

U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO

QUARTERLY COMMUNITY OUTREACH NEWSLETTER

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U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO CO-HOSTS FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND TOWN HALL



More than 60 New American community leaders gathered in Columbus April 23 to talk about a variety of civil rights issues.

For the first time in Ohio, community leaders representing recent immigrants in Hispanic, Asian, and African communities gathered to talk about issues like language access rights, housing rights, hate crimes, employment rights, and police relationships.

The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Ohio, the Ohio Latino Affairs Commission, the Ohio Asian American Pacific Islander Advisory Council, and the Columbus Community Relations Commission hosted a civil rights summit for New American community leaders at the Riffe Center in Columbus on April 23.

Community leaders set the agenda by completing a survey about priority issues. Then, they were able to share dialogue with officials from the U.S. Attorney's Office, Ohio Civil Rights Commission, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, FBI, and Department of Housing and Urban Development. They talked with local judges, law enforcement officers, and Columbus Mayor Michael B. Coleman.

The host agencies are now creating a database of existing civil rights resources for New American communities statewide.

Resources and information from the town hall event can be found at: <http://ochla.ohio.gov/OrganizationDevelopmentCenter/CivilRightsTownHallMeeting.aspx>



REMEMBERING MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN

U.S. Attorney Carter Stewart joined Reynoldsburg City Council member Cornelius McGrady III and Vicki Germann from the Ohio Attorney General's office May 22 at Reynoldsburg High School in recognition of National Missing Children's Day. Germann said there were 18,219 reports of missing children in Ohio in 2012.



U.S. Attorney Stewart and Councilman McGrady join Reynoldsburg High School students in a moment of silence to remember children who are missing or exploited.



Students at Reynoldsburg High School release balloons during a National Missing Children's Day assembly. Each balloon included a tag with the name of a missing Ohio child.

U.S. ATTORNEY REVISES GUN CRIME GUIDELINE

While violent crime is down in Ohio, many communities continue to suffer from the physical, financial and emotional impact of gun violence.

Federal and local prosecutors are working with law enforcement agencies and community groups to sharpen the enforcement side of the effort to reduