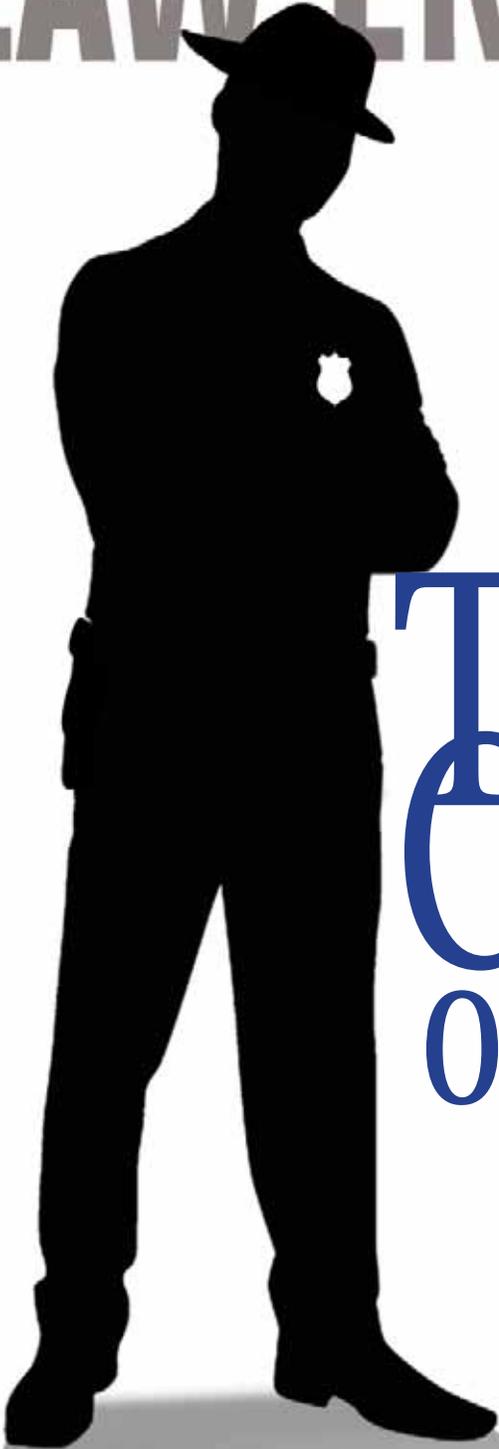


LAW ENFORCEMENT



The Challenge of **ONE**

PAGE 38

UNLOCKING Evidence
page 12

FEATURES



20



32



12



52

20 Forensics Labs

Analysts at Kentucky's six forensic laboratories uncover hidden information locked inside thousands of pieces of evidence submitted to the lab system by agencies across the state. Certain pieces of evidence and cases stand out as especially unique, strange, amusing or rewarding.

12 Unlocking Evidence

Profiling Kentucky State Police Major Ricki Allen and KSP Lab Manager Laura Sudkamp. Allen and Sudkamp discuss issues facing the labs and advise officers on evidence submission.

32 Remembering Jerry Healy

In memory of Jerry Healy, owner of several McDonald's throughout the bluegrass region, was a strong supporter of Kentucky law enforcement.

52 Metal Theft Slowing, But Far From Over

Despite a drop in the cost of metal, law enforcement and scrap dealers still are combating the cost of metal theft.

- 4 Measuring Character: Kentucky's Ice Storm
- 5 What You Don't Know Can Hurt You
- 6 **Briefs**
 - 6 Two Appointed to Kentucky Law Enforcement Council
 - 6 Kentucky Officers Work Presidential Detail
 - 7 E-Warrants System Called a Success
 - 7 KLEMF Golf Tournament to be Played in June
 - 7 Telecommunicators Honored
 - 7 New Chiefs of Police
 - 8 Tramadol Added to Drug Monitoring System
 - 8 Re-igniting Cold Cases
 - 8 NamUs Ready for Addition of Missing Persons Case
 - 8 KSP Awarded for Traffic Safety Programs
 - 9 KSP Giving Away Dodge Challenger for Trooper Island
 - 9 KLEC Presents CDP Certificates
 - 10 CDP Updates
- 12 Unlocking Evidence: Profile of Maj. Ricki Allen and Laura Sudkamp
- 20 Forensics Labs
- 32 Remembering Jerry Healy
- 34 Kentucky's Integrated Approach to Meth Labs
- 37 Book Review: The Unthinkable
- 38 Feature: The Challenge of One
- 50 DOCJT to Participate in National Research Platform
- 52 Metal Thefts Slowing, But Far From Over
- 62 Outstanding Contributions
- 64 Ice Storm 2009
- 66 KDFWR Assists Hurricane-Stricken New Orleans...Again
- 68 Efforts in Efficiency Really Pay Off
- 70 Policing a Challenging and Ever-Changing Population: Burnside Police Department
- 72 **In the Spotlight**
 - 72 Chief Chester Palmer
 - 73 Sheriff Larry Bennett
- 74 Tech: Caught!
- 75 Strange Stories from the Beat

Steve Beshear
Governor

J. Michael Brown
Justice and Public Safety
Cabinet Secretary

John W. Bizzack
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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. KLEN 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.



Measuring Character: Kentucky's Ice Storm

/J. Michael Brown, Secretary, Justice and Public Safety Cabinet

It is easy to do the right thing, to be a hero, when times are good. But often a truer measure of an individual's — or an organization's — character is how one handles oneself in a crisis. Nowhere was that more evident than the response of justice and public safety departments in protecting communities and individuals entrusted to their care during the worst natural disaster in Kentucky's history.

Kentucky State Police's 16 posts responded to nearly 8,200 calls for assistance in the first week following the debilitating winter storm that hit Kentucky on January 27. Our three prisons in western Kentucky, including the maximum security prison in Edyville, were without power and operating on generators for at least the first seven days. Yet, they had no significant inmate incidents. Our juvenile justice staff moved 37 youths from one center that had no heat or water to another facility to ensure proper care and treatment.

The ice froze more than power lines. It immobilized entire counties, cutting off communication, access and basic necessities such as food and water. Yet, our employees working in the state's hardest hit areas maintained their posts, displaying exemplary courage, compassion and camaraderie, even as their own families and homes languished without heat and power.

At the peak of the ice storm, we still had staff in all three prisons who managed to make it to work every shift — on roads that had trees, limbs, power poles and lines across them. In numerous cases, staff spent days and nights at the prison to make sure the facility was secure. We had correctional officers who rode 4-wheelers into work or parked their vehicles and walked because the roads were blocked with fallen trees and limbs.

The examples of going above and beyond, go on and on:

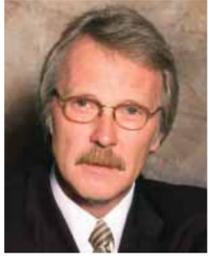
- A trooper made a midnight house call to a local pharmacist in order to get oxygen tanks refilled for shelter inhabitants who were running out.
- Vehicle enforcement officers who escorted utility trucks from Mississippi and Oklahoma to areas that needed electrical repair/assistance.
- Juvenile justice workers who checked on nearby residents and distributed food to area shelters and homes. Inmate crews that cleared completely impassable roadways and bridges and unloaded emergency supplies at shelters.

Even the most mundane tasks became valiant missions given the circumstances, and once again, our cabinet rose to the challenge. Western Kentucky Correctional Complex workers laundered uniforms and other items for EMS workers, National Guard troops and local police throughout the disaster. Also, inmate barbers provided haircuts to guardsmen who were deployed to the area.

As secretary, I am enormously proud of the men and women who put their own comfort and personal circumstances aside to provide for the safety of their communities during such widespread and universal devastation. But perhaps it's easy for me to say, "Good job," when I see common acts of heroism in our departments every day, and admittedly, I'm unsurprised by this kind of response.

That's why this note, from inmates at Kentucky State Penitentiary to Warden Tom Simpson, probably says it best:

"A lot of us really had no idea the seriousness of this winter storm (and) the effect that it truly had on ... families, friends and communities," the inmates wrote. "The realization finally hit us after being able to watch the 10 o'clock news for the first time last night. Seeing people crying because they had nowhere to go, or because a loved one was found deceased because they had frozen to death... You all took the time away from you all's family, friends and communities, who were in worse shape than us, to come to work, and did the best that you all could given the circumstances. We recognize and appreciate it very much." J



What You Don't Know Can Hurt You

/John W. Bizzack, Commissioner, Department of Criminal Justice Training

The 2008 American Civic Literacy Test recently was released by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute in Wilmington, Del. Unfortunately, the result turned out to be akin to a TV reality show where stupidity is highlighted for the amusement of the audience. As a whole, Americans failed the test miserably.

The purpose was not to disparage American higher education, but to hold it accountable and encourage leaders to consider possible reforms. The basic 33-question civic literacy test surveyed a random sample of 2,508 American adults, ranging from those without high school diplomas to those with advanced degrees. Questions were drawn from nationally recognized exams such as the U.S. government's citizenship test and National Assessment of Education Progress test.

Here is the unfortunate part: the average score for all Americans who took this test was 49 percent, or an F.

The abysmal results led to the conclusion that knowledge of basic American heritage is fading, and steps must be taken to improve the results. The study found that:

- High schools and colleges should teach America's heritage.
- College today adds little to civic knowledge.
- Television — including TV news — dumbs down America.
- Elected officials scored lower than the general public.

ISI concluded that Americans do not possess the knowledge necessary to wisely participate in the nation's affairs.

A few results underwriting this conclusion were that:

- Only 54 percent of Americans correctly can identify a basic description of the free-enterprise system on which our economy is based.
- 30 percent of elected officials did not know that "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness: are the inalienable rights referred to in the Declaration of Independence.
- Only 24 percent of college graduates know what the First Amendment to the Constitution defines.
- Fewer than half of all Americans can name all three branches of government — a requirement to understand America's constitutional system.

- 24-hour cable news channels are not a boon to civic knowledge.

Yes, the findings are frightening enough seeing only these few results, but there is much more. You can take the test yourself online and see into which bracket you fall. The Web site is www.american-civilliteracy.org.

One has to wonder what the results say about the United States' condition. Are we becoming a nation of citizens who vote with only 49 percent of the knowledge necessary to vote wisely? Are we losing the meaning of our mutual heritage so rapidly that it now is easier to substitute quick fixes that often fly in the face of the rule of law, hard earned Constitutional liberties and inalienable rights? Because the majority of Americans earned an F on a basic civics test, how much of what our forebearers fought for have we thoughtlessly given up?

The answers to those questions and many more may be largely subjective. But an objective look at how the test results ripple through other areas — particularly criminal justice and policing — might offer insight into contemporary policing practices.

If 49 percent of Americans cannot pass the civic literacy test, then arguably that same 49 percent does not understand or support other critical public services, such as policing.

The same view can be extended to America's police corps. Would 49 percent of police officers also fail such a civic exam? Do more than 49 percent of officers have a sound civic literacy about the history of policing, how it evolved to today's model and why? Are decisions made by officers based on only having 49 percent of the knowledge required to participate wisely in American policing practices?

It is difficult to know where you are going if you do not really know where you started, or where you are at this moment. Sometimes just that knowledge alone helps to understand different points of view and work to find appropriate, lasting solutions rather than taking the easy way out.

Possessing that kind of knowledge — the fundamental knowledge of our heritage, regardless of whether it is the heritage of America or the heritage of policing can — elevate the practice of sound decision making. Apparently, 49 percent of Americans do not do that very well as the ISI demonstrated. What does that portend for the future of policing and the future of our nation? J

Briefs

Two Appointed to Kentucky Law Enforcement Council

Two Kentucky police chiefs recently were appointed as members of the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council. Gov. Steve Beshear appointed Owensboro Police Chief Glenn W. Skeens and Prestonsburg Police Chief Michael Ormerod to join the 21-person council.

Skeens was appointed to a four-year term expiring July 1, 2012. He is serving the KLEC curriculum committee. A 20-year veteran of the Owensboro Police Department, Skeens rose through the ranks to become chief last year.

A former marine and veteran of the Persian Gulf war, Skeens is a native of Ow-



▲ Ormerod



▲ Skeens

ensboro. He earned his bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Roger Williams University and then a master's degree in criminal justice from Eastern Kentucky University. He also is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, Department of Crimi-

nal Justice Training's Criminal Justice Executive Development program and the School of Strategic Leadership.

Ormerod started his career in 1982 as an auxiliary officer with the Prestonsburg Police Department and became a full time patrol officer in October of the following year. During his service to the department, Ormerod has been assigned as an investigator, patrol supervisor and collision reconstructionist. He was appointed in 2001 to serve as the department's director of public safety before being named chief in 2003.

He is serving the KLEC certification committee. Ormerod also will serve until July 1, 2012.

Kentucky Officers Work Presidential Detail

More than 150 Kentucky officers participated in the inaugural ceremonies for President Barack Obama this January.

Louisville Metro Police Department sent 58 officers, Lexington Division of Police sent 56 officers and 38 Kentucky State Police troopers attended the events. All three departments worked a special detail on the parade route along with other security measures, according to their respective media relations officers.

LDP Spokeswoman Ann Gutierrez said the officers were selected throughout the police department to serve during the detail.

This inauguration marked the second time Kentucky officers have been asked in recent years to maintain security during the week. All three agencies also served during George W. Bush's second inauguration.



▲ Kentucky State Police Troopers perform crowd control duty along the inaugural parade route in Washington D.C. on Jan. 20.

E-warrants System Called a Success

Just a year after an electronic, interlinked system went online to assist law enforcement officials in serving warrants, summonses and other documents, the initiative has seen cogent results.

As of December, more than 62 percent of warrants entered into the E-Warrants system had been served, a press release from Gov. Steve Beshear's office stated. Under the previous paper system, less than 10 percent were served, the release stated.

"The E-Warrants system provides all Kentucky law enforcement officers with instant access to critical local warrant information, beyond what they can obtain through the National Crime Information Center, said Kentucky State Police Commissioner Rodney Brewer. This greatly enhances officer safety and will result in more warrants served and more criminals off our streets."

The system is live in Jefferson, Campbell, Scott, Bourbon and Woodford counties. The program soon will be launched in Fayette County and is expected to be live statewide by the end of 2010 at a cost of about \$900,000.

Before the E-Warrants system was launched, there were as many as 300,000 outstanding warrants across the state at any time, the press release stated. Eventually, old warrants will be entered into the system and by mid-2009, all new emergency protective orders and domestic violence orders will be entered as well.

KLEMF Golf Tournament to be Played in June

The annual Kentucky Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation golf tournament will be played June 1 at the Cherry Blossom Golf Club in Georgetown. The tournament will begin at 8:30 a.m.

This year's cost is \$70 per person and includes a wind shirt, a ham and pork lunch, the green fee and cart.

For more information or to register yourself or a team, please contact Pam Smallwood at (859) 622-8081 or by e-mail at Pam.Smallwood@ky.gov.

Telecommunicators Honored



▲ Campbellsville telecommunicators Greg Cox, Amy Pike and Adam England received the Johnny Ed-drington Beyond the Call of Duty award for their handling of a call about an elderly man choking.

New Chiefs of Police

Cary Eaton, Brownsville Police Dept.

Eaton was appointed chief of the Brownsville Police Department October 21, 2008. He retired from the Kentucky State Police after 30 years of service. Eaton attended Eastern Kentucky University and is a certified commercial-helicopter and airplane pilot. He describes the disposition in Brownsville as an exciting new era. Eaton looks forward to hiring more officers and working toward accreditation.

Harry Greenwell, Pioneer Village Police Dept.

Greenwell was appointed chief of the Pioneer Village Police Department January 1. He has more than 20 years of law enforcement experience. Before becoming chief, Greenwell served as interim chief of Pioneer Village for 16 months. Greenwell is a firm believer in community-oriented policing and looks forward to helping the elderly and children more in Pioneer Village.

Phillip Slone, Whitesburg Police Dept.

Slone was appointed chief of the Whitesburg Police Department January 1. Slone has served the cities of Pippa Passes and Wayland, as well as the Knott and Perry counties sheriffs' offices in his more than 20 years of service. His primary goals are to invest in new equipment for his officers such as TASERS, new vests and newer in-vehicle computers. He also intends to seek more grant funding.

Glen Woods, Campbellsburg Police Dept.

Woods was appointed chief of the Campbellsburg Police Department January 1. Woods served most of his career with and retired after 30 years from the Louisville Police Department. He served two years as chief of the LaGrange Police Department and worked part-time for CPD before being named chief. His long-term plans consist of completing the accreditation process and becoming more involved in the community through community-oriented policing.

■ Tramadol Added to Drug Monitoring System

The Cabinet for Health and Family Services' Office of Inspector General recently added the drug Tramadol to its list of controlled substances monitored by the Kentucky All Schedule Prescription Electronic Reporting system.

Tramadol, which is intended to alleviate pain, has been added to a list of pharmaceutical products falling under the category of schedule IV narcotics monitored by KASPER, which tracks controlled substance prescriptions dispensed in Kentucky.

By adding Tramadol to the list of controlled substances monitored by KASPER, the OIG will not be preventing those in need of the drug from obtaining it. Rather, the OIG will be working with health care providers, pharmacists and law enforcement to watch for any potential abuse or illegal activity in relation to the drug.

To learn more, visit www.chfs.ky.gov/os/oig/KASPER.htm.

■ Re-igniting Cold Cases

With advances in the field of forensics, cold cases have become a popular subject for newspapers and television, but forensics is not the answer in every cold case.

For that reason, the Department of Criminal Justice Training is offering a Cold Case Investigations course. This course will discuss the reasons why cases become cold and how teamwork, technology and tenacity are important in re-investigating and solving these crimes. The class also will explore criteria used to determine if a case should be re-opened and issues that should be considered during cold case investigations – issues such as man-power and budget concerns.

The class will use cases supplied by the students in roundtable discussions and exercises. Cold case investigation is not magic. The course has been designed to draw on the talents and experience of every student in the class in taking another look at these investigations. For this reason, there is a prerequisite of having attended Criminal Investigation I (formerly the Basic Investigators School) and/or Homicide Investigative Techniques.

A Cold Case Investigations class is scheduled in Louisville for June 1 through 5 and will be instructed by Jim Clark of DOCJT's Louisville office and John Scharz of DOCJT's Richmond office. If you have questions about this new class, please call Clark at (502) 429-7485 or Schwartz at (859) 622-6864.

■ NamUs Ready for Addition of Missing Persons Cases

The second phase of the NamUs Web site now is prepared for the addition of missing persons cases. The database can be found by visiting www.FindTheMissing.org, said Todd Matthews, NamUs advisory board consultant and member.

The Web site provides an opportunity for families, law enforcement agencies and investigators to search nationwide for missing persons using a variety of search features. The third phase, expected to be completed next year, will complete the integration of the databases "to allow simultaneous searching of missing persons records against cases in the unidentified decedents database to identify unidentified human remains," according to the Web site.

■ KSP Awarded for Traffic Safety Programs



▲ From left to right: Kentucky State Police Commissioner Rodney Brewer, Lori Hunsaker of the Kentucky State Police Highway Safety Branch and Lt. Col. Mike Sapp, Operations Division Director accepted the Law Enforcement Challenge award on behalf of KSP at the International Association of Chiefs of Police national conference in San Diego in November. The award recognizes the best overall traffic safety programs in the United States. /photo by Joe Orlando

■ KSP Giving Away Dodge Challenger for Trooper Island

The Kentucky State Police is featuring a 372-horsepower Dodge Challenger R/T in its 2009 Trooper Island raffle. Tickets are \$10 each and are available from any state police post or the Kentucky State Police Media Relations Branch. The winning ticket will be drawn August 30 at the Ky. State Fair. The raffle winner is responsible for all tax and license fees. All profits will benefit Trooper Island, a free summer camp for disadvantaged children. Each year, the camp hosts approximately 700 children, providing good food, fresh air, recreation, guidance and structured, esteem-building activities designed to build positive relationships with law enforcement officers.



KLEC Presents CDP Certificates

/KLEC Staff Report

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.

Two certificates were awarded for the first time during the past quarter to James Moore and Michael Pearre.



▲ James Moore

James Moore of the Independence Police Department earned the first Crime Scene Processing Officer certificate. This certificate is for those who specialize in the collection, preservation and interpretation of crime scene evidence. To earn this certificate, one must complete Crime Scene Investigations, Digital Photography and Advanced Latent Fingerprints courses or complete the Criminalistics Academy or National Forensic Academy. An additional 80 hours of investigations courses also must be completed. One also must meet the educational and experience requirements for this certificate.

Moore has been a police officer for 13 years. He has an associate's degree in law enforcement and a bachelor's degree with a double major in sociology and justice studies from Northern Kentucky University. He is currently working on his master's degree in public administration from NKU. Moore is assigned to the Criminal Investigations Section and his duties include criminal investigations, crime scene processing, evidence handling/processing and photography. He also is a field training officer and TASER instructor.



▲ Michael Pearre

Michael Pearre of the Daviess County Sheriff's Office earned the first Law Enforcement Officer Advanced Investigator certificate.

This certificate is aimed at those who have achieved an advanced level of investigative training. To earn this certificate one must have previously earned the CDP Law Enforcement Officer Investigator certificate, which requires 200 hours of investigations training. An additional 160 hours of investigations training is required as well as meeting the educational and experience requirements for this certificate.

Pearre has completed numerous in-service training classes. He began his law enforcement career with the U.S. Marine Corps in 1984. He worked with the McLean County Sheriff's Office and the Livermore Police Department before joining the Daviess County Sheriff's Office in 1999, where he is a narcotics detective.

His duties include investigating narcotics crimes and dismantling clandestine meth labs. He also is assigned as a task force officer with Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. >>

>> **INTERMEDIATE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**
Ashland Police Department
 Brunty, Robert P.
 Clark, Brian J.

Berea Police Department
 Jones, Christopher S.
 Reed, Brantley J.
 Willard, Troy M.

Boone County Sheriff's Office
 Adams, Timothy J.
 Christmann, John M.
 Lusty, Anthony F.
 McVay, Bruce M.
 Tanner, Gregory D.
 Towles, Terry D.
 Walters, Ryan A.
 Wermeling, James D.
 Whalen, James H.

Danville Police Department
 Adams, Brian L.
 Parsons, David L.

Eminence Police Department
 Parham, Phillip W.

Independence Police Department
 Fuson, Nathan V.
 Hicks, Mathew S.

Jackson Police Department
 Haddix, Brian E.
 Hollan, John O.
 Howard, Shawn
 Marshall, John W.
 Miller II, Thomas K.
 Noble, Jeffrey S.

Monticello Police Department
 Lester, Derek L.
 Wolfe II, Glenn D.

Paducah Police Department
 Wentworth, Michael R.

Simpson County Sheriff's Office
 Whittlesey, Steve E.

ADVANCED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER
Boone County Sheriff's Office
 Tanner, Gregory D.
 Demoisey, Jared D.
 Whalen, James H.
 Preston, Michael L.
 Towles, Terry D.
 Cox, Coy G.
 Mcvay, Bruce M.
 Wermeling, James D.

Bowling Green Police Department

Rexroat, Michael S.

Campbell County Police Department
 Hart, Marty A.

Independence Police Department
 Fuson, Nathan V.
 Hicks, Mathew S.

Jackson Police Department
 Marshall, John W.
 Noble, Jeffrey S.

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER INVESTIGATOR
Covington Police Department
 Rigney, Joanne
 Thompson, James M.

Danville Police Department
 Ladd, Robert M.

Junction City Police Department
 Gipson, Jimmy G.

Louisville Metro Police Department
 Shingleton, William A.

Paducah Police Department
 Wentworth, Michael R.

Radcliff Police Department
 Love, David R.

Simpson County Sheriff's Office
 Bauer, James G.

LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAFFIC OFFICER
Berea Police Department
 Hampton, James B.

Boone County Sheriff's Office
 Christmann, John M.
 Wermeling, James D.

Independence Police Department
 Fuson, Nathan V.

ADVANCED DEPUTY SHERIFF
Boone County Sheriff's Office
 Byrd, Gerald A.
 Wuchner, Jan

LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPERVISOR
Boone County Sheriff's Office
 Walters, Ryan A.
 Wermeling, James D.
 Whalen, James H.

Cold Spring Police Department
 Burk III, Edward J.

Danville Police Department
 Bustle, Thomas E.

Newport Police Department
 Garnick, David A.

Shelbyville Police Department
 Wilson, John A.

LAW ENFORCEMENT MANAGER
Boone County Sheriff's Office
 Towles, Terry D.
 Whalen, James H.

Covington Police Department
 Maurer, William B.

Danville Police Department
 Newell, M. Jay

Fort Thomas Police Department
 Gadzala, James M.

Independence Police Department
 Lonaker, John T.

LAW ENFORCEMENT EXECUTIVE
Boone County Sheriff's Office
 Whalen, James H.

Florence Police Department
 Cloyd, William L.

Northern KY University Police Department
 Wince, Bobby J.

LAW ENFORCEMENT CHIEF EXECUTIVE
Cold Spring Police Department
 Burk III, Edward J.

BASIC TELECOMMUNICATOR
Boyd County Public Safety Communication Center 911
 Kitts, Brandon T.

Campbellsville 911 Communications
 Sanders, Anne G.

Danville Police Department
 Caldwell, Rebecca L.

Madisonville Police Department
 Marks, Michael A.

McBride, Sarah R.
 Nelson, Matthew R.
 Orange, Randall E.
 Wheatley, Sherry L.

Russell County Dispatch
 McQueary, Terra N.

Warren County Sheriff's Office
 Sherry, Dale D.

Whitley County Communications Center
 Manning, Debbie S.

INTERMEDIATE TELECOMMUNICATOR
Jessamine County 911
 Bowman, Christopher
 Griffith, Kimberly M.
 Hatfield, Wendell R.

KSP Post 16, Henderson
 Toman, Leisa R.

Muhlenberg County 911
 Avery, Reba G.

Paris/Bourbon County 911
 Benson, Jeannette M.

Versailles Police Department
 Richards, Amy L.

Winchester Police Department
 Leslie, Rondi

ADVANCED TELECOMMUNICATOR
Jessamine County 911
 Griffith, Kimberly M.
 Hatfield, Wendell R.

Paris/Bourbon County 911
 Benson, Jeannette M.

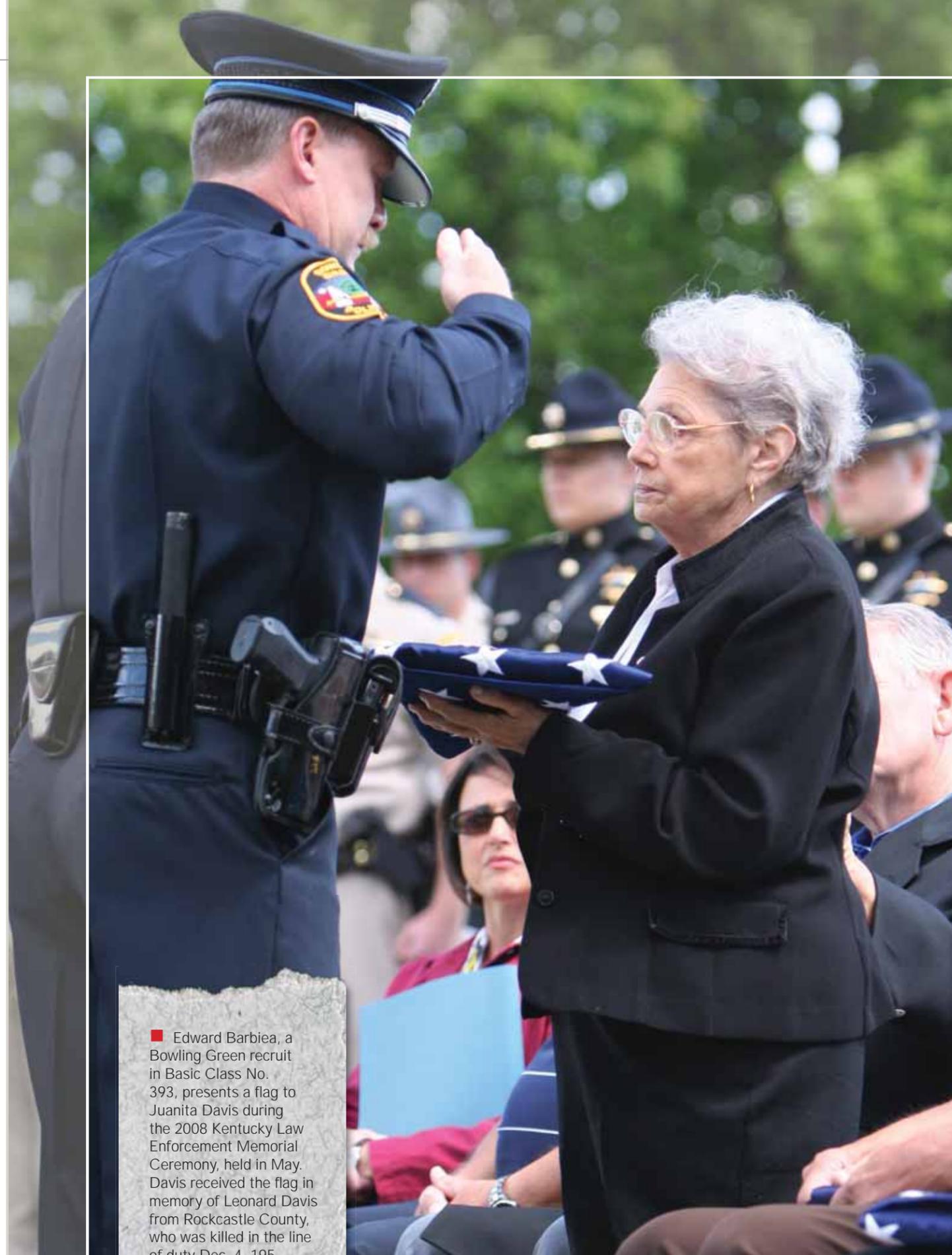
Shelby County 911 Communications
 Desimone, Casey

Winchester Police Department
 Leslie, Rondi

TELECOMMUNICATION SUPERVISOR
KSP Post 16, Henderson
 Toman, Leisa R.

TELECOMMUNICATION MANAGER
Warren County Sheriff's Office
 Harmon, Stephen M.

Winchester Police Department
 Rogers, Rhonda W. ■



■ Edward Barbiea, a Bowling Green recruit in Basic Class No. 393, presents a flag to Juanita Davis during the 2008 Kentucky Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony, held in May. Davis received the flag in memory of Leonard Davis from Rockcastle County, who was killed in the line of duty Dec. 4, 195.

Photo by Elizabeth Thomas

UNLOCKING EVIDENCE

Kentucky State Police Central Laboratory director and manager offer tips for officers in evidence submission

/Abbie Darst, Program Coordinator

With only a \$1,200 comparison microscope and a mere budget of \$600, the Kentucky State Police created the state's first forensic laboratory in 1951. From day one, the lab offered its services free of charge to any city, county or law enforcement officer in the commonwealth. Today, the lab system still provides law enforcement with the unique tools necessary to promote justice, solve mysteries and right the wrongs of our society.

In the midst of high-powered equipment and high-quality expertise stand the men and women whose education, skill and concern for justice ensure Kentucky's forensic laboratories' services remain reliable and reputable.

Maj. Ricki Allen, named lab director in November, along with Central Lab manager, Laura Sudkamp, address how law enforcement agencies and lab analysts can work together to turn evidence submitted into cases solved and justice served.

The KSP Forensic Laboratories have been in existence for nearly 60 years. How have the services changed over the years?

RA: Laura has been here nearly 20 years, so that is a lot of experience.

LS: Basically, the labs used to deal only with firearms and toxicology. Later we expanded and the drug section came in. The fingerprint unit used to be with us, but it is now over at records. But fingerprints, firearms and blood alcohol, what most crime labs started with, are what we started with.

As the investigations improved, the science improved with it, and we started adding things. Trace was added, serology was added instead of just looking at the blood type. They added enzymes to it after awhile and we could actually pull out components of the blood and do a comparison.

Now we have added the DNA. We do not do the enzyming anymore, we don't do the A, B, O anymore, we just identify that it is a body fluid and whether it is human or not. Then we go on with the DNA process.

The Trace Section can do all kinds of things now. It used to be that we would all cringe at the hair analysis. All they used to do was a microscopic analysis and got very intense on everything they looked at with the hair. Still, you can find many people who have the same hair. The process was better at ruling people out than it was saying this one person really did it. But a lot of forensics and criminal cases hung on hair. So now we can do mitochondrial DNA through the hair. >>

/Photos by Elizabeth Thomas

>> What is the biggest challenge facing the lab system? How can those challenges be tackled?

RA: I think it is the budget. But that is something that cannot be helped because everything is so expensive out there and you only have so much money, and you cannot rob Peter to pay Paul. A second issue would be the submission of evidence here.

LS: The biggest goal in forensic science is to provide the best possible analytical method for any discipline and the newest technology. As you know, whenever a brand new type of TV comes along or when we go, for example, from DVD to Blue Ray, when it first comes out it is amazingly expensive and we have to wait for the prices to come down. Sci-

▼ The Central Lab's Toxicology Section batches many cases together, allowing them to run numerous samples at one time.



ence is that way and worse. Because once you buy this brand new, miracle working piece of equipment, you have to buy the specific chemicals that go with it and those prices do not come down. They only go up.

So we have to struggle between do we expand, do we cut back services, do we not buy the latest and greatest equipment? Typically we do not, we wait for the prices to come down. But at that point, people are seeing it on the news or watching TV shows where the great advancements are out there and we cannot do it because we do not have the money to do it.

RA: Everyone always tries to help us. It is not like we are sitting here saying, no one is here to help us. People out there, the legislators, everyone else, they are always trying to do what they can to make sure, since we serve so many agencies across the state, that we get what we need.

LS: Bowling Green/Warren County Drug Task Force has grant money and for several years they funded most of one analyst's salary to help pay for the amount of drugs they submit.

Basically, it is the budget and education – trying to get across to people that DNA solves a lot of stuff, but it is not going to solve everything TV is not real, and they need to learn what to submit. The more we can educate on what to submit, the better the cases will be.

RA: When we are talking about education of police officers, it's not picking on other agencies. It is included with the state police. Some agencies have several officers that do it correctly and one or two that do not. So it is not everybody out there, but it does include the state police as well.

LS: This is an across-the-board education process because they do not know. We are the experts. We deal with it every single day, so we know where you are going to find your best evidence and we know what it takes to get your convictions because we have been there. We have tested 100 pieces of evidence in a case and only used five, then tested 100 pieces of evidence in another case and used the same five. So we know what is going to end up being used in court. Our experience really does preach to that.

How do you think law enforcement officers around the state can better take advantage of the services provided by the labs?

LS: We get a lot of cases in. We do lecture the police officers a lot about if it is a misdemeanor marijuana case and the odds are they are going to go ahead and

plead guilty, do not send in the drug evidence until you know. It saves us time, it saves us money and it makes us like you more. It helps us. If we know that officers are helping us with our back log, we tend to establish a better relationship with them.

The same thing goes for the DNA and firearms cases. Do not send in a box full of evidence and say, 'Here, you guys sort it out. You guys figure out what is important and analyze it all.' If you really sit down and look at your case and say, 'The blood on the body is obviously the victim's,' we do not need to test it. If a person is shot, their shirt is going to be bloody. We know that is the victim's blood, but there are a lot of people that will send it in and say, 'Please test to confirm that this is the victim's blood.' We will not do it. It saves us money. At \$400 per sample, we cannot work a whole lot of cases like that. We try to hold it to between five and 10 exhibits for DNA, for that reason — for money and for time. Most analysts can only run 30 to 40 items in DNA each month. If you have a case that has 30 to 40 items, that is just one month analytically to do that. So if we can turn around and instead keep each case to about five to 10 items, you are getting a whole lot more case production, saving a lot more money and still getting the same result.

Also, if they know that their case has plead out, or somebody has dropped the charges, or the grand jury has come back and they will not indict, rather than just leave the evidence in line here, call us, let us know. The analysts just love officers when they do that and in turn, when they have a rush case, we are going to work with them so we can help put it in line and get it expedited.

It is the same as the rest of the world in that it is give and take. If they submit their cases conscientiously, and do not just dump them, they get a better product, a faster run time and we are both happy.

What is the biggest challenge that officers face in submitting evidence for processing through the lab system?

LS: CSI. Trying to figure out what is real and what we can really do. Sometimes they have a vehicle that they think a suspect took a dead body in somewhere to dispose of it and they will call and say, 'we want the vehicle processed,' and the question is what do they want done? Then we actually have to walk them through what it is that they think they want because they do not know what to ask for or what can be done. That is probably the biggest issue.

RA: The CSI effect is affecting not only the officers submitting, but the public in general. They see

something on TV where they get a blood stain then they put it in a little computer and 10 minutes later not only the name but a photo pops up of who they need. In all actuality, it does not happen that way. But when they go to court, people who are not educated on how the lab process really works, they do not understand why certain things have not been done.

LS: It is hard to tell sometimes what is real. There are things that we can do. Can we find cocaine in someone's blood? Yes we can. Can we find it in a dried blood stain on someone's shirt? No we cannot. It is so diluted. One little blood stain – I mean we're getting blood out of a tube and running it. This is just a blood stain here and on TV they are able to pull it, get the DNA out of it and then go back and play with it and get cocaine out of it, and it is just too minute, you can't do it.

So they do not know necessarily what is real because some of what they do on TV is real and some of it is not, or they take it to the next step.

I choose to watch them because people will come into the laboratory or I will get a phone call that says, 'On TV we saw this, can you do that?' and I have to think back in my head of what episode that was. I do not watch all of them, but generally I have an idea of what they saw.

But one of the worst problems we have is when you go to pull a case, especially in DNA, and there is not a standard submitted. They never got the standard from the suspect. Right now if officers do not give us a two-month warning on DNA, there is no way they will get it for court. Because of the way the back log is running, we really need closer to three or four months in order to pull it and get it in line. If that standard is not there, it is just amazing how far it can back you up.

The other big problem is agencies holding their evidence for months before sending it in. You have the ones that come up weekly, and it is not a problem, but others will want you to rush their case. We have judges that are demanding in every county. Everybody has a homicide case, everybody has a rape victim they really care about and we want to solve them all, but we cannot do it. Everybody is going to wait in line at some point. If you want to help that process, get your evidence in immediately.

What do you think keeps officers from getting their evidence in as quickly as possible?

LS: Travel time and just getting around to it. They have to do paperwork with it. That goes back to when I said do not just put it in a big box and dump it on us >>

BEAST Allows for Paperless Reporting

Barcode Evidence Analysis, Statistics and Tracking or the BEAST is a laboratory information management system, which allows the Kentucky State Police Forensic Laboratories to maintain paperless files. The system contains the case information, data and reports from all six state forensic labs. Prior to obtaining the BEAST in June 2007, each lab used its own internal systems, which were identical but could not talk to each other. The six labs mailed more than 40,000 reports per year to investigating officers. Now, with the new BEAST system, they are able to publish lab results on a secure Web site. Also, with this system, the prosecutors are able to see what and when — or if — evidence has been submitted to the labs on their cases.

"We've gotten a lot of kudos on that because they can see what the status is on the case," Central Lab Manager Laura Sudkamp said. "If it is analyzed and waiting on peer review, they know they can call and say, 'hey I've got court in two days, can you get that released?' They'll check it the next day and poof, it's done."

The online system saves the lab paper and postage, while allowing prosecutors and officers to retrieve their needed reports and to monitor case submissions in a timely, efficient manner.

The BEAST is open to every law enforcement agency, commonwealth's attorney and county attorney in the commonwealth.

For more information or to get registered to access the BEAST, contact Laura Sudkamp at (502) 564-5230 or laura.sudkamp@ky.gov. ■

>> and make us sort it out. They really need to sit down and go, 'OK, this is probably the most probative. The blood on the shirt is probably the victims, the blood on the suspects shoes is probably the victim's too — we want to send that, but we probably do not need to send the victim's clothing.' They really have to sit down and go through it, and they just put it off and put it off until somebody says, 'You need to get that submitted.'

RA: And also what happens with that, a lot of people are short staffed, just as we are, and when agencies are short staffed, they get in more of a hurry to get stuff in because they want to get convictions. It is all in good meaning, but then it backs up because the proper amount of time was not taken.

LS: And we were faster than we are right now. But because so much of what we are getting in now is DNA, and a lot of times, they wait for DNA results before they go any further in an investigation. That is one reason there is a big demand on it. A lot of times the investigation will actually stop until they get DNA results, and so we are getting a lot more stuff in — cases that they never would have submitted DNA on before.

There are six labs across the state that have various capabilities for processing evidence. If budgets were not a concern, do you think it would be helpful for all six labs to offer full-lab services and capabilities?

LS: That would be over doing it. All the labs have blood alcohol and all the labs have solid dose drug identification. The labs with firearms sections run along I-64. It is in three of the six labs, the Jefferson, Central and Ashland laboratories. They handle pretty much all the

process a little quicker and smoother, and the peer review process is done quicker. So, putting analysts at each laboratory would mean that we would have to put a couple of them at each laboratory. At that point we would be wasting a lot of money, and we would have a lot of people sitting twiddling thumbs.

The same thing applies to toxicology. They are able to do it all here. Keeping it in one area allows us to batch a lot of it, and again, that saves money. If we could set it up regionally, maybe one other place would be helpful, but they are really efficient here with what they do. It is the largest section we have in the state.

The other one is trace. There are times that I wish we could have trace in another lab or two, but they have so much equipment that is so expensive.

On one hand, if we were able to put all the analytical disciplines into all the laboratories, it would save your local police officers from having to drive to Frankfort to get their evidence to the Central Lab. On the other hand, it is just not worth it. We would end up having a budget six times what we have now and the people required to do it would be immense. The backlog would be nothing and there would be complete turnaround. But, we would have a lot of people twiddling their thumbs. We would have to about triple our size in order to do it.

Are there any new initiatives, equipment or services that the lab system plans to add in the near future of which the law enforcement community can take advantage?

RA: We have, I think, the most updated equipment anyway.

LS: We stay as current as we can with all our instrumentation. The only thing we are really lacking in is gunshot residue. We are hoping to get a new instrument called a scanning electron microscope. And not only is it a better analytical method, but right now with the method we have, we can only get gunshot residue off the hands. With the SEM, we are able to get gunshot residue off clothing, or, if it went up their nose, we can get it out of there or out of their hair. If an officer thinks it was a drive-by shooting, we can pull it out of the car. Our current tests cannot do that, it is hands only. We can get the residue off gloves, if they were

wearing dark gloves. The SEM is much more definitive than what we do now. That is really the only area that we are lacking, and we are working on getting grant money in order to get one.

We would also like to expand DNA. We have already proven that our instruments, our people, our methods and our facility all work correctly for DNA — it has gone to the Supreme Court and been proven. If we add DNA testing to another lab, we have to prove every instrument, every analyst, every method and the location all work and it takes about two years to do that. DNA is one area that you absolutely have to follow everything to the letter, you cannot vary from any step at all. It is just one of the disciplines that we fear what we call drift. If we did put DNA at another laboratory, it would have to be one that was close enough that the two sections would be comparing, combining and checking on each other constantly. The hope is that we eventually can get some new space here in Frankfort and shove DNA around here a little bit more, and maybe add to its potential so it is a little faster. That is about the only area where we would increase instrumentation and people.

How long do you foresee it taking to get the money for the Scanning Electron Microscope?

LS: They are extremely expensive, and in these budget years that is part of the problem. We are competing with funds. The Kentucky State Police has a laboratory, but we are a support function to law enforcement — not just to KSP, but to every law enforcement agency in the state. We suck a lot of money out of KSP. Just the general work horse pieces of equipment that we use, the gas chromatographs and the mass spectrometers that process more than 85 percent of our cases — the GCs are \$55,000 a piece and the mass specs are close to \$100,000 a piece. They last approximately 10 years and we have probably 40 of them across the state. We always try to get grants whenever we can to purchase many of those pieces of equipment. Grant money right now is all geared toward DNA. We are hoping there is a grant that the feds are letting up on that we can twist a little and hopefully get the SEM.

Does the lab offer training for law enforcement officers? If so, in what areas and how would officers get information to register and attend?

LS: We do a lot for our own agency because our theory is, get the detectives trained as much as possible, and they will submit the best possible evidence back. We do 40-hour blood-stain pattern training. We also have, in house, what we call the TTT, the traveling training team, where we will go out regionally to an

agency that wants training. But I hate going to each individual agency to do that because it is a lot of time and we have to take people off the bench. We basically tell them, if you will set up a regional training and invite 50 to 100 officers, we will come up for a day and work with you.

RA: Which is a very good thing because it leads back to one of the first questions asked — if the departments know the right things to send, it takes a whole lot off the back log and off the work load.

Is there any kind of coordination with the Department of Criminal Justice Training for training in evidence submission or other types of coordination for teaching these classes?

RA: I think overall DOCJT offers many evidence-handling classes and, overall, I think they do a good job on that. Actually, we coordinate with them to get some of our people trained and visa versa. So it is a total team effort on DOCJT and the state police to make training as efficient as possible.

LS: We are working with them on a class in February to send 20 of our people to go through crime-scene training. DOCJT does a very good job with what it does. They do have a couple of investigative classes and they will come through here and spend two hours. I will lecture the daylight out of them for about half an hour, then walk them through the laboratory and let them ask their general questions because, at that point, it is not really a tour. These are people who actually submit evidence to the lab and they have specific questions.

RA: With those 20 people, we are working on a pilot project here at the lab to send our chemists and biologists, out into the field to help with crime scenes. Not all the time do people send bad things, so do not get that wrong, but overall this project may help us get better quality evidence submitted. DOCJT is helping us with getting the training we need to make this available. We are starting the pilot project with the state police to see how it goes, and hopefully we can open it up to the rest of the depart- >>



▲ The rifling inside a gun barrel (like above) spins the bullet as it speeds down the barrel, for accuracy and stability. Each manufacturer, has their own specifications, which rarely change, allowing analysts in the labs' firearms sections to use these general rifling characteristics to match bullets to guns.

“ If we know that officers are helping us with our back log, we tend to establish a better relationship with them. ”

cases from around the state – and they do it pretty well. It use to be that we were really back logged, but they have really gotten a grip on it and they are processing cases quite quickly now.

At one point, we had a firearms analyst in London and one in Madisonville and it did not really help speed things up. By consolidating them, they are able to better provide a second opinion or do peer review, since everything has to be checked. Instead of having one analyst in various places, we were able to put two or three of them together and it actually helped make the



▲ A DNA analyst does a test for blood. The process is called Phenolphthalein, and in the presence of blood, the Q-tip will turn bright pink.

▼
ments in the state to use our lab members to help process a scene.

LS: Assist.

RA: Assist underlined three times. Assist while you are out there. Actually, it is more or less a guidance offering.

How much time is put into training the analysts?

LS: Because of the constant changes that go on in every discipline, we try to send analysts to training once a year whether it is on an instrument process or if it is just general knowledge. We try to send everybody for 40-hour training once per year. We use one grant completely to do that so we are not using any state funds on it. It eats up the grant money and sometimes we do not have enough to send everybody, but it helps a lot. We do not send the entire section to one training. We will send a couple to this and then

have them come back and teach. So between the 40-hour week and then what we interact and teach with each other, that is about another two 40-hour periods throughout the year.

What is the reality of the process and time line for analyzing DNA or other trace evidence?

RA: Eight months for the most part.

LS: That is homicides, assaults and sexual assaults. Your burglaries and your other, lesser offenses are taking closer to a year to get out.

That timeline includes the working time. If the analysts pulled a typical sexual assault case and worked it, it could take about 30 to 45 days analytically, then you have the review process. Their review process is absolutely intense, because they cannot make a mistake on that. It goes through three different hands to review data — did they follow every

“ The biggest goal in forensic science is to provide the best possible analytical method for any discipline and the newest technology. ”

single protocol correctly and is their interpretation correct. So, it takes about two months to get it in and get it working.

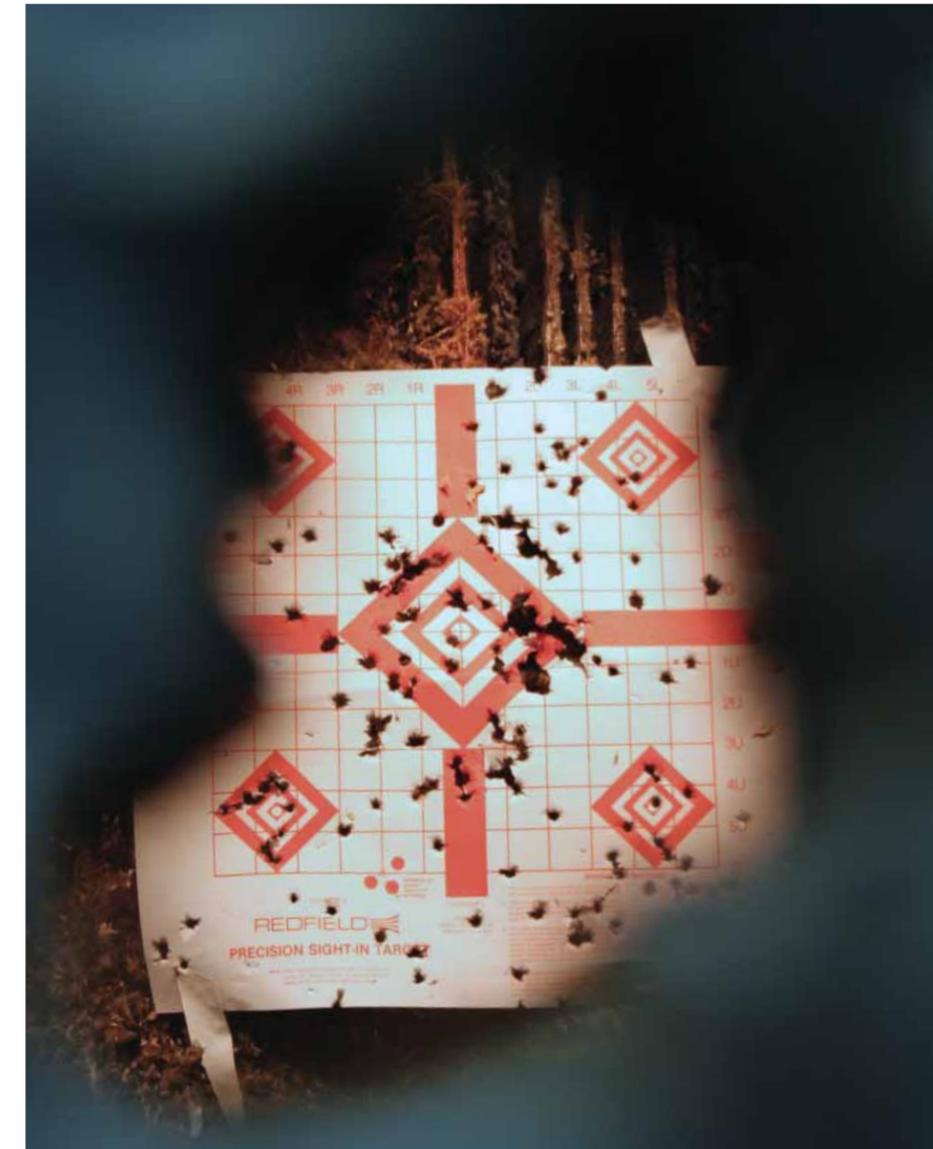
Our analysts really care. And actually they are getting to use overtime right now because they are so backlogged. They go home every night knowing that all these cases are not worked — it weighs on them that there are people sitting in jail waiting on them or victims waiting for an answer and for justice in the court system. They also know innocent people are sitting in jail that hopefully can be exonerated and they carry that with them everywhere.

RA: The lab employees do a great job because when you are talking about six labs spread throughout the commonwealth and staying on the same page all the time with everything, that can be a difficult thing and they do a good job.

LS: And with salaries, they could come out of college with a chemistry degree or biology degree and step into other industries and make a lot more money, but they do it because they like the forensics. They do it for the satisfaction. Whether they have just got somebody that has been in jail for 10 years out because he is not the one that did it or if they saved someone who would have gone to jail for 100 years, or if they literally have helped catch this really bad guy — that gives them satisfaction.

A lot of people say that we are not objective or we are prosecution based, but we are not. We fall under a law enforcement agency but that is because they are the ones that need the information in order to investigate and prosecute. But they are not our customers. The jury, the judge, the persons accused and the victims or the families are the ones that we serve. And by being as objective as we can and providing the best analysis, we give officers the tools they need to investigate and the prosecutors the information they need to prosecute and get justice. It is up to the juries to make good decisions and judges to keep it fair. But we help them. That is it. We are a tool, but we are a very objective tool. They do not tell us what the answers will be. J

▼ The Firearms Section of the Central Lab has a firing range within the lab where they can fire ammunition if needed during an investigation. They also have a water tank to fire bullets into when trying to get a standard for a case.



FORENSIC LABS

/Abbie Darst, Program Coordinator

FROM SUBMISSION TO SOLVED



The harsh, deep bruise marks stretching across her throat signaled her struggle as the life was choked from her body. Only 20 years of age and a single mother, Ebony Smith lay lifeless on the bed in her bedroom when Lexington detectives arrived. Her strangled remains, still laced with her favorite necklace, were all that was left to signify the life that once was.

It was May 2005 and leads on Smith's killer soon surfaced as witnesses recalled a meeting between a man, later known to be Ondra Clay, and Smith earlier that evening during a barbeque. Clay was a suspected serial rapist who

It seemed as though Clay's extreme precautions would allow him to literally get away with murder until Lexington detectives, on the advice of the DNA analyst, took a chance that the same necklace surrounding her neck when she took her last breath may hold the evidence that would blow the case wide open.

"Absolutely, we were able to get a beautiful male profile from the necklace where he had choked her," said Marci Adkins, a biological analyst at the Kentucky State Police Central Forensic Laboratory in Frankfort.

Using the skin cells embedded in the seams on Smith's herringbone necklace from where her assailant had wrapped his arm around her throat to strangle her, Adkins was able to complete the process of extracting DNA to obtain a DNA profile, identifying Clay as a one in 361 quadrillion match. Clay was convicted of Smith's murder and sentenced to life in prison.

In her 10 years working in the forensic lab, Adkins and her colleagues have uncovered hidden information locked inside thousands of pieces of evidence that have been submitted to the lab system by law enforcement agencies across the state.

But for the biologists and chemists who sit on the benches at Kentucky's six labs, there are certain pieces of evidence and certain cases that stand out as especially unique, strange, amusing or rewarding.

Ryan Johnson, the tech leader in the Central Lab's toxicology section, recalled a case in Scott County referred to as the yellow-jacket case because the area has a particular soft drink called the yellow jacket. In this case, two girls claimed to have become intoxicated from the drink.

"Few people know that a lot of sodas use alcohol as a binding agent, so some sodas still contain trace amounts of alcohol," Johnson said.

Though the amount of residual alcohol is negligible, the toxicology section tested numerous cans of the yellow jacket soft drink to verify the amount of alcohol existing in the drinks was indeed insignificant. Running tests on soft >>



/Photo by Elizabeth Thomas

▲ Cuttings from items of evidence are placed into these microcentrifuge tubes. Later chemicals are added, which burst the cells that are present, releasing the DNA into solution.

had already been acquitted of two rapes in the Lexington area.

"He is a true sociopath: arrogant, grandiose ideas of himself, intelligent, articulate, can play the game – he is a bright guy," said Lexington Division of Police Detective Paul Williams. "... He watches a lot of the CSI shows ... he would do things like stay totally clean shaven including head, arms and genitals so that there was no hair for fiber evidence. He would wear long sleeve shirts and gloves."



/Photo by Elizabeth Thomas

▲ Kim Huff, an analyst in the DNA Database Section of the Central Lab, runs a machine that allows the Database Section to batch many of their DNA samples during processing. Unlike the DNA Casework Section, database receives DNA buccal-swab or blood samples from the Department of Corrections or Department of Juvenile Justice to be entered into the CODIS database.



/Photo by Elizabeth Thomas

▲ A DNA analyst in the Central Lab's DNA Casework Section handles test tubes used during the DNA analysis process.



drinks was definitely a break for a section, which ordinarily tests for urine and blood.

In the solid-dose drug section, analyzing and testing marijuana, methamphetamine and cocaine are near daily occurrences.

"When you first start the job, your initial reaction is, 'Hey, I'm playing with stuff everybody else goes to jail for,'" said Jeremy Triplet, a chemist in the Central Lab's drug section. "But then it gets pretty routine and it is not as cool to be dealing with cocaine and these other more common drugs."

For these analysts, it is the unique-types of drugs that are being manufactured in clandestine labs or their packaging that makes a case stand out from the rest, Triplet said.

"They are not just manufacturing meth anymore, these people come up with all kinds of drugs to make at home," Triplet explained. "If we come across a new drug, we have to find out if it is controlled or not, and that can shake up your everyday routine and be exciting and fun."

The way the drugs come in can often keep analysts on their toes. From prison letters, to battery-shaped spheres, to large bags of urine kept and stored for recycling previously ingested meth, the chemists in the drug sections across the state stay entertained with the ingenuity and sheer stupidity of some of Kentucky's drug offenders.

On one hand, not all drug cases end in a conviction for trafficking, cultivating or possession – their technology also can rule out the presence of any illegal drugs. Susan Robertson, a chemist in the Central Lab's drug section, once worked a case in which a woman's home in government housing had been inspected. Inspectors found what appeared to be a rolled marijuana joint. She was kicked out of her apartment and nearly charged with possession before Robertson verified that it was made of nothing but tobacco and was actually a self-rolled cigarette, something the woman did on a regular basis.

"I felt bad for her," Robertson said. "I hoped that she was able to get her home back because

she hadn't done anything wrong."

On the other hand, the state's DNA database analysts deal only with adjudicated cases where a serious crime has been committed and the responsible party has been sent to jail or prison. For this reason, the database section of the lab differs from other sections in that they do not receive pieces of evidence for analysis and the samples they have cannot be used for evidentiary standards. But they help bring justice to criminals and closure for victims and families just as much as any of the other laboratory sections.

The DNA database section receives buccal-swab or blood samples from the state's Department of Corrections and Department of Juvenile Justice of those in Kentucky's prisons who have been convicted of a felony. Whether an individual committed a sex crime, burglary or murder, 2008 legislation made it mandatory to obtain a DNA sample from every convicted felon. These DNA profiles are put into a DNA database and can be used as a source to link known offenders to unsolved cases, said Stacy Warnecke, a biologist in the Central Lab's DNA database section.

Trevor Johnson's case is one Warnecke will never forget. Johnson was entered into the Combined DNA Index System, or CODIS, in 2003, when he was convicted of two counts of sexual abuse after fondling two 16-year-old girls at a Kmart in Georgetown. Once in the system, his DNA was checked against other cases, and database analysts matched Johnson to five unsolved rape cases in Woodford, Scott and Anderson counties from a decade before.

"Where else can you get a job where you feel like you're helping more than this?" Warnecke asked. "I'm sure if you're a doctor or in the medical field maybe, but you just feel like you are doing something useful every day."

Woodford County sheriff's deputy, Joe Carter, then a detective for the Woodford County Police Department, worked one of the original rape cases in Woodford County in November 1996. For Carter, the case took on an extra



level of importance because he had a personal connection to the victim. He and another Versailles officer were working together on the two Woodford County rapes. When they took their evidence to the Frankfort lab, they, by chance, ran into a Lawrenceburg police officer with information on a rape in Anderson County.

After comparing notes, the three officers decided to ask the lab analysts to run the results from their three cases against one another. The result gave the officers a definitive connection to their cases — they all were looking for the same offender. But it would be more than 10



/photo by Lawrence Pilcher

▲ Lodged in the bullet above is a single zipper tooth, picked off when the bullet went through a jacket. Bullets also can pick up pattern characteristics of materials they pass through.

years later after Carter retired from the Woodford County police and went to work part time at the county sheriff's office that he got a final answer and closure in the case.

"It was like Christmas," Carter said about the day he received the call that there had been a hit in the DNA database to his decade-old case. "I was just elated to give [the victim] closure and let her know that someone was going to go to prison for what they had done to her."

That same sense of justice is what motivates

Warnecke and the other database analysts.

"I think knowing that what we are doing here is actually reaching people out there and giving them some justice when before — I cannot imagine living in that kind of fear and thinking that person's still out there," Warnecke said. "I think it is very rewarding."

Across the board, the biologists and chemists who work in Kentucky's forensic laboratories are there for the same reason — the rewarding sense of assisting law enforcement to effect justice. In an effort to provide the best results possible for detectives around the state, the analysts in return need officers to provide them with the best possible evidence to test.

In DNA casework, the newest rage seems to be about touch DNA, which in its most literal sense is DNA from fingerprints, Adkins said.

"But that doesn't really work, unless someone has touched something with a really rough surface like a tire iron in the commission of a crime," casework analyst Adkins said. "Though we have successfully gotten DNA profiles this way, the take home message to officers would be, by all means think outside the box as you approach your crime scene, but do not get so hung up in this touch DNA stuff that you are overlooking better sources of DNA at the scene."

Similarly, analysts in the trace section of the lab urge officers to think outside the box when submitting evidence for trace examination.

"Law enforcement agencies do not know what all we can do, so there is a lot of evidence that we do not get," trace biologist Lara Mosenthin said.

In today's culture, it seems that most officers are thinking about DNA evidence, especially in homicide cases, but they do not always think about the trace evidence like fiber transfer if someone was thrown into the trunk of a car or duct tape residue on the skin from where a person may have been tied up with tape, Mosenthin explained.

"That's why we are called trace," she said. >>



/Photo by Elizabeth Thomas

▲ The Firearms Section of the Kentucky State Police Central Lab has a wall of hand guns used for comparison in an investigation. When a bullet is fired from a gun, the lands and grooves in the gun barrel and the direction of the spiral leave a specific pattern on an ejected bullet that allow analysts to identify which type of gun shot the bullet. The Firearms Section keeps various guns and bullets to use as standards in their analyses.



/Photo by Elizabeth Thomas

▲ Trace Chemist Jack Reid looks through a high-powered microscope at Frankfort's Central Laboratory. Reid's specialties in the Trace Section are hair, paint, fiber, glass and physical matches. Fire debris, gun-shot residue and arson cases are other areas of expertise for trace analysts. The Trace Section can analyze almost any type of material from small cans or evidence gathered in a trace kit to large truck grills.



"You are not going to see what we are looking for ... we are looking for stuff that you are not going to see with the naked eye. In addition, in a lot of homicide cases, with the blood and the DNA you can prove that someone's blood is on someone else's clothing, but sometimes with trace, we can go beyond that and show how something happened as opposed to that it happened."

For this reason, analysts in both the DNA casework and trace sections recommend officers give them as much background information and paperwork on a case as they can.

"The more information they give us the better because we base our analytical decisions on the case history, so everything they tell us we process and that helps us to make educated decisions throughout the testing process," Adkins said.

This exchange of information is a two-way street. Analysts also encourage officers to call

whenever they have questions about anything from what to collect and what can be processed to how to collect the evidence and how to package it.

The years of experience locked inside each analyst is a wealth of useful information for investigating officers to draw from, allowing each party's expertise to come together to collect, test and turn out the best possible evidence for each case.

"Just call and ask us before the case is processed, it is much more helpful because once it's done wrong, it is done, and the evidence is lost, destroyed or contaminated," trace analyst Jason Berry said.

No matter how disturbing, disgusting or droll the evidence, Kentucky's forensic analysts are up to the task to decipher it and help law enforcement officers and prosecutors bring justice and closure. J

Contacts and Capabilities

Central: Frankfort
Commander – Maj. Ricki Allen
Manager – Laura Sudkamp
(502) 564-5230

- Blood Alcohol
- Toxicology
- Breath Alcohol Maintenance
- Solid Dose Drugs
- Trace/GSR/Arson
- Firearms/Toolmarks/Imprint Evidence
- DNA Casework
- DNA Database
- Photo
- Polygraph
- Forensic Video Analysis

Northern: Cold Springs
Commander – Lt. Mike Smith
Supervisor – Jeanna Oxenham
[859] 441-2220

- Breath Alcohol Maintenance

- Blood Alcohol
- Solid Dose Drugs
- Forensic Biology Casework Screening
- Polygraph

Eastern: Ashland
Commander – Lt. Mike Smith
Supervisor – Larry Boggs
(606) 929-9142

- Breath Alcohol Maintenance
- Blood Alcohol
- Solid Dose Drugs
- Firearms/Toolmarks/Imprint Evidence

Southeastern: London
Supervisor – Steve Morris
Commander – Lt. Mike Smith
[606] 877-1464

- Breath Alcohol Maintenance
- Blood Alcohol
- Solid Dose Drugs

- Polygraph

Western: Madisonville
Commander – Mark Mayes
Supervisor – David Hack
[270] 824-7540

- Breath Alcohol Maintenance
- Blood Alcohol
- Solid Dose Drugs
- Forensic Biology Casework Screening
- Polygraph

Jefferson: Louisville
Commander – Lt. Mark Mayes
Supervisor – Terry Comstock
[502] 426-8240

- Blood Alcohol
- Solid Dose Drugs
- Forensic Biology Casework Screening
- Firearm/Toolmarks/Imprint Evidence.



/Photo by Elizabeth Thomas

▲ DNA Database Analyst Kim Huff adjusts a machine that processes DNA samples for the section, unlike the DNA Casework Section, which processes DNA samples by hand. In 2007, the Database Section received nearly 15,000 DNA samples to be added to the CODIS databank after the passage of House Bill 289, which required that DNA samples be collected from all Kentucky convicted felons.

The DNA Bill (HB 289)

Last year, Kentucky's DNA database took a giant leap forward, joining nearly every other state in collecting DNA samples from all convicted felons held in Kentucky's prison system, local jails and state juvenile justice facilities.

In 2007, House Bill 289 made amendments to KRS 17.170 requiring the collection of DNA from any person, including any juvenile, who was convicted on or after July 1, 2008 of any felony offense, or who is in the custody of the Department of Corrections, the Department of Juvenile Justice, or a local or county jail on July 1, 2008 for conviction of a felony offense. The amendment also extended to those who are on probation, parole, conditional discharge, conditional release or diversion for a felony offense that occurred prior to July 1, 2008.

Prior to the passage of this bill, Kentucky's DNA database contained approximately 14,000 individuals. In the months since the amendment's enactment, the Kentucky State Police Forensic Laboratory's database section has received more than 15,000 additional samples to add to its database — more than doubling its previous database size.

Though this sudden influx exponentially increased their work load, the biologists in the DNA database section of the lab system were thrilled with the bill's passage.

"For us to be so far behind, we were just like, come on people, wake up," said Davey McCann, a biologist in the DNA database section. "So if it would not have passed, it would have made a big difference in Kentucky, just for the database within itself for that many more samples to not get into the database."

"We would have been very disappointed if it had not passed," agreed Regina Robinson, who also works in the database section.

Because the influx of samples into the database section was so immense, analysts said they cannot yet tell what impact last year's legislation has made. However, statistics from other states show a large increase in arrests when their databases include all convicted felons' DNA samples.

"What we've seen in other states is that they've averaged, once this database is instituted and built up, they will average an additional 60 to 80 arrests, per year, of felons, repeat felons," KSP Commissioner Rodney Brewer said. "So we know, statistically speaking, that about 62 percent of burglars are ... recidivists and sexual offenders are often recidivists."

Up until 2003, only DNA samples from sexual offenders were collected and entered into the database. When violent offenders and burglars were added, the database samples received rose from approximately 500 per year to 1,500 per year, and lab personnel saw DNA database hits jump dramatically. That number is headed for another huge jump going from 1,500 samples received each year to 15,000+ that they received last year and may match this year, said Stacy Warnecke, DNA database analyst at the Central lab. ■

Remembering JERRY HEALY

FEBRUARY 19, 1936 — JANUARY 7, 2009

Jerry served on the
Kentucky Law Enforcement
Memorial Foundation
Board of Directors

“For nearly three decades, Jerry Healy was active behind the scenes of Kentucky law enforcement, purchasing equipment for law enforcement and assisting officers and their families going through personal tragedies. He did this all without expectation of thanks, and often anonymously.” — *DOCJT Commissioner John Bizzack*

“He was just an incredible, remarkable man – one of those folks you run across that really is not into it for the glory or for the recognition. He did so many things behind the scenes for law enforcement that many folks do not really have any knowledge of.” — *KSP Commissioner Rodney Brewer*

“Jerry was one of the most kind and caring people I have ever met. He never missed a chance to help people in need, especially law enforcement personnel. His presence will be missed.” — *former KLEMF Director Larry Ball*

“To say that my father was honored to be associated with such a wonderful group of individuals that have done so much for so many people was paramount. He absolutely loved giving back to all communities.” — *Kelly Healy*



Kentucky's Integrated Approach to Meth Labs



Justin Carey, Public Safety Branch, Division of Public Health Protection and Safety

In the 2008 legislative session, Kentucky legislators took great steps to help combat the production of methamphetamine and protect the public's health and wellbeing with the passage of House Bill 765, amending an existing statute, KRS 224.01-410. The new bill assures the responsibility of addressing residential properties contaminated from the production of methamphetamine. It is shared among three state agencies including the Kentucky State Police, Department for Public Health and the Energy and Environment Cabinet.

In the bill, new language was established to add clarity to the issue of a methamphetamine contaminated property by requiring the promulgation of regulations by the Energy and Environment Cabinet that outline decontamination standards for residual meth-

amphetamine and chemical precursors.

The bill also creates a unique, tiered approach to contamination based on the method used as well as the duration and quantity of methamphetamine produced. Assigning each lab a tier will allow for decontamination/remediation requirements to be tailored to the various levels and types of contamination.

HB 765 also establishes a clear role for DPH in protecting those citizens knowingly and unknowingly affected by these laboratories. In the new law, DPH and local health departments will partner with state and local law enforcement agencies to notify owners of meth-contaminated properties and their residents about potential dangers and health effects of meth contamination.

Through these partnerships, law enforce-

ment agencies can now act on behalf of the DPH and place "Notice of Methamphetamine Contamination" postings on all entrances of a residence used in the production of meth at the time of the seizure. This notice serves to identify contaminated properties and warn occupants about the potential health dangers of meth contamination. HB 765 stipulates that these postings remain affixed to entrances into a property until it and its contents are properly decontaminated by a licensed contractor.

The DPH also will help assure the safety of future residents of these properties by requiring owners of contaminated properties to disclose the presence of meth contamination to potential renters or buyers.

HB 765 further strengthened the state's >>>

FLAMMABLE LIQUID



>> efforts by establishing criminal charges and/or penalties for removing the Notice of Contamination. Home owners also can be charged for failing to disclose the presence of meth contamination to potential renters or buyers. Penalties for violating these requirements consist of class A misdemeanor and class D felony charges pursued at the local level.

When property owners opt to decontaminate a property, the EEC will work closely to oversee the project and ensure all contaminants are properly removed and cleaned. Upon completion, confirmatory testing will be done to assure cleanliness and safety. At that time, local health department personnel will notify property owners and law enforcement that the property has been cleared of all contamination and posting and disclosure requirements no longer apply.

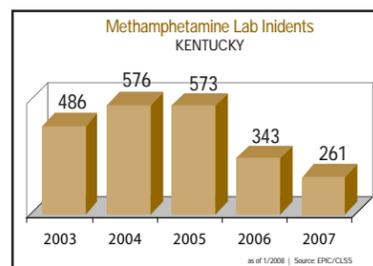
For more information regarding methamphetamine and the dangers of clandestine laboratories, please see the following resources:

- Kentucky Legislative Resource Commission – KRS 224.01-410
<http://www.lrc.ky.gov/>

[krs/224%2D01/410.pdf](http://www.krc.ky.gov/224%2D01/410.pdf)

- Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet – Division of Waste Management
<http://www.waste.ky.gov/branches/sf/Meth.htm>
- Kentucky Department for Public Health – Public Health Protection and Safety
<http://chfs.ky.gov/dph/info/phps/>
- Kentucky State Police – Kentucky Methamphetamine Laboratory Listing
http://www.kentuckystatepolice.org/meth_labs.htm
- U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency – National Clandestine Laboratory Listing (Kentucky)
<http://www.usdoj.gov/dea/seizures/kentucky.html>
- Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy
<http://odcp.ky.gov/>
- Operation UNITE (Unlawful Narcotics Investigations, Treatment & Education)
<http://www.operationunite.org/>

■ Hazardous chemicals, toxic fumes and potentially explosive environments are all factors in the illegal production of methamphetamine in Kentucky and throughout the country. When combined, the ingredients used to create methamphetamine can result in toxic living conditions with potentially deadly consequences. Producers of this drug combine chemicals such as acetone, iodine, anhydrous ammonia, muriatic and hydrochloric acid, ether, methanol and others to produce a product that has been described as the most addictive drug ever created with users becoming addicted after only one use. Production of this drug can lead to extensive chemical and physical contamination in areas where the “cooking” occurs which can result in adverse health effects to all those exposed. Although the number of clandestine methamphetamine laboratories in Kentucky has declined in recent years (2005-573 labs, 2006-343 labs, 2007-261 labs) as a result of increased awareness and initiatives limiting access to methamphetamine precursors, production of this drug remains a real threat to the health and safety of all Kentuckians. ■



THE UNTHINKABLE: Who Survives When Disaster Strikes — And Why?

/Amanda Ripley, Crown Publishers, 2008, 288p.



/Reviewed by
Shawn M. Herron, Staff Attorney

Amanda Ripley, a senior writer for Time Magazine, has spent many years responding to and reporting on major emergencies. She draws upon that experience in her new book, “The Unthinkable,” detailing, by way of storytelling, what really happens during an emergency situation.

Each chapter addresses one aspect of what might happen to an individual during specific emergencies. In the chapter entitled Groupthink, Ripley reflects upon the Beverly Hills Supper Club fire, which occurred in Southgate, Ky., on May 28, 1977. That event illustrates how groups or crowds of people involved in a disaster situation tend to stay together and behave in a manner far more politely than they might under normal circumstances. One particular aspect she mentions is what disaster experts have termed “milling” — the desire to check in with others, to verify the need to take action before actually evacuating an emergency scene, for example. In fact, in an emergency, your ability to survive depends a great deal upon who you are with when it occurs. Disasters create an instant bond among people, whether it is a car wreck, an earthquake, a flood or a bombing. That bond, however, can present problems in that under groupthink, an individual will find it difficult to go against a group consensus, even when the group is following an ill-advised course of action. A related concept is that of “gathering” — the instinct to pick up personal belongings or other items before evacuating. The story on the Beverly Hills Supper Club fire emphasized an important point, the need for emergency responders to issue “loud, clear warnings and gestures” to preempt what is termed the herd instinct — in which people will actually follow the responders deeper into the emergency, rather than leave the scene. Ripley detailed research that indicated that individuals are strongly inclined to follow the voice of authority in an emergency, something that law enforcement officers are well-advised to remember when re-

sponding to such emergencies.

Another chapter entitled Panic dispels the common misconception that people will panic in an emergency, as has been proven time and again not to be the case in the majority of situations. The research, gathered over the past 50 years, indicates panic occurs only when three conditions are present: when people feel they are trapped, helpless and profoundly isolated, which can occur even when surrounded by other people. A related phenomenon, stampede or crowd crush, occurred during a Black Friday shopping frenzy. Ripley notes that we know how to prevent this from happening, the “problem is convincing the people in charge to make the changes.” Arguing that panic took over is simply a way to blame the victims, and deters planners from making the necessary changes to ensure that panic does not take over.

Other chapters deal with risk assessment, denial, paralysis, fear and resilience. But despite the grim subject matter, Ripley remains upbeat throughout the book, holding true to a theme that does not focus on the bad things that might happen, but what people need to know to survive the event, in the words of the individuals who have survived such events.

The final chapter of the book is entitled Heroism and heralds the efforts of several individuals who took appropriate action resulting in the survival of others. One man dove into the icy Potomac River on Jan. 13, 1982, to rescue survivors of the Air Florida crash. Another young busboy saved hundreds in the Beverly Hills Supper Club fire. Ripley identified common traits among the individuals that prepared them to take action — a “non-negotiable duty to help others when they can” and the belief that they shape their own destinies.

The conclusion of the book starts with the line “In every disaster, buried under the rubble is evidence that we can do better.” It focuses on the actions of a single man, Rick Rescorla, who has been proven a hero not once, but twice. In 1965,

Rescorla served as an officer during the Battle of la Drang, in Vietnam, the battle described in the book “We Were Soldiers Once ... and Young.” In 2001, in his role as head of security, his years of preparing the employees of Morgan Stanley Dean Witter proved the salvation for 2,700 employees located in New York’s twin towers. His years of military experience had taught him what Ripley identifies as the core lesson of her book, “the best way to get the brain to perform under extreme stress is to repeatedly run it through rehearsals beforehand.” He drilled everyone from the highest level of executives to individuals who simply happened to be visiting the company on the day of one of his regular, and unscheduled, emergency drills. When the first plane struck the adjacent tower, he lost no time in ordering an evacuation, and continued to insist upon the evacuation even when the Port Authority stated it was not necessary. Rescorla stayed in the crowded stairwell directing his co-workers to evacuate, even singing in encouragement. When the tower finally collapsed, 2,687 employees had made it safely outside and away from the building. Only 13 Morgan Stanley employees died, including Rescorla and several of his security officers — who were believed to have gone back up to ensure that everyone had evacuated.

The lesson of The Unthinkable is not that disasters result in casualties, something we all know. It is that with forethought, planning and practice, we can survive and help others survive as well. The way we behave in a car wreck is much like the way we will behave in a much larger emergency, a concept that Ripley refers to as our “disaster personality.” Preparation and training, including everyone from the elected officials, government staff (including legal counsel) to our first responders and citizens, is essential to ensure the best possible outcome on the worst possible day. The Unthinkable is a must read for every emergency responder. J

The Challenge of ONE

Issues are unique for single-officer agencies.

/Kelly Foreman, Public Information Officer

Looking at the Numbers..... 46

Officers See Benefits of Being One-man Agency..... 49



Little more than 300 people live in the sleepy town of Bradfordsville.

The city is paved with about a dozen roads between Sam's Restaurant, the best place in town for burgers, and the city's weathered entry sign, which boasts a rich history of more than 170 years.

There is little crime in Bradfordsville. Sure, there are the occasional speeders, petty thieves and stop-sign runners. But the biggest obstacle for the city's police chief is catching drunk drivers passing through after a night at the bars in neighboring wet counties.

On Main Street, just past the city's only stop sign, the police department is housed in a 10-by-12-foot room attached to the town library, which is next door to the town's only food market. There

is only room for one desk in the police station, although Chief Adam Rainwater hopes soon to construct an evidence room and maybe someday hire a right-hand man.

Bradfordsville is home to one of Kentucky's 60 single-officer law enforcement agencies. Forty-four agencies are municipal and county police departments peppered throughout the state. There are eight public school departments, six sheriff's departments and one agency serving the Louisville Housing Authority.

Many issues for one-man departments are similar to those of larger agencies – budget constraints, safety, traffic accidents and employee benefits. But for most one-man departments, the biggest difference is juggling the administrative issues of running a department as well as catching criminals, filing paperwork, appearing in court and maintaining com-

munity relations in a single 40-hour work week.

Wurtland Police Chief Phillip Piercy, head of the one-man department for 15 years, said even with overtime, there never is enough time in a week.

"I have two schools, an industrial parkway, a river port with an industrial park, three highways and a railroad that runs through here," Piercy said. "I've got a nursing home inside my city limits, about seven railroad crossings, a bunch of thieves and drug addicts, and a dollar store. And one red light.

"... My main problem is time," Piercy said. "And time leads to money."

Wurtland is home to a little more than 1,000 people, but the population increases during weekdays when workers come into town from Ohio, West Virginia and other areas of the county, Piercy said. On average, he answers less than 500 calls annually in the city, but also assists surrounding agencies on at least that many runs, he said.

Cooperation

Assistance, Piercy said, is key to running a one-man show. Without cooperation from surrounding agencies, the community members who pay taxes for protection would go without law enforcement whenever their chief or sheriff was off duty.

"The other agencies try to cover for me if I am home and I'm having family time or whatever," Piercy said. "I ask them to call me no matter what so I know what's going on. But the problem we are running into here is not the officers. They understand and want to help. But the other cities' powers that be, the city councils and mayors ... they are the ones who don't understand."

Wurtland is located in Greenup County, and is adjacent to the Worthington, Raceland and Gree-

nup police departments as well as the Greenup County Sheriff's Office. The city of Wurtland has an unfunded interlocal agreement with the sheriff's office, Greenup police and Worthington police, Piercy said, for mutual aid. With a department budget of just over \$66,000 annually — including the chief's salary and benefit costs — the agency does not have money to spend on mutual aid, Piercy said.

"Greenup and the sheriff's office mainly help the most," he said. "Raceland, they don't like to help at all because their city council wants money."

Dry Ridge Police Chief Rick Kells said his department is unique in that the city of Dry Ridge can afford to pay surrounding agencies for their assistance. Annually, the city pays \$132,000 to other departments for their mutual aid. Additionally, the Dry Ridge department, the state's only accredited one-man department, is located in the same city as Kentucky State Police Post 6.

"That makes it a lot better for me," Kells said. "They have a lot of resources."

Those resources particularly come in handy when dealing with Interstate 75, Kells said, which runs through his jurisdiction.

"Major accident scenes, fatal accidents – they are a mess," Kells said. "One man cannot do it. The state police have reconstructionists and they will come [process] a scene for me. It is really convenient for me that they have the equipment where I do not."

Safety

While the cooperation of nearby agencies is good to have, sometimes in rural parts of the state, it is not enough. Bradfordsville's Chief Rainwater said safety is one of his biggest concerns.

"There is always a danger aspect of being a one- >>

▼ There is little noise on a sunny afternoon on Bradfordsville's Main Street. Police Chief Adam Rainwater enforces the law in a community of a little more than 300 people.



/Photos by Elizabeth Thomas





>> man department,” Rainwater said. “Me being out here on this end of the county, unless a sheriff’s unit is close, if I need backup it takes them quite a few minutes to get out here. ... There have been a couple times I have had to call for backup. I have had two pursuits since I have been here and it just gets kind of edgy sometimes.”

Sebree Police Chief Randy Durbin agreed.

“One of the hardest things is if you are working domestics,” Durbin said. “There are not a lot of times that you have a [sheriff’s] deputy available because he has to answer calls, too, for the county. You put yourself in a bad situation with a domestic because you are dealing with two people who are mad already, trying to keep them separated and find out what is going on.”

Safety also can be an issue when investigating drug complaints. Sebree has what Durbin considers a small drug problem, primarily dealing with the abuse and sale of crystal meth, he said. In a community of about 1,600 people, being a chief who was born and raised in the town he polices makes undercover work and surveillance not only difficult, but also dangerous.

“It makes it a little bit harder,” Durbin said. “A lot of times I change, I drive my wife’s vehicle and kind of get into something different to change the look.”

Money

Where the safety concerns end, the financial ones begin. In most cases, Durbin said he tries to do enough surveillance to check license plates and traffic going to and from a suspected drug-selling residence so that he eventually can pass along that information to state police detectives to work the

case. But with limited money to pursue drug activity, that is the best he can do.

The city of Sebree operates its police department on a budget of about \$60,000 each year. What money there is after salary and expenses has to pay for items that are daily necessities, he said.

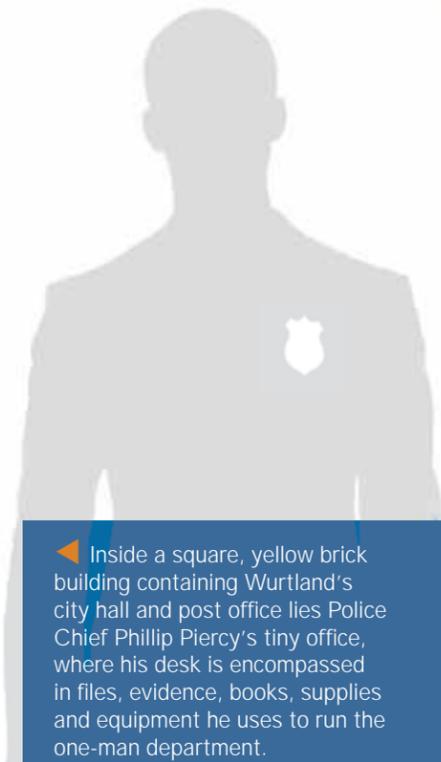
“Our main thing is, as far as funding, it is hard for us to even come up with a police car,” Durbin said. “So our funding is our biggest issue. If it wasn’t for House Bill 413 and the grants that we get – I have to take advantage of them all I can and buy some equipment to equip the car. (House Bill 413 changed the way money is distributed to police departments resulting from offense citations.) If it wasn’t for that, it would be rough for us to even have [a police department].”

Rainwater also struggles to get the things he needs. The entire city of Bradfordsville operates on little more than half of what Sebree’s police budget is annually. The total budget Rainwater has to work with is approximately \$18,500.

Rainwater’s salary of \$14,560 is included in that budget, with a small portion of that set aside as the city’s matching funds for his social security. The other \$3,000 annually is for gas for Rainwater’s cruiser and repairs. To save money, Rainwater said he tries to do all the vehicle repairs he can himself.

Luckily, Rainwater receives his Kentucky Law Enforcement Foundation Program Fund incentive pay, which brings his bi-monthly paychecks up from \$434.55 to \$541.19 after taxes. There is no money available for health insurance, retirement or overtime, he said.

“Realistically, there is never hardly a week that goes by that I just have 40 hours in,” Rainwater said. >>



◀ Inside a square, yellow brick building containing Wurland’s city hall and post office lies Police Chief Phillip Piercy’s tiny office, where his desk is encompassed in files, evidence, books, supplies and equipment he uses to run the one-man department.



>> “Even though I do not get paid overtime, if I work 48 hours this week, I feel kind of guilty about taking another eight hours off because that is one less day that the people here in Bradfordsville will have somebody patrolling. So I just come in and work anyway.”

Even grant money can be hard to come by for such a small department, he said.

“I try,” Rainwater said. “I cannot find a lot of grants out there that offer much for such small departments as mine. That is one of the things I have seen that is a problem with some of the grants. I have been denied a few, and it seems like that the larger counties and the larger police departments get all the funding and they have revenue coming in. And a small town like Bradfordsville here, we don’t have anything. We have a 1995 Crown Vic for a police cruiser that should have been retired five years ago.”

Consolidation

While Rainwater said there has not been talk of consolidating the department with one of the surrounding agencies, he said he and the town’s mayor have discussed working out an agreement with county officials to pick up Rainwater’s retirement and/or insurance in exchange for extending his patrol further into the county. However, the department as it is today still would remain, Rainwater said.

Wurtland’s Chief Piercy said he, too, has talked to the Greenup police chief about consolidating with their department, but their conversations still

are just that so far.

“We were talking about if Greenup would take my patrol unit and equipment and, just as an example, 70 percent of my budget, then Wurtland would be saving 70 percent but Greenup would get another officer for maybe a fifth of the cost it would take to hire a new officer. Plus, Wurtland would have 24-hour protection.

“But there would have to be a stipulation that I go,” Piercy said. “I would not expect to go as chief, but I would not expect to lose money, either. Greenup does not have retirement, and I would not expect to lose my retirement either.”

On the other hand, Piercy said the community likes having the police department in town, even if there is just one officer. Over the years, Piercy has developed relationships with the community and said he takes special care in responding to their calls — more care than what he considers one of the outside agencies typically would do during his time off.

“I try to be here myself and work because, and nothing against [the other agencies], I just do not feel that they are going to treat the people who live here the way I would. They may come in and take a call and know they are not coming back for six months or three months or whatever, where I see these people every day. I am not saying they are going to treat them badly, but they may not give them the tender loving care that I would.”

In fact, the community response to consolidation is one of the reasons the city of Dry Ridge re-

established its police department. The department previously was a six-officer agency, but decided three years ago to merge with the Grant County Sheriff’s Office.

“For one reason or another, it was not working out,” Kells said of the merger. “A lot of the businesses and residents liked the personal touch [of having a department in Dry Ridge]. They missed that and we are getting back to that now.”

After two years of consolidation, the departments split and Kells was hired to re-establish both the Dry Ridge department and the connection with the community.

“As far as I can tell, it seems to be working,” Kells said of re-establishing the department as a one-man operation. “I think it is working better than people expected, but that is just because of the good working relationship we have with other agencies. One guy cannot do it all.” J

\$28,764

average, annual salary for single-officer agency heads in 2008

70%

single-officer agencies reporting some health insurance coverage

1/2

the number of single-officer agencies reporting CERS enrollment

*Information courtesy of Kentucky League of Cities

▼ Sebree Police Chief Randy Durbin visits one of the town’s oldest businesses, Bell’s Drugs, as part of his patrolling routine. Durbin is a life-long resident of Sebree and said he enjoys working for its citizens.



LOOKING AT THE NUMBERS

A comparison of annual calls for service, population and budgets for Kentucky's single-officer departments.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

SHERIFF

SCHOOL P.D.



Adairville P.D.
Population: 924
Budget: \$75,138

Allen P.D.
Population: 148

Bancroft P.D.
Population: 580

Bloomfield P.D.
Population: 886

Bradfordsville P.D.
Population: 320
Budget: \$18,025

Brooksville P.D.
Population: 568

Burgin P.D.
Calls: 529*
Population: 913
Budget: \$60,456

Butler P.D.
Calls: 291
Population: 631
Budget: \$73,500

Caneyville P.D.
Calls: 335*
Population: 657
Budget: \$72,570

Clarkson P.D.
Population: 831
Budget: \$43,000

Clay P.D.
Population: 1,160

Cloverport P.D.
Population: 1,236
Budget: \$89,300

Crab Orchard P.D.
Calls: 383
Population: 862
Budget: \$68,885

Dry Ridge P.D.
Calls: 723*
Population: 2,200
Budget: \$253,850

Earlington P.D.
Population: 1,574

Elkhorn City P.D.
Population: 1,009

Ferguson P.D.
Calls: 925
Population: 1,009

Fountain Run P.D.
Population: 241

Gallatin Co. P.D.
Calls: 376
Population: 8,035
Budget: \$39,600

Gamaliel P.D.
Population: 431
Population: 31,880

Glencoe P.D.
Calls: 113
Population: 255
Budget: \$62,615

Hawesville P.D.
Population: 978
Budget: \$50,000*

Hurstbourne Acres
Population: 1,573

Hustonville P.D.
Population: 354

Lewisburg P.D.
Calls: 456
Population: 916
Budget: \$94,481

Louisville Housing
Budget: \$110,426

Loyall P.D.
Population: 710

Lynch P.D.
Population: 828

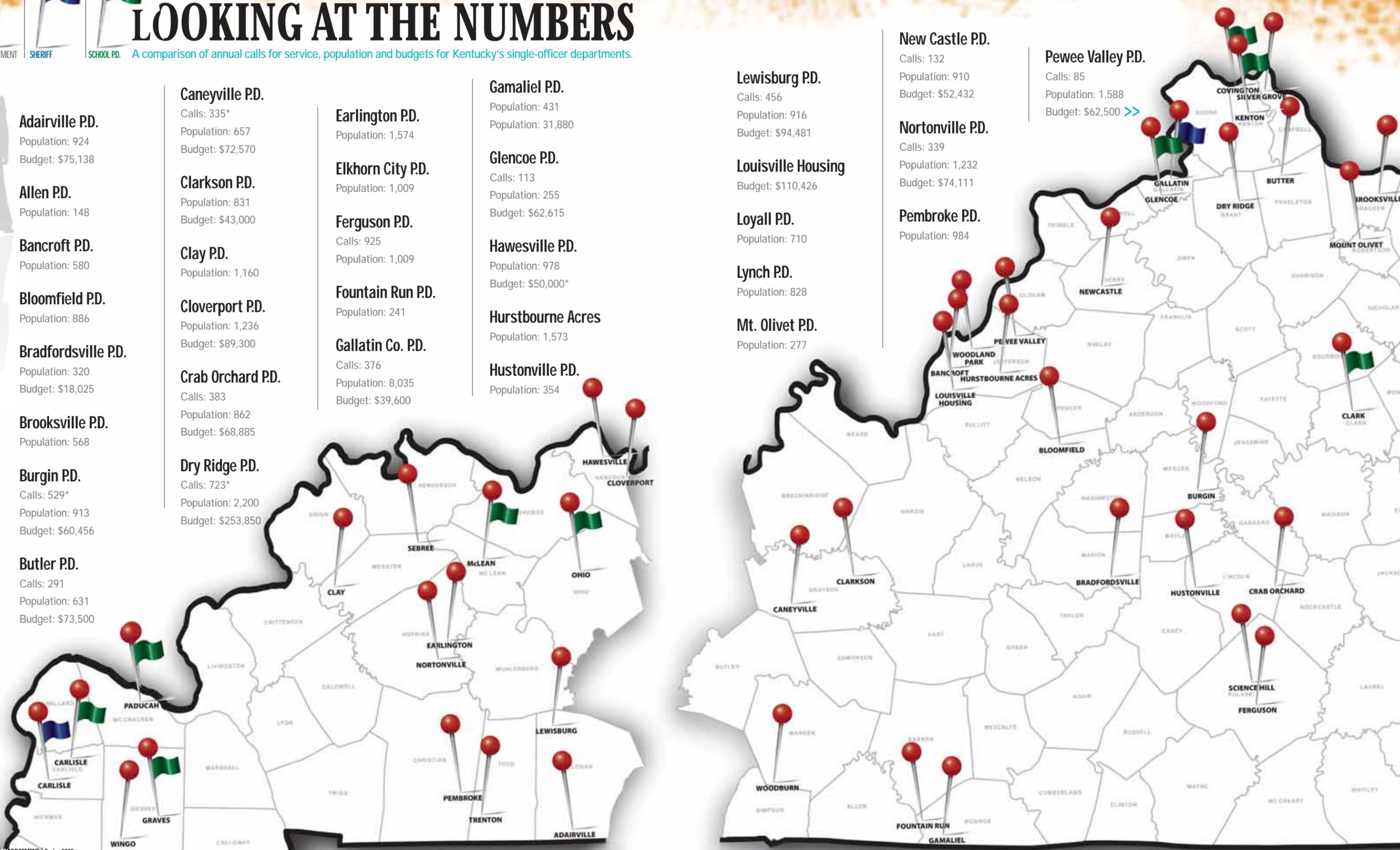
Mt. Olivet P.D.
Population: 277

New Castle P.D.
Calls: 132
Population: 910
Budget: \$52,432

Nortonville P.D.
Calls: 339
Population: 1,232
Budget: \$74,111

Pembroke P.D.
Population: 984

Pewee Valley P.D.
Calls: 85
Population: 1,588
Budget: \$62,500 >>



Officers See Benefits of Being One-man Agency

/Kelly Foreman, Public Information Officer

Being the only sheriff in town (or chief, as the case may be) is not without its perks.

In Wurtland, Police Chief Phillip Piercy said it is not uncommon to find him on warm summer days sitting on a front porch with one of Wurtland's citizens, drinking sweet tea and watching the clouds roll by.

"The people are good to me here in the city," Piercy said. "When I first came to work here, me and my wife bought a little house ... and we would wake up in the morning and find bags of beans and ears of corn and stuff on our front porch and things like that."

Bradfordsville Police Chief Adam Rainwater said the people in his community are one of his favorite things about the job.

"You won't find another city anywhere in the state that has as much heart as these people do," he said. "It is nice. And that is the main thing I really do like about Bradfordsville, because it is

such a small town, you get to know everybody. I hate to refer to [anything] as the Andy Griffith show, but that is kind of what it is like. It is kind of like a little Mayberry."

The only downfall to becoming so invested in a community sometimes can be that those people forget that single-officer agencies cannot work 24 hours a day. Piercy, Rainwater and Dry Ridge Police Chief Rick Kells all said it was not uncommon for citizens to occasionally come knocking on their doors or ringing their personal cell phones when they are off duty.

"The general public, they do not understand the way we work," Kells said. "They just see a uniform."

When people began learning where he lived, Kells said he did "all the night-shift tricks" such as dismantling his doorbell to avoid having his sleep interrupted when he was home.

Piercy even had one couple drive into his front yard to have him settle their domestic dispute once, he said.

"The lady was drunk and she and her husband were having a domestic," he said. "Her husband was on the hood of the car and she just drove down, stopped in front of my house and he rolled off in my yard. He went to jail for assault and she went to jail for drunk driving."

But besides the small-town communities, all of the chiefs said they enjoyed being their own boss and not being subjected to many of the administrative hassles larger departments deal with on a regular basis.

"In my opinion, when people talk about all the stress on police, so much of it is not the criminals, it is administration," Kells said. "The more people you have, the more headaches you have with all the different personalities."

"It is difficult when you can't just shut down and go home because there is nobody else to pick it up," Kells continued "But the job is not really that hard. Be in uniform, be where you are supposed to be and do what you are supposed to do." ■

Following up on a complaint from the previous day, Dry Ridge Police Chief Rick Kells stopped in to talk with a business owner, a personal touch he said the community missed when the department previously was consolidated with the local sheriff's office.



>> **Pippa Passes P.D.**

Population: 282

Science Hill P.D.

Population: 665

Sebree P.D.

Calls: 290

Population: 1,535

Budget: \$60,818

Silver Grove P.D.

Population: 1,160

South Shore P.D.

Population: 1,243

Trenton P.D.

Population: 423

Wayland P.D.

Population: 290

Wheelwright P.D.

Population: 1,029

Wingo P.D.

Population: 594

Woodburn P.D.

Population: 346

Woodlawn Park P.D.

Population: 1,092

Wurtland P.D.

Calls: 482

Population: 1,048

Budget: \$66,324

Carlisle Co. Sheriff

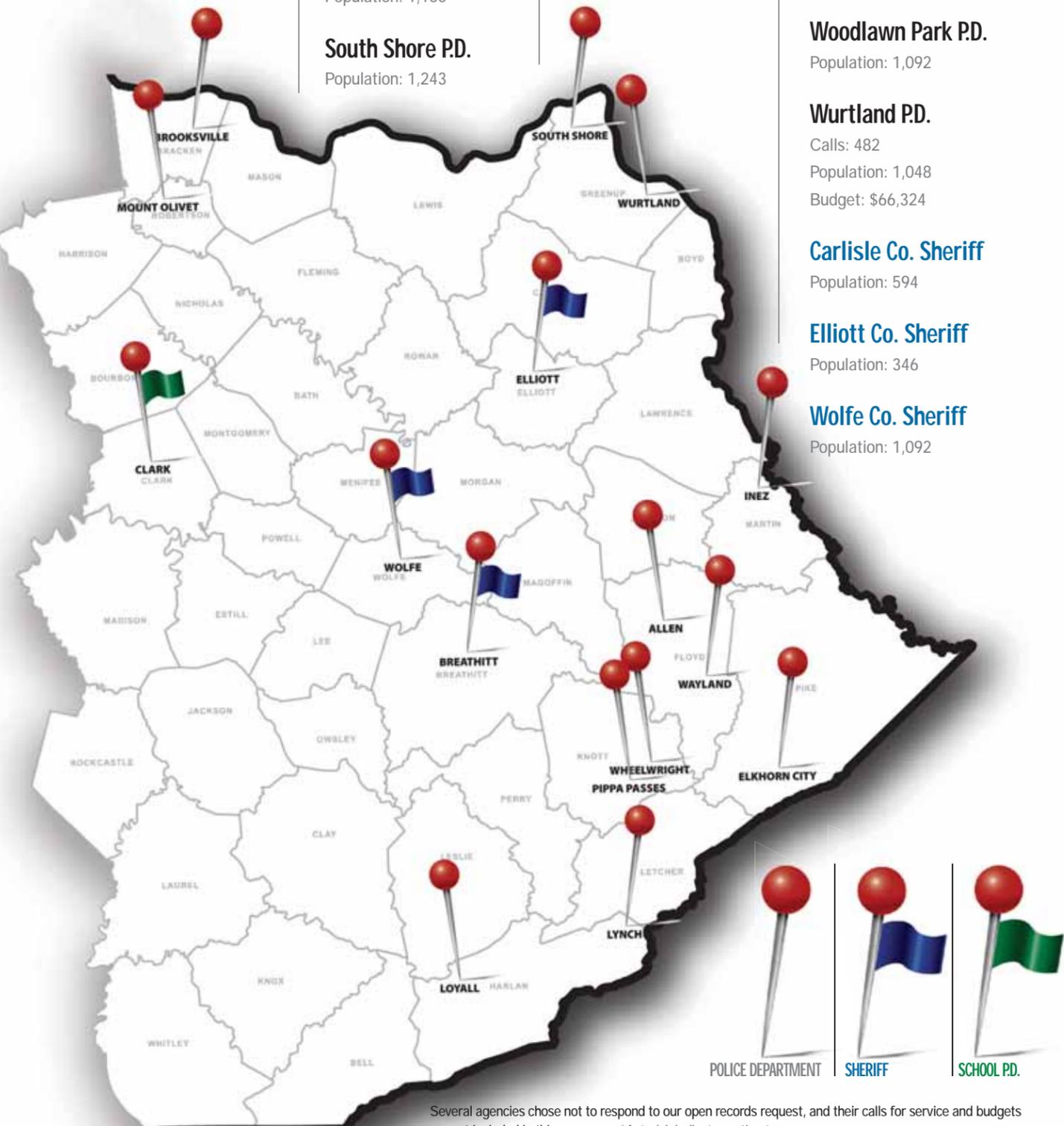
Population: 594

Elliott Co. Sheriff

Population: 346

Wolfe Co. Sheriff

Population: 1,092



 POLICE DEPARTMENT
 SHERIFF
 SCHOOL P.D.

Several agencies chose not to respond to our open records request, and their calls for service and budgets are not included in this summary. *Asterisk indicates estimate.

DOCJT ^{to} Participate in National Research Platform

/Kelly Foreman, Public Information Officer

Hiring the right officer is tough. Background checks must be completed, interview questions answered, recommendations read and physical performance standards met. Even after an offer of employment is extended, many times it still is difficult to know whether or not that officer will add to the quality of the agency or detract from it.

But what if you could know before you hire them?

The ability to make better, more educated hiring decisions is just one small part of what researchers hope to accomplish with a National Police Research Platform.

After being awarded a \$1.8 million grant from the National Institute of Justice, nine police researchers began planning, organizing and collecting data they intend to disseminate back into the policing community.

"The National Police Research Platform is being set up for the purpose of doing timely studies that can answer important questions and hopefully answer them authoritatively," said Dr. Gary Corder, one of the team's researchers and professor of criminal justice for Pennsylvania's Kutztown University.

While still in the early stages of the project, the Kentucky Department of Criminal Justice Training has been chosen to participate by representing small- and medium-sized departments across the nation, Corder said. Twenty-one other small- to medium-sized police departments nationally have signed on with the project, but approval from NIJ still is pending, he said.

Additionally, three major departments have agreed to be studied — the Los Angeles Police Department, Chicago Police Department and Boston Police Department. Those agencies will serve as representatives for large departments nationally while representing different geo-

graphic regions of the country.

DOCJT Training Operations Division Director Chuck Melville said he anticipates the first individuals to participate in the platform at DOCJT will be the incoming Academy of Police Supervision class this March.

"If the field of law enforcement wants to progress, to learn, certainly, where they have been and how to address the needs — not only of those folks coming into law enforcement, but also the communities who rely on law enforcement — we need to see how they act and how they react to situations," he said.

"Being able to reach across the broad spectrum of law enforcement throughout the nation, we are able to look at how we can do better here in Kentucky," Melville said.

Evolving data

One facet of the platform will include the study of changes in officers over time.

"One of the things we are going to do in the sites in the three big cities but also here (at DOCJT) is to survey police recruits at the beginning of their careers and then survey them periodically over time," Corder said, "so that we can get a sense of how individual officers' perspectives and views on their work and so forth changes over time."

In the past, the lack of continually evolving data has been another concern for researchers and officials, Corder said.

"Again, the typical study, somebody does a survey, we come up with some results and then suddenly we realize, gee, that was done 10 years ago," Corder said. "I wonder if that is still true today. And usually we do not know because we never did it again."

For new recruits coming into DOCJT for basic training, the first experience with the research platform likely will be just another piece

of paperwork and an introduction to the platform. But after graduating from the academy, those same officers occasionally will receive Web surveys via e-mail, Corder said.

"Of course the beauty of it is that it costs almost nothing to do that," he said. "It is very cheap. And hopefully it can be done quickly by them because they will be short surveys on a very specific topic."

However, one of the keys to the success of the platform will be the willingness of officers to complete the surveys.

"We are going to ask you to fill out surveys periodically throughout your career," Corder said. "And why should you do this? Because it is something that professionals do. Professions study themselves, they build a body of knowledge, they learn from research and they learn from each other. And filling out these surveys, you will be a part of that professional activity."

"And obviously the results of the surveys will be fed back to the people who fill them out and the people in the police field so that [those] running the agencies can have better, more accurate, more up-to-date information to use when they are making decisions, designing programs, identifying problems — you name it."

Supervisors and agencies

Recruits are not the only group the researchers plan to study, Corder said.

"I can tell you that around the police world, there is a tremendous amount of interest in supervisors," he said. "What do they really do? What do they think? What is it that they need to know in order to do their jobs well? What are their biggest problems — and so on and so forth. Lots of police departments all over the country are trying to figure out how they can better prepare their supervisors to do the new job that they are moving into."

Similar to the plan for recruits, Corder said the researchers hope to catch supervisors early in their careers to see what changes may come about as their careers progress.

"I am sure right at the beginning one of the things we will be asking about is why they chose this business," Corder said. "What did they expect it to be like? What did they expect to get out of it? Things of that nature would probably be the first wave of surveys."

"Then we will try to see over time, track their viewpoints, their perspectives, what they see as problems, issues, challenges early in their career — and if we're lucky enough — follow them well into their career," Corder said.

Beyond the recruits and supervisors, the group also will look at departments holistically to evaluate things like organizational climate within agencies, Corder said.

In his work as chief of the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Airport Police, Melville saw firsthand the successful results of studying the same kinds of ideologies Corder and the research team hope to gather. Melville worked with a psychologist who helped study the same kinds of principals as the research platform in the airport's officers, he said. The two gathered data and used it to make more informed decisions in both hiring and promotional processes.

"In trying to isolate what it took to be a good officer in Kentucky, we ... looked at the officers, we created a baseline with an instrument on what officers were there, and then followed their careers to see who has stayed, who has left, who has advanced in the ranks possibly to supervisory positions so that we could pick out and create what makes a good officer in the environment of our airport at the time," Melville said.

The process worked for Melville and his department, he said.

"Sometimes your hiring decisions are based on more than just a piece of paper or a recommendation," he said. "You have to look at a lot of other factors."

Valuable information

Although the platform is being conducted by a group of researchers, Corder said it is important to note that the purpose is not just to please some college professors who happen to be doing research.

"Rather, it is designed to produce information of value to the police field," he said. "If it does not, it will not go on. The feds will not fund it if it is not valuable. People in the police field

will not want to be part of the platform. We will find it is too much trouble if it turns out that we are not producing information of value. So, ultimately I think that is going to be key."

While participating in the research platform will benefit law enforcement agencies nationwide, Melville said it also will be beneficial to continuing education for DOCJT and all Kentucky agencies.

"We know in many areas Kentucky is ahead of the game in training police officers and in training leadership students with our sergeants' academy and the other classes we have for leadership," Melville said. "I think it is a credit not only to DOCJT, but also to the agencies in Kentucky that they feel training and education is that important. I think by participating in these things we will continue to move Kentucky ahead."

"We do not want to sit back and play catch up," Melville continued. "We want to be able to be out in front and continue to do the best for the police officers here and for the citizens. Because the better we know our officers and the better trained and educated we can get them, the better they will serve the communities." J

Producing new knowledge

The idea for the National Police Research Platform began after National Institute of Justice officials conducted a meeting in Washington D.C. with about two dozen police officials and researchers.

"The issue for the group was, how could NIJ do a better job of helping produce new knowledge for the police field — knowledge that is useful, practical and of value to the people in policing?" said researcher and professor of criminal justice, Dr. Gary Corder.

The discussion gave rise to two main issues, Corder said. Police officials complained of dissemination problems while the researchers voiced concern about the quality of knowledge available.

"What we have currently, if you think about the body of knowledge about policing, the scientific body of knowledge resulting from research, that body of knowledge is mostly comprised of one-shot studies done in one place," Corder said. "And so often when we have the results of those studies, they may

be interesting or what have you, but we often do not know how representative that information is.

"Is that really representative of police in all 18,000 police departments in America?" Corder asked. "Or does it just represent that one police department where they did that one study?"

Past research involving law enforcement has included issues ranging from cynicism and stress to burnout and attitudes toward the community, Corder said. With this platform, Corder said the researchers hope to take the results of their studies and turn them from something interesting into something useful.

"There are quite a large number of behavioral and almost psychological kinds of constructs that have been studied before," he said. "But again, they rarely were studied in more than one place and rarely actually followed people over time to see how those things change as one works his or her way through a career. And often [they were studied] with little sense of how those things differ between police departments and different kinds of communities." ■



METAL THEFTS SLOWING, BUT FAR FROM OVER

/Kelly Foreman, Public Information Officer

/Photo by Elizabeth Thomas

▶ A giant crane moves large compartments of scrap metal at the Richmond Scrap Auto Recycling, Inc. in Richmond, Ky.

The price of copper has taken a drastic dive, but that has not stopped criminals from stealing it.

Public utilities, railroads, plumbing in unoccupied homes, air conditioning coils, copper gutters — thieves have raided every possible outlet in search of a few extra bucks. Even in light of falling prices, the eastern part of the state in particular still suffers from the epidemic, said Kentucky State Police East Troop commander, Maj. Lynn Cross.

“We are still having to deal with it,” he said. “It is a major problem.”

Cross recalled a crime in which KSP Trooper Shane Goodall solved a case involving the theft of more than 200,000 feet of copper from an Ashland power company. The



/Photo by Elizabeth Thomas

criminals previously risked the theft and kept returning for more metal.

“Once he made the arrests, the copper theft in the area stopped,” Cross said.

Kentucky Utilities statewide media relations manager, Cliff Feltham said that while the thefts are an aggravation to power companies, KU’s greatest issue is the risk taken by the thieves that ultimately puts their employees and citizens in danger.

In many cases, the illegal pursuit of copper has cost scroungers their lives.

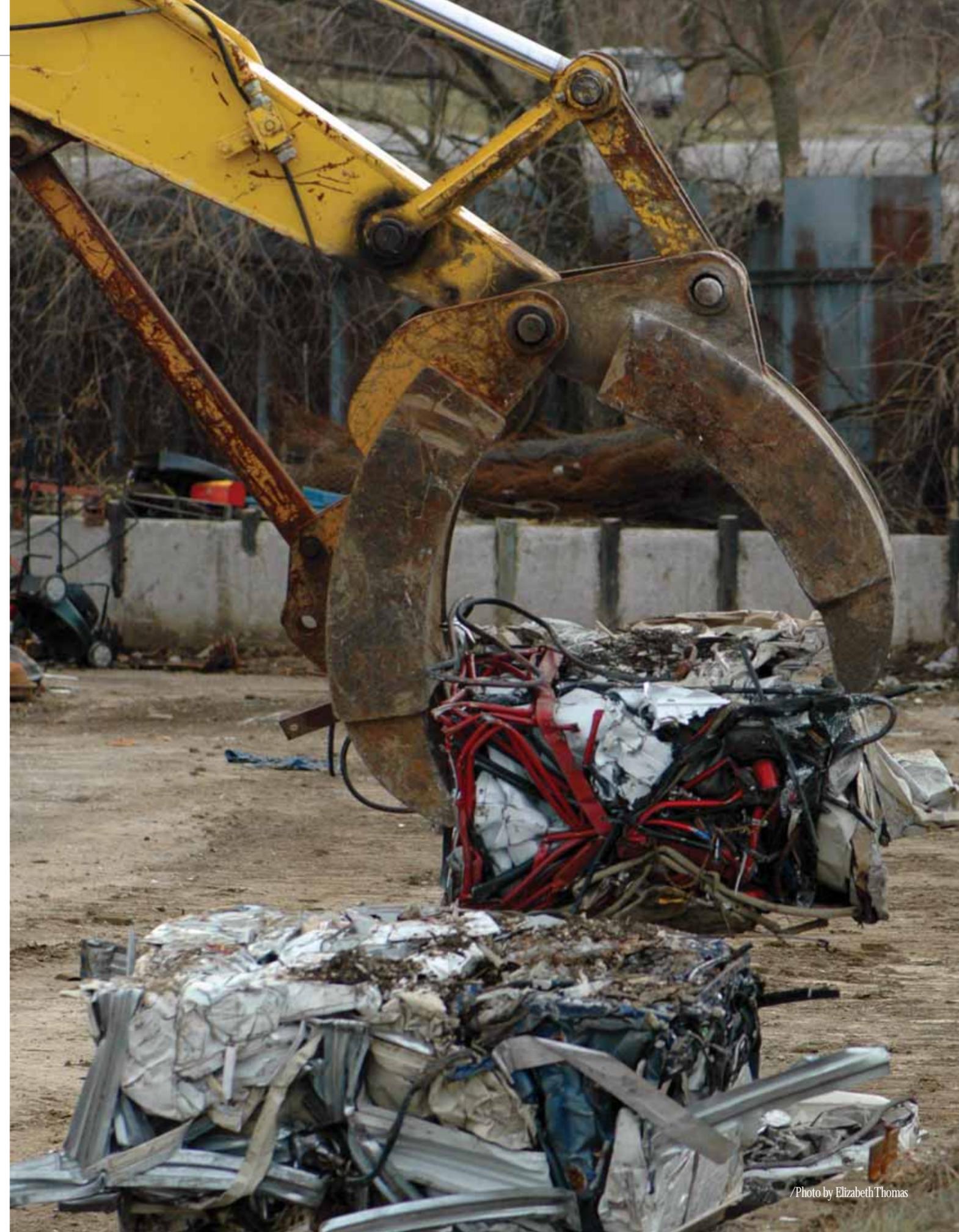
“We had at least two fatalities in 2007 and one or two in 2008, the most recent in August,” said Andrew Melnykovich, director of communications for Kentucky’s Public Service Commission. “That is better than the half-dozen in 2006. We certainly have seen a welcome trend in fewer fatalities, which I am not sure is related to the theft rates going down so much as it is to the realization that trying to steal copper from power facilities is extremely dangerous.”

Feltham agreed.

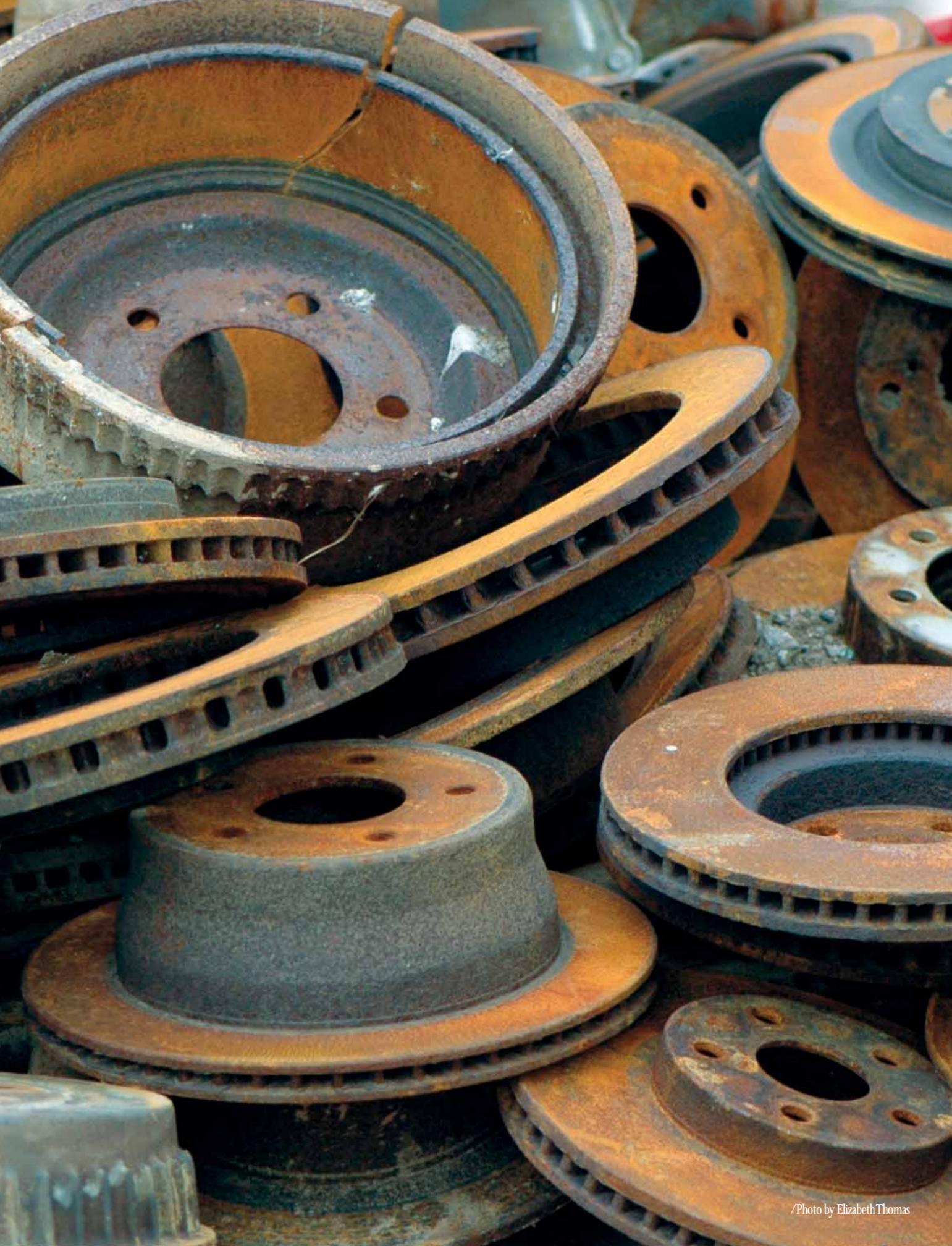
“On a number of occasions, vandals have gotten into our substations and have been lucky enough to get away with some metals without suffering injuries or getting killed,” he said. “In removing some of the metal, it has rendered our equipment unsafe ... generally the metal that grounds our substations has been taken and that makes things unsafe ... primarily for our employees.”

Melnykovich still is amazed by the “sheer stupidity” of some of the thefts that have resulted in fatalities, he said.

“We had one in 2007 where a guy in his 20s broke into a substation in Bell County and was electrocuted. He had his wife and young child along. The family loaded him into the car >>



/Photo by Elizabeth Thomas



/Photo by Elizabeth Thomas



and drove him to the hospital, where he was pronounced dead.”

KRS 433

Lawmakers during the 2008 legislative session strengthened laws relating to metal scrapping, including a mandate that metal sellers produce identification before selling their scraps.

“It is an excellent law because they have to show ID when they bring stuff in,” Cross said. “Of course, I do not think they get too in-depth into actually where it comes from, but they do have to identify themselves as selling it, and tell who they are in the event something is reported. It is kind of like the pawn shop deal. We can track the tickets at the pawn shop, but now there is a mechanism in place to track people who scrap large amounts or small amounts, whatever the case may be, and it assists us in tracking those folks down.”

Richmond Scrap Auto Recycling, Inc. already was asking people for identification before the law went into effect last July, said Dwayne Thomas, the company’s chief financial officer.

“We pay cash, and anything over \$100 we have to report to the [Internal Revenue Service] anyway,” Thomas said. “So we had to have a name, address and phone number or some type of ID before we could pay them the cash, and then they had to sign for it, too.”

But when the price of copper and auto bodies sky rocketed, Thomas said it became more and more difficult to separate the honest sellers from the criminals.

“When the prices were up, we would have an average of 400 tickets per day through our pay window,” Thomas said. “The average we do is about 125 to 130 tickets per day, so year



over year we were up 300 percent.”

An increase in the price of auto bodies also led to an increase in thefts, Thomas said.

“When auto bodies went to \$400 a ton, people were pulling in cars they did not even own,” Thomas said. “For instance, we had a lady who was on her way to Lexington in an older van and it died on her and she could not get it going back ... The van sat there for two days because she was at the hospital trying to take care of her husband. The state police were going to have it towed and never did.

“Someone towed that van off the interstate and brought it in to a scrap dealer and scrapped it and sold it,” Thomas said. “So the lady lost her van, she lost what she had in the van and there was nothing that they could do because at that time there was no tracing mechanism.” >>

◀ Scrapyards pay metal sellers according to the weight of the metal. Copper and aluminum tend to yield a higher price per pound, but these brake drums and rotors from vehicles are heavy items, often making equal profit for the seller.



Working together

Thomas knows there were criminals coming into RSAR during the highest times of customer traffic, he said. But his staff has been trained to watch for red flags and most have worked in the business long enough to know when something is not right. Thomas also works with local law enforcement to help identify those suspected of theft, he said.

Melnykovich said that cooperation from scrap dealers is key for law enforcement.

“[Scrap dealers] are required by state law to keep track of copper coming in the door — who brought it in, how much, etc.,” he said. “The big, reputable dealers have been pretty good about working with law enforcement to



notify them of questionable attempted sales and they try not to buy stuff they think might be stolen. But the mom-and-pops are a problem.”

KU has tried to make the process of identifying their stolen metals easier both for law enforcement and scrap dealers, Feltham said.

“We mark much of our equipment with micro encryption,” he said. “It is a system where we work with local police so they can know how to read the micro encryption to show that it is ours. It not only helps identify our equipment, but also serves to strengthen the prosecutor’s case if and when the issue is taken to court.

“We have also placed warning signs on the fences around the substation and at our supply rooms indicating that our equipment is marked,” Feltham said.

But Melnykovich said everyone — theft victims, law enforcement and scrap dealers alike — still has to work together to catch thieves and keep the costs of metal theft down.

“The losses still run into the tens or hundreds of thousands of dollars each year for individual utilities,” he said. “One damaged substation alone can be a huge bill.

“The best thing for law enforcement to do appears to be to work with local scrap dealers — make sure they are complying with the law and seek their cooperation in identifying and arresting sellers of stolen metals,” Melnykovich said. “If you can dry up the market for stolen stuff, there will be far less incentive for theft.” J



METAL THEFT

The theft of metals — particularly copper, aluminum and steel — has become an epidemic in Kentucky, targeting houses, businesses and even churches. Kentucky officers have taken reports on thefts of drainage gates and the metal plates placed at the foot of veterans’ graves. The theft of such metal items as piping and electrical wire subjects property owners not only to the loss of the item, but also, for example, subjects them to damage if water pipes are removed and the water is left to flood the structure. Electrical-line thefts have fatally injured thieves, and caused service outages and excess costs to customers. Price increases of these materials, added to economic woes, led to the passage of House Bill 106, now codified in KRS 433.890 to 433.896. /Shawn M. Herron, DOCJT Staff Attorney

HIGHLIGHTS

The following are minimum requirements for dealers in scrap metal. Local governments may enact stricter laws if a dealer (as defined by the statute) takes in one or more of the following items:

- a) catalytic converters
- b) metal beverage containers, over two liters, marked as returnable
- c) railroad rails
- d) nonferrous metals or alloys (Any metal other than iron, for example, aluminum and copper are nonferrous metals)
- e) objects containing any nonferrous metals

The dealer must keep a register with:

- A copy of an operator’s license or other government-issued identification. If the seller has a license on record with the dealer, he or she is not required to show it again, but it would be advisable to do so in case the information has changed.
- The license number of the vehicle used to transport the item.
- The time/date of the transaction.
- A description of the item, along with its kind and weight.

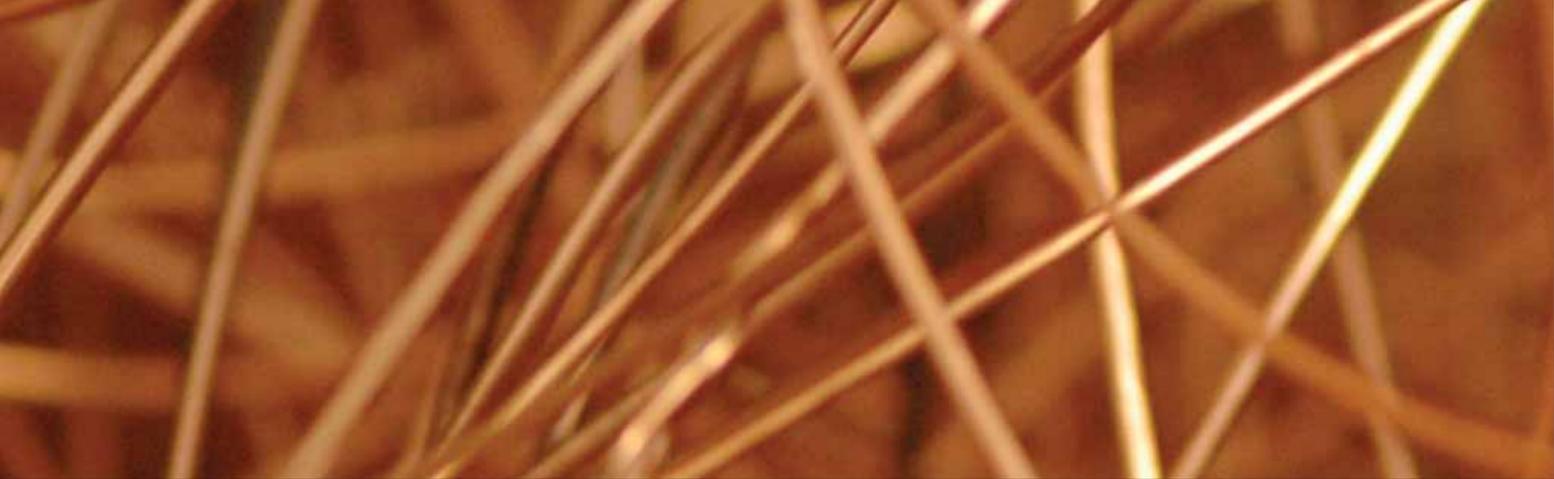
- The amount paid (total and by pound/ounce, etc.).

The seller must be at least 18 years of age and must provide the information above.

The form to be used for this purpose may be found online at www.kentuckystatepolice.org/pdf/ferrous_metals.pdf. Paper copies of the forms may be obtained at any Kentucky State Police post. The register of these forms, and any photocopies of documents, must be kept for at least two years. When destroyed, the destruction must be done in such a way as would protect the seller’s information (burned or shredded). In lieu of destruction, the register may be turned over to law enforcement — and if the law enforcement agency then destroys the records, it must be done in such a way as would safeguard the seller’s personal information. (Law enforcement agencies receiving such information must keep it for two years, and treat it as described above.) If the seller goes out of business before the two years have expired, they must turn over all current records to law enforcement.

The dealer must also permit peace officers to inspect the register upon demand, and if necessary in an investigation, inspect the actual item as well. If an officer requests the register in writing, scrap dealers must communicate either by e-mail, fax or writing, the information on each transaction within 24 hours — and must continue to do so until the requestor to stop. (Requests can be specific to a particular transaction, or the agency may make a continuing request for all transactions.)

Sellers must keep the item in its original form, or keep a photo >>



tograph of the item for three business days from date of purchase – and longer if specifically requested by law enforcement. Officers may seize any items for which they have reasonable cause to believe is evidence of a crime.

These provisions do not apply to:

- (a) A motor vehicle, aircraft, or other item that is licensed by the state or federal government pursuant to a legitimate transfer of title or issuance of a junk title.
- (b) A firearm, part of a firearm, firearm accessory, ammunition, or ammunition component.
- (c) A knife, knife parts, accessory or sheath for a knife, or knifemaking products.
- (d) A nonreturnable used beverage container or food container.
- (e) Jewelry, household goods containing metal, garden tools, and similar household items, except for a catalytic converter or metal beverage container that is capable of holding more than two liters of liquid and which is marketed as returnable.
- (f) A single transaction involving a purchase price of \$10 or less, or more than two transactions with the same person involving a purchase price of \$10 or less in one, seven-day period shall be reportable transactions.
- (g) Material disposed of as trash or refuse that contains or may contain a catalytic converter, metal beverage container that is capable of holding more than two liters of beverage and is marketed as returnable, railroad rail, nonferrous metals or an alloy thereof, or an object that contains or may contain a railroad rail or nonferrous metals or an alloy thereof, which is collected by a municipal waste department or by a licensed waste hauler and no payment is made to the person from whom the material is collected by the person or agency collecting the material.
- (h) A catalytic converter, metal beverage container that is capable of holding more than two liters of beverage and marketed as returnable, railroad rail, nonferrous metal or

alloy thereof, or an object containing railroad rail, nonferrous metal, or an alloy thereof from a person who has maintained a record pursuant to this section to a person who is to further recycle the metal or object containing the metal.

- (i) A catalytic converter, metal beverage container that is capable of holding more than two liters of beverage and marketed as returnable, railroad rail, nonferrous metal or an alloy thereof, or object containing nonferrous metal or an alloy thereof under a written contract with an organization, corporation, or association registered with the commonwealth as a charitable, philanthropic, religious, fraternal, civic, patriotic, social or school sponsored organization.
- (j) A purchase, pursuant to a written contract, from a manufacturing, industrial or other commercial vendor that generates catalytic converters, metal beverage containers capable of holding more than two liters of beverage and which are marketed as returnable, railroad rail, nonferrous metal or an alloy thereof, or object containing nonferrous metal in the ordinary course of business.
- (k) An item purchased by, pawned to, or sold by a pawnbroker licensed pursuant to KRS Chapter 226, engaging in the business authorized by that chapter.
- (l) Any ferrous metal item, except for a catalytic converter, metal beverage container that is capable of holding more than two liters of beverage and is marked as returnable, or railroad rails.

In addition, no scrap metal dealer may accept beer kegs marked as property of a brewery or which has the keg markings obliterated.

Failure to keep the register or maintain the required records, or any other crime under this section, is a class B misdemeanor (fine no more than \$100, no more than 30 days in jail.) Someone who provides fraudulent identification, including license plates or ownership documents commits a class A misdemeanor. Of course, other criminal laws may also apply, if circumstances dictate, such as receiving stolen property or conspiracy to commit theft. J



■ Martin Police Department Officer Christopher Kidd, Basic Class No. 401, washes his eye after completing the OC, or pepper spray, practical of week 16. Recruits are exposed to the chemical agent and expected to complete a defensive tactics obstacle course before washing their eyes.

Photo by Elizabeth Thomas

Outstanding Contributions

Law enforcement executives receive Governor's Award for outstanding contribution to Kentucky law enforcement / Kelly Foreman, Public Information Officer

Two of Kentucky's most progressive law enforcement leaders were honored in December with the Governor's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Law Enforcement.

"Today we honor nine individuals who have worked tirelessly on a state-wide level to improve police services to our people," said Gov. Steve Beshear during the award ceremony in Frankfort. "Each nominee has a history of tackling the tough issues facing Kentucky police. Each has continually gone above and beyond the call of duty and each embodies all that we respect and admire in law enforcement leadership."

From the nine nominees, Daviess County Sheriff Keith Cain and Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police Executive Director Michael Bischoff were selected to receive the award following unanimous approval from the recommendation committee.

"I was very much surprised," Cain said of his nomination. "You know, we use the words humbled and honored probably more so than we should, but it is a very humbling experience and I am tremendously honored."

Cain has served the community of Daviess County since joining the sheriff's office in April 1974, and now is in his third term as the county's sheriff.

"To receive recognition from the governor is very significant, but what makes the award even more meaningful to me is that I know it is based on recommendations of my peers as professional law enforcement officers," Cain said.

Bischoff retired from the Fort Thomas Police Department in 1998 after 28 years of service and later accepted a position as accreditation manager with the Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police. There he developed the highly successful Law Enforcement Accreditation program.

"I guess more than anything else it reflects a lot on our association, and I know one of the reasons is because of our accreditation program," Bischoff said of his award. "We have 80-something agencies, a lot of whom are now in their second, third and fourth five-year certificate. It just improves so much of the law enforcement community and it is just an honor to be in charge of that program."

"I have given out more than 100 certificates and now I am getting one and I know what it feels like," Bischoff said. "It is an odd feeling. But I am very honored to get the award."

Campbell County Police Chief and Northern Kentucky Police Chiefs' Association President Keith Hill said nominating Bischoff for the honor was a clear decision.

"He has been very instrumental in northern Kentucky," Hill said of Bischoff. "... his biggest contribution has been in the accreditation of police agencies throughout the commonwealth of Kentucky, bringing those standards up where they need to be so we know we are doing the job right, the



/Photos by Elizabeth Thomas



▲ Daviess County Sheriff Keith Cain stands with Gov. Steve Beshear after receiving the 2008 Governor's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Kentucky Law Enforcement.

◀ Michael Bischoff, executive director of the Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police, receives the Governor's Award from Gov. Steve Beshear on Dec. 15, 2008.

▲ Award winners and nominees pictured left to right: Sheriff Keith Cain, Justice and Public Safety Cabinet Secretary J. Michael Brown, Ret. Marshall Co. Sheriff Terry Anderson, Gov. Steve Beshear, Lexington Division of Police Lt. John Sherrod, Ret. Louisville Metro Police Department Lt. Denise Spratt, KACP Executive Director Michael Bischoff, Kentucky State Police Lt. Col. Brad Bates and Ret. Georgetown Chief Craig Birdwhistell. Not pictured are Taylor Mill Chief Steve Knauf and St. Matthews Chief Norman Mayer.



99 ICE STORM



/Kelly Foreman, Public Information Officer

/Photo by Clay Jackson, (Danville) Advocate Messenger



/Photo by Theresa Armstrong, Grayson Co. News Gazette



/Photo by John Dunham, (Owensboro) Messenger-Inquirer



/Photo by Clay Jackson, (Danville) Advocate Messenger

Encased in a sheath of ice, the state of Kentucky and the lives of thousands of citizens in late January were eviscerated by a deadly and destructive ice storm, which caused power lines to groan and collapse under the weight of the fallen, frozen rain.

Teams from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the National Guard rolled into Kentucky with gasoline for generators and necessities after emergency was declared in 93 of the state's 120 counties.

Lives were lost. Homes and businesses were destroyed. Trees burdened with ice came crashing to the ground. At the storm's peak, the Kentucky Public Service Commission reported 769,353 Kentucky elec-

tric customers were without electricity, the largest disruption of power on record in the state.

But as citizens bundled up under blankets in front of kerosene heaters or sought warmth from community shelters, our public servants withstood the below-freezing temperatures to help those in need. With their own families and loved ones suffering in the somber alidity, law enforcement, military, fire and government officials left home to ensure the safety and well-being of their communities. These men and women who daily make sacrifices for the security and safekeeping of others deserve special recognition in light of their work during these worst of conditions. To them, we say thank you. J

▲ **Above:** Concerned about the welfare of Clarkson's elderly citizens who were without warmth, Kentucky State Police Trooper Norman Chaffins, right, helped to fill a kerosene heater for one citizen he had been checking on throughout the icy storm. **Top right:** Standing on a 5-ton truck brimming with food and necessary supplies, Kentucky National Guard Pfc. Coy Kellems of Maceo, Ky. unloads boxes with Owensboro Fire Department Capt. Joey Dickens in a neighborhood debilitated by the ice storm. The Kentucky National Guard and Owensboro fire department worked together to deliver food and water to those whose lives were halted by electricity losses. **Bottom right:** Customers needing gasoline in Danville, Ky. were turned away from a lone-operating gas station nearly four days into the storm. Danville police Sgt. James Monroe, center, was responsible for telling citizens that the gas station's supply was being saved only for emergency vehicles.

◀ On a darkened Danville, Ky. street, ice blanketed every surrounding limb and structure as Danville police and fire officials worked to clear a fallen power line from a downtown road.



/Photos KDFWR submitted

KDFWR ASSISTS HURRICANE-STRICKEN NEW ORLEANS ... AGAIN

/Dave Baker, Public Information Officer, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources

Hurricane Gustav still was just a mere tropical storm packing 55-mile-per hour winds over Jamaica when the first request for assistance came in to the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resource's Division of Law Enforcement on August 29. Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Boating Law Administrator Maj. Ron Morris's voice greeted Kentucky's Lt. Mike Fields.

"I got the gator, you bring the 'possum," drawled the Louisiana officer to his counterpart.

The conversation quickly turned more serious. Gustav was growing to hurricane strength and aiming itself squarely at New Orleans.

Through an Emergency Management Assistance Compact, Louisiana called for 200 fully-equipped maritime, armed law en-

forcement officers with boats and 4-wheel drive vehicles in Baton Rouge. It was almost three years ago to the day when a similar call came in from a Katrina-ravaged and crime-ridden New Orleans desperate for law enforcement officers skilled in working from boats, and Louisiana officials intended to be ready for this one.

Nearly two dozen Kentucky conservation officers responded to that 2005 call and rescued hundreds of stranded persons in the flooded city.

Gustav gained strength and bore down on the vulnerable city, and Morris again asked Fields to provide help.

Maj. David Casey left early Sunday morning and was in Baton Rouge doing advance work when Gustav's winds and rains pounded the state.

"It's heavy rain and I really mean heavy. It's been blowing sideways for two hours now," he said by phone while another 25 of his fellow Kentucky conservation officers in 12 vehicles, towing 10 boats were driving south toward the storm. They staged in Baton Rouge and awaited their search and rescue assignments.

"The quick, professional response and rescue efforts in New Orleans by Kentucky conservation officers during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina were documented thoroughly by network news organizations and broadcast nationwide," said Gov. Steve Beshear. "This time, when the call came for help, they were among the nation's first to respond. Kentucky is proud to be a member of EMAC, and we stand prepared to help whenever we can."

Kentucky conservation officers were just glad they could lend a hand.

"We sent 26 officers with vehicles and equipment," Fields said. "We could have sent more, but

we still had a mission here. It was the Labor Day holiday weekend, a traditionally big recreational boating weekend, and the opening weekend of mourning dove-hunting season. We had them all adequately covered."

The Kentucky officers were deployed to Belle Chasse in Plaquemines Parish on the southeast side of New Orleans, after a request from the Louisiana governor indicated a need to evacuate stranded residents and a strong law enforcement presence to deter looting. Flooding in Belle Chasse topped levees and left lower lying areas under water with additional heavy rains still to come. One of the hardest hit areas during Hurricane Katrina, Plaquemines is the parish with the most combined land and water area in Louisiana.

Louisiana's EMAC request for maritime law enforcement assistance also went out to Texas, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Arkansas, Ohio, Missouri and Georgia.

Gustav's destruction still was fresh when Law Enforcement Division again went on alert after receiving another EMAC request from Louisiana the next week with Hurricane Ike approaching its coastline. Division officials assembled another search-and-rescue team, staging them in Frankfort and at Barren River State Park as Louisiana officials assessed damages and needs in the southwestern area of the state near the Texas state line. Fortunately, the call to stand down came from Louisiana about 12 hours before their scheduled departure. J

◀ A shot through the windshield of one of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources vehicles as it drove into the flooded streets of New Orleans, La. after Hurricane Gustav hit the area.

▶ Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources conservation officers Mick Craig (standing) and Greg Youree patrolling the waters while down in Louisiana in the Hurricane Gustav aftermath.



Efforts in Efficiency Really Pay Off

/Abbie Darst, Program Coordinator

In a world of crashing stock markets, unprecedented job losses, soaring food costs and fluctuating gas prices, it is easy to adopt an attitude that nothing can be done to combat the challenges facing individuals and organizations.

Nevertheless, for Kentucky's law enforcement community, overcoming hardships is not a new practice, and numerous agencies across the commonwealth are discovering that tightening their fiscal belts can potentially boost their ability to more than adequately serve their communities.

The Owensboro Police Department created a reserve officer program, in which officers serve part time and fill in as needed by the agency, as an answer to challenges the city faced with its budget because of increases in retirement cost. Though these budget constraints signified cuts in overtime availability, a man-power study, department restructuring and a little creativity sparked the program that saved Owensboro more than \$700,000 for the 2007 through 2008 fiscal year.

"Obviously, fiscal responsibility is very important to our taxpayers," Owensboro Chief Glenn Skeens said. "With the increase in gasoline prices and the unemployment rate at this time, it is our responsibility to be as efficient as possible. We knew last year, under circumstances of the overall city budget, that to give raises or do shift differentials that money would have to come from what was already allocated to us."

Knowing they were in need of a department restructure, the Owensboro Police Department looked into creating a reserve officer program. Through the manpower study, the agency discovered the average full-time employee worked 2,080 hours each year, but after factoring in vacation and training time that number dropped to approximately 1,300 to 1,400 hours per year. By offsetting that down time with a reserve officer working 1,200 hours per year, the agency received nearly the same amount of work for a substantial savings in overtime pay and benefits.

When the restructure began in December 2007, the department reduced its total positions from 109 sworn, full-time officers to 100. Three retired officers were hired to replace previously sworn officers assigned to the Evidence Collection Unit and 10 reserve police officers who had retired from OPD were hired. Hiring retired officers into these reserve-officer positions allowed the department to retain high-quality, experienced employees that had been there for 20 to 25 years, Skeens said.

Moreover, the fiscal savings generated by the department's restructuring allowed for the addition of shift differentials to be paid to officers to offset the decrease in overtime pay. All afternoon shift personnel receive 75 cents per hour and night shift officers receive an additional \$1 differential pay per hour.

The restructuring saved a total of \$524,078 in salaries, benefits

and overtime costs. After an additional two percent in overall budget cuts, the police department returned \$715,210 in budgeted funds to the city's general fund.

"So it was certainly two fold," Skeens said. "It was more efficient, strengthened the department, saved the taxpayers money and provided increased salary opportunities for our dispatchers and patrol officers."

Small packages

Through a method more simplistic than department-wide restruc-



/Photos by Elizabeth Thomas

turing, the Bullitt County Sheriff's Office was able to implement a cost savings initiative that has proved beneficial to the department.

This past year when gas prices around the country sky rocketed, the Bullitt County Sheriff's Office began looking for ways to decrease fuel costs for the agency by having officers ride double. Now that gas prices have dropped dramatically, saving money on fuel may not be a necessity, but the sheriff's office realized it was still the

more efficient and responsible thing to do. In January, the Bullitt County Sheriff's Office purchased two used, 4-cylinder Ford Focus vehicles to replace full-size vehicles in its fleet.

We gave them to the "paper servers – the guys in the sheriff's office who deliver papers and subpoenas," said Chief Dep. Danny Thompson. "They are not emergency response people, so we put them in 4-cylinder cars that get twice the gas mileage of a Crown Victoria. That has cut their gas consumption by about half."

Efficiency strategies do not need to start with a desire to save money. Saving time and effort while maximizing the impact on the agency and the community it serves is just as important when finding ways to increase efficiency.

Last year, the Ashland Police Department took a concept that has served the tri-state area well for approximately 25 years and developed it to provide up-to-date information sharing capabilities between law

enforcement agencies in Kentucky, Ohio and West Virginia.

The Tri-State Law Enforcement Council was created as a once per month meeting among law enforcement entities in Ashland, Ky., Ironton, Ohio, and Huntington, W.Va. to share information about cases and suspects that do not recognize the Ohio River as a barrier to their criminal activity.

"We are right here on the river and we know that the crime does not stop here," Ashland Police Chief Robert Ratliff said.

"It's a unique situation around here, being on the border of two different states – to go to the department next to you, you actually have to cross state lines," Sgt. Mike Crawford added.

Crawford, recognizing that a once-a-month meeting was not the most efficient way to share information about cases and suspects that change daily, developed the Tri-State Law Enforcement Council Web site.

The site allows anyone from the tri-state area that is a law enforcement officer and has registered on the Web site to look at photos and videos and post any kind of pertinent information from a case he or she is working on.

"A narcotics officer can say, 'we know this guy is dealing drugs but we only know him by his street name, does anyone know who it is?' and that will go out and we'll hopefully identify that person," Crawford said about one way the site can benefit officers.

The Web site serves the exact same purpose as the council's monthly meetings, but allows the information to be exchanged in real time.

"This (site) has just made it a lot easier to get information out at the time stuff happens as opposed to having to wait a month or two months," Crawford said. "I think there is more information sharing that goes on because it is a lot more convenient to get on your computer and open a picture of a suspect and upload it than waiting three weeks for a meeting."

Although the council and Web site are mostly geared toward officers in that tri-state area, officers from across Kentucky are welcome to register on the site. To register, officers must provide a contact phone number and the department at which they work. Once it is verified that the individual registering is a certified officer with a legitimate department, he or she is granted access to the secure site.

In the first few months after the Web site's launch, there was such a tremendous response that it quickly was upgraded, Crawford said. Now, after less than one year, there are more than 100 individuals registered on the site, including people from as far away as Lexington and Louisville, Ky., Beckley, W.Va., and Columbus, Ohio.

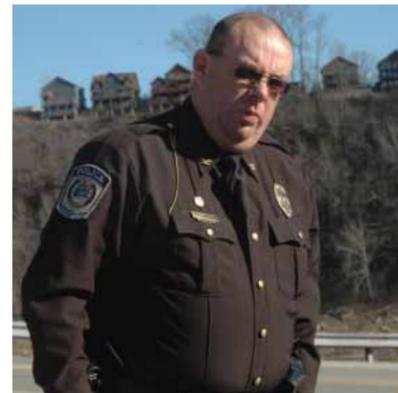
Despite the constant influx of news about budget shortfalls and economic hardships, Kentucky's law enforcement community has risen to the challenge to find unique, innovative and advanced ways of providing more efficient and effective services to their communities. J

If your department has implemented cost- or time-saving efficiencies that you would like to share with your law enforcement peers, please contact the Kentucky Law Enforcement staff at DOCJT.KLENN@ky.gov or call (859) 622-6453.

▲ Bullitt County sheriff's deputies rode two to a vehicle during the months when gas prices across the country soared. Since the recent decrease in gas prices, the agency has purchased two small, fuel-efficient vehicles to continue efforts to save the agency money. Should gas prices go back up, the Bullitt County Sheriff's Office will still have the concept of riding double as a back-up plan, Chief Dep. Danny Thompson said.

Policing a Challenging and Ever-Changing Population

Burnside Police



/ Article and photos by, Elizabeth Thomas, Public Information Officer

Sitting at a traffic light near the junction of U.S. 27 and Ky. Highway 90, Burnside Police Chief Eddie Glover radars an oncoming vehicle and detects the car's speed at 69 miles per hour in a 45-mph zone.

"That's what we have to deal with," Glover said as he flashed his lights to warn the speeder.

With a resident population of 635 and a seasonal population upwards of 10,000, Burnside Police Department shares the same challenges as a one-man department and at times, those of a 30-man department.

Burnside lies on the eastern shores of Lake Cumberland, just south of Somerset. In the summer months, and particularly during holiday

weekends, the town is home to as many as 15,000 visitors, considerably stretching the resources of a three- to five-man police department.

Glover has been chief of the Burnside Police Department since 2004. In 2005, the town's land mass increased from two square miles to more than eight. The annexed property included alcohol-serving restaurants like The Harbor Restaurant in Lee's Ford Marina, allowing the rest of Burnside's restaurants to also serve alcohol. Becoming a "moist" town in the midst of dry Pulaski County often means the responsibilities of Burnside's police department increase, particularly when patrolling for DUIs.

With the annexation came increased revenue for the department as

well as demand on Burnside officers. Burglaries and traffic accidents skyrocketed, creating the need for two additional officers. The benefits, however, outweigh the drawbacks of the annexation. With the increased demand and revenue, officers have the opportunity to work overtime. The department also obtained new cruisers outfitted with mobile data terminals and in-car video cameras.

"Policing and technology have changed in the past 30 years," Glover said. "If you had told me 20 years ago that we'd have computers in our cruisers, I would've thought you were talking about something out of Star Trek – but here we are."

Glover noted the progression of interagency communication as well, recalling a case in which the Burnside department played a significant role with the logistics stretching across the country, a feat that would not have happened just years earlier.

The chief received a late night call from a narcotics officer in Chicago detailing a robbery that was to take place in Burnside as told by an informant. The predictions proved true and the suspects were caught. The informant had overheard the suspects discussing, in Russian, in a Chicago nightclub, their plans and details of previous burglaries. Soon after the Burnside incident, the suspects were connected to a robbery in Florida from the same information.

Glover knows first-hand the benefits of community-oriented policing and takes every opportunity to enhance community relations and residents' opinions.

"People's perceptions of police officers have changed, too," he said. "They forget we have a heart and that we are here for them."

But new technology does not change the fact that community-oriented policing still is important to the officers in Burnside. In a small town, "you get a feel for your community," Glover said. "We let the people know we are here. That is what the people want."

"You lose that if you never get out of the car. We really are community oriented here," he added, referring to the contrast of Burnside to larger towns and their ability to relate and connect to the people of their community.

Every year, the department is instrumental in Samuel and Kinsley's

▲ Burnside sits on the eastern shore of Lake Cumberland.

◀ Top: Chief Eddie Glover patrols Lee's Ford Marina, across the waters from Burnside's downtown, pictured second row, left.



Christmas, an endeavor named for the chief's own grandchildren, who did not survive their first days of life. In 2007, the project distributed 105 bicycles and hundreds of dollars worth of clothes and toys to local children. In 2008, children received an estimated \$300 to \$400 worth of clothing and toys and full Christmas dinners for their families, provided in part by local restaurants.

Also part of community relations is the department's involvement in local Pulaski and Wayne counties' school career days. Burnside police officers participate by informing students about the responsibilities of law enforcement and distributing child identification kits.

"These projects may not bring money into the department, but it helps the view of the department," Glover said. "It may help a child who, down the road, is in danger or needs help to trust a police officer, and not be afraid of us."

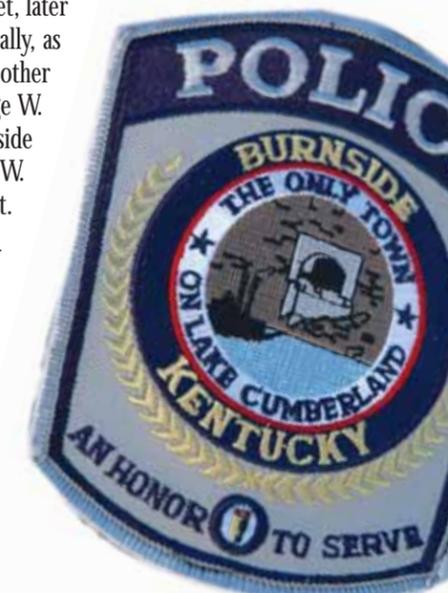
Burnside Police Department is among very few in the state that provide insurance coverage to not only the officers, but also to their families. As far as the future goes, Glover hopes to increase his officers' pay and switch the department to patrol rifles.

The department soon will move from a rental space into a better location, with the hopes of eventually sharing a new space with city hall when funding is available.

Glover also hopes the city eventually will build a lodge on the lake for vacationers, attracting more revenue to Burnside, instead of travel dollars going to neighboring towns.

"I've gotten to do things and meet people I wouldn't have otherwise," Glover said of his tenure as a police officer in Pulaski County, first at Somerset, later with the sheriff's office and finally, as chief in Burnside. Glover and other local officers once met George W. Bush when he came to Burnside while his father, George H. W. Bush, was running for president.

Glover and his fellow officers often are asked by parents to talk with young people who are interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement. Glover recalled one conversation in which he summed up law enforce-





Chief Chester Palmer

Stamping Ground Police Department

Chester Palmer was born February 11, 1967 in Georgetown. He began his law enforcement career in 1989 when he was employed by Union Springs, Ala. as a communications officer. After moving back to Kentucky in 1992, he began working as a special deputy. In November 1995, Palmer took a position with the Georgetown Police Department, serving in patrol, community service with DARE and as a school resource officer and detective before taking a position with the Stamping Ground police in July 2005 as the first African-American chief of police in that city. Palmer has received numerous awards. He also serves The General Association of Baptists in Kentucky as assistant treasurer and treasurer of the Ministers and Messengers Auxiliary of the GABKY as well as the American Baptist Publishing Board. He is married to Melody Palmer and has two daughters, Nashira and Cheslyn, and one son Vincenzo Wright.

“I truly believe lives have been touched and changed while serving the citizens here through the realities of the laws of the land as well as the grace of God.”

Was law enforcement your first career choice?

Law enforcement was not my first career choice. Growing up and traveling by bus to Alabama and Chicago quite a bit, I was always fascinated with Greyhound bus drivers and thought either that or truck driving would be my career path. I actually was drawn to law enforcement after my oldest brother started working with the Scott County police and then Georgetown police working his way through the ranks to become chief there.

How have you and your department partnered with other law enforcement agencies, community organizations, school systems, etc. in Scott County?

We are fortunate as a three-man department with more than 62 years of experience to have a working relationship with the Georgetown Police Department and Scott County Sheriff’s Office. The three of us previously worked in Georgetown.

We have recently worked along with other emergency services in our county to improve our 800mhz radio system. We were able to provide a structure and site in the Stamping Ground area for a third repeater site. Our department has a mobile command center accessible to other agencies, and cooperative efforts are ongoing, through grants and other resources, to equip it. We work closely with Stamping Ground Elementary School during festivals and carnivals, the city’s annual Buffalo Dazes Festival as well as local church functions and events. Being a pastor, I have shared with our local grocery, Bradley’s IGA who presents a live nativity each year and have been invited to share meditations during Upward Basketball Games sponsored by Cedar Grove Baptist Church.

How have you adjusted, as chief, coming from Georgetown Police Department (a larger department) to a three-man department?

The biggest challenge I have had as a small-town chief is trying to garner cooperation from the citizens to collaborate our efforts to maintain the quaint, small, country feel. Criminals tend to flock where they appear less noticeable and feel they can get away with committing offenses, but through community policing and citizen cooperation we are able to deter those unwanted events.

Do you have any new projects you would like to share?

We are trying to secure, by way of grants, off-duty weapons, rifles and shotguns for our officers and a communications link that will allow for wireless connectivity throughout the community and our newly-finished Buffalo Springs Park. We have been trying to secure a grant for a stand-alone police facility that will potentially house city hall, fire and police, as well as a training area and allow us to move closer toward accreditation. We have recently secured a newer Crown Victoria to complete our fleet with matching vehicles. We now have a Ford F150 four-door truck, a Ford Explorer and the Crown Vic, as well as one 1996 Crown Vic pool car and two bicycles equipped for patrol.

How are you able to balance serving as pastor of your church and chief of the police department?

Balancing between pastor and chief has not been difficult until recently. I started pastoral ministry in July of 2005 after receiving and accepting a call from Bethany Missionary Baptist Church in Lexington to a small community ironically called Little Georgetown behind the Bluegrass Airport. I also accepted an offer from Stamping Ground in July that same year to become the first African American to serve as either chief, or officer, taking office in August. I was fortunate to be working with God-fearing commissioners and a mayor that supported the work of ministry.

It has grown more difficult in recent years to meet the needs of members who often are faced with various difficulties in their lives while working as a full-time police officer. Bethany is looking at expansion projects in 2010 which may require more of my time but I am still confident that God will direct my path. I find great encouragement from one of my favorite passages in Galatians 6:9, “And let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.”

Working as chief of police has provided me an extended opportunity to minister in Stamping Ground. I truly believe lives have been touched and changed while serving the citizens here through the realities of the laws of the land as well as the grace of God. Paul says in Romans 5:20, “Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound.” J



Sheriff Larry Bennett

Russell County Sheriff’s Office

Larry Bennett was born in Russell County and has lived there all of his life except for the four years he was a Kentucky State Police trooper in Monroe County. Bennett served his first term as sheriff in January 1990 and now is in his fifth term of office. Bennett attends Clear Springs Baptist Church where he is a deacon. He lives on a farm where he raises beef cattle and wrangles horses. In his spare time, he enjoys training bird dogs and bird hunting. He routinely includes runs with his daughter and enjoys working out. They have run together in several races, including half-marathons, one marathon, and an adventure triathlon. He has three children, Matthew, Joseph and Stephanie and four grandchildren.

“ ... It gave me a greater understanding of the importance of having and maintaining an office with high ethical standards we adhere to today.”

Was law enforcement your first career path?

Yes. I always wanted to be in law enforcement. I thought it would be an interesting, challenging career. It would be a field in which I could make a difference in people’s lives and benefit the community.

What do you see as your major accomplishments as sheriff?

When I first was elected sheriff, I had two deputies, three cars purchased for \$2,600 each with the very minimum of emergency equipment (a dash light for each car). Now my department has eight deputies, new cruisers equipped with great equipment and computers in each vehicle. All deputies are certified. Also, I have two office staff, and their tax records and bills are all computerized. The biggest change, however, is the professionalism which enhances the quality of service to the citizens of Russell County.

How did serving the Kentucky State Police help in your transition as sheriff of Russell County 19 years ago?

The experience and knowledge I obtained as a trooper gave me a good foundation for the skills I would need as sheriff. It gave me a greater understanding of the importance of having and maintaining an office with high ethical standards we adhere to today.

What stands out at your agency above other law enforcement agencies in Kentucky?

What makes my agency so great is the high quality of the employees. Both office employees have been with me more than 10 years. My eight deputies have an average of 14 years of service per deputy. In our office we are all called to remember we are here to

serve the public, provide a service and that everyone’s problem is important, and we cannot let the problems become routine. It is always an honor to serve the citizens of Russell County.

How has your department benefited from the Distance Learning program that DOCJT offers?

It has been a great benefit to our office, a great time saver. With a small department like mine, deputies are not taken out of the county while they participate in classes. It is a great training tool, and we hope to use it even more in the future.

How have you and your department worked with the youth outreach programs and drug courts in your community?

We are involved with the Children’s Advocacy Center and Partners in Prevention. This is a community-oriented drug resistance and awareness program. I am a member of and support the county drug court. Deputies regularly go to the schools and speak to the students about drug awareness. We also have a K-9 Awareness (program) with the schools. We go to the elementary schools because it is very important to start teaching the children at a young age.

Do you have any new projects you would like to share?

We have two neighborhood watch programs that we are improving continually. In the past we have had several Citizens on Patrol Academy classes and hopefully will be able to have an improved academy beginning soon. We have a firing range that is available to, and used by, several law enforcement agencies. We always are looking for new and better ideas on how to serve and protect our community and have community involvement. J

CAUGHT!

Body-worn cameras are in fashion for law enforcement / James Careless, Government Video magazine

On the street, law enforcement officers have seconds to make life-and-death decisions. In the courtroom, lawyers, administrators and jurors have years to analyze and second-guess those decisions. How do you protect the truth when officers have to defend their actions?

TASER International has developed the TASER AXON (short for Autonomous eXtended On-Officer Network), which integrates an AV recording unit with a camera (color or infrared) and microphone. The AXON also can be connected to the officers portable radio system, so all radio transmissions are recorded.

The AXON sits where most officers put their handheld microphones, on their shoulders or chest, said Steve Tuttle, TASER's vice president of communications. The video camera, microphone and radio speaker are built into a small earpiece.

Because the unit is recording at all times at low resolution, it allows for up to 60-second pre-event recording. When an event occurs, the officer taps a button and the AXON records in high resolution. The biggest benefit of the AXON is that it can show what happened from the officer's point of view, and it can do this a minute earlier than the point at which he or she decided that recording was necessary, Tuttle said.

The waterproof, ruggedized AXON is a Linux-based tactical computer about the size of a deck of cards. A 2.8-inch color LCD displays operating controls and video playback. The unit includes built-in eight gigabyte flash memory that can store up to 10 hours of video, plus a memory card slot.

With its playback feature, officers can surf through video and add markers for quick access. To accommodate laws in various states, the AXON can be programmed for video-only or audio-only capture. There is even a privacy mode that allows officers to disable the unit for off-the-record conversations.

Of course, the real value of police video is in court, where it can be used as evidence. The AXON delivers secure downloads when placed into its docking station, and footage is tagged using hashing, an identi-



fication technique that will reveal any edits.

For safety, the AXON's camera-equipped earpiece can be removed and held by hand, allowing the officer to look around corners for possible risks. While the camera snoops around, the officer can stay safely out of sight, watching the live feed on the units LCD display.

TASER is not alone in body-worn video solutions. Seattle-based VIEVU introduced the PVR-LE wearable video camera in 2008.

Designed by three former police officers, it is roughly the size and weight of a pager and features a rugged, weatherproof, hands-free design. Its only moving part is the on/off switch, which doubles as the lens cover and can easily be manipulated without removing gloves.

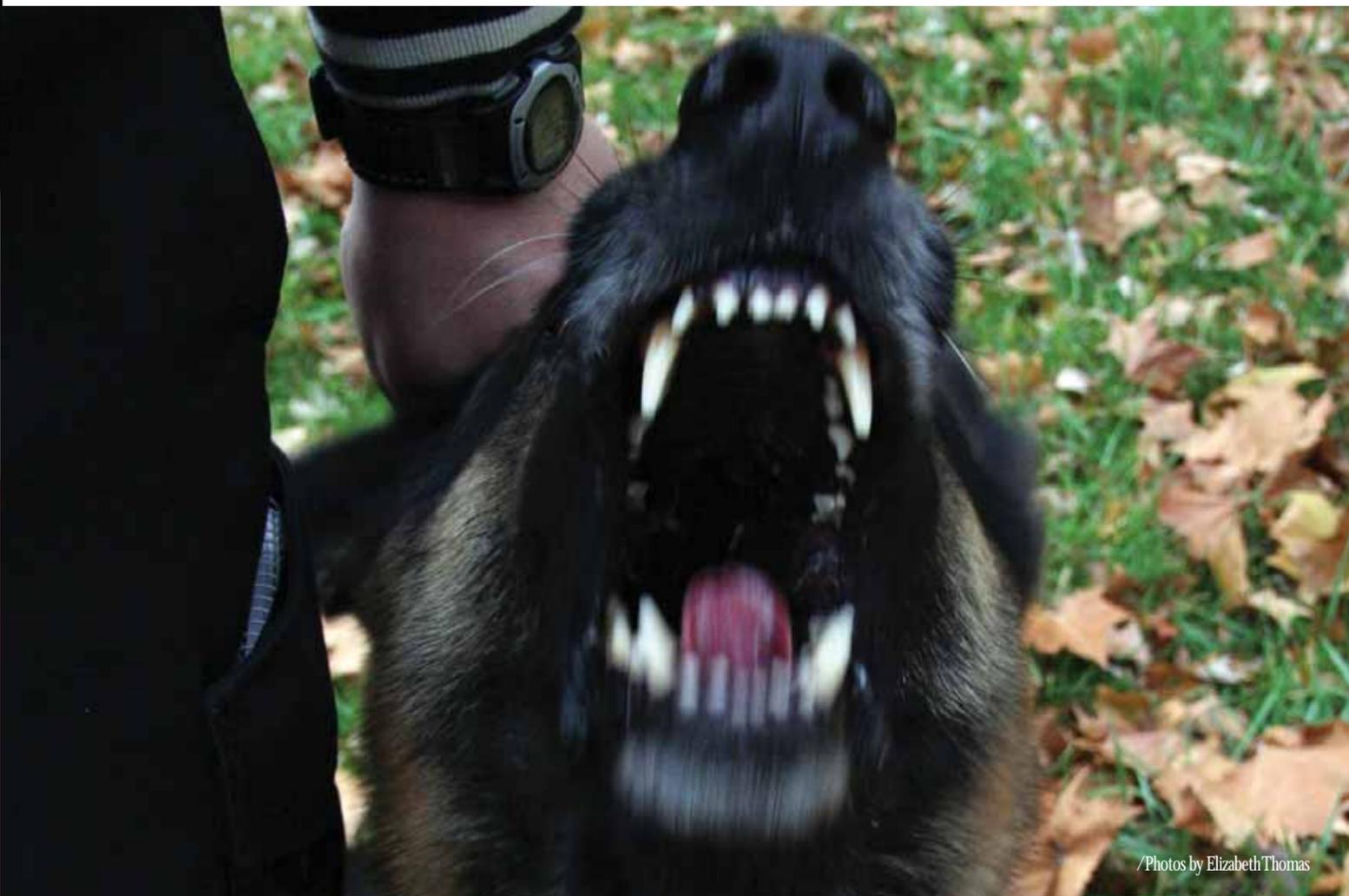
"Our primary design goal is to keep it simple," said Chris Myers, VIEVU public relations director. "We do not want technology to get in the way of officers and other first responders doing their jobs. One switch they can find under pressure, and without looking, was a top priority. We want our customers to cap-

ture the details on video without putting anyone at risk."

The PVR-LE records VGA color video at 30 frames per second with audio, and its four gigabyte internal flash memory can store more than four hours of video. Plus, it offers secure video archiving, chain of custody documentation and time/date stamp. J



STRANGE STORIES FROM THE BEAT



/Photos by Elizabeth Thomas

Suspect Fled into Police Dog's Yard: A fleeing armed robbery suspect in Australia made an unlucky move when he hopped into a police dog's yard. The K-9, Rocky, then began chasing the intruder around the neighborhood. Neil Smith, Rocky's handler, said if the suspect had chosen the backyard next door he would only have been confronted by a small shitzhu. "It's uncanny, isn't it," he said. "Some blokes just have no luck." ■ **Goat Detained for Armed Robbery:** Police in Nigeria are holding a goat on suspicion of attempted armed robbery. Vigilantes took the black and white beast to police, claiming it was an armed robber who had used black magic to transform himself into a goat to escape arrest after trying to steal a Mazda 323. ■ **Woman Guilty of One-eyed Drunken Driving:** A woman in central Sweden who alleged she drove with one eye closed to avoid double vision is guilty of drunken driving, a court has ruled. ■ **Man Says Fat, Not Attitude, Caused Clash:** A man from Brisbane, Australia alleged he was not attempting to clash with police by refusing to exit his vehicle, but rather was stuck due to being overweight. While police have accused the suspect of several crimes, including leading police on a high-speed chase and resisting arrest for not exiting his vehicle when asked, the suspect sticks to his story. ■ **Breathalyzer Costume Didn't Fool Cincy Cop:** Cincinnati police say dressing up as a Breathalyzer on Halloween did not spare one reveler a trip to jail. The suspect was picked up after allegedly trying to start a fight by yelling profanities and refusing to simmer down when approached by police.

If you have any funny, interesting or strange stories from the beat, please send them to elizabeth.thomas@ky.gov



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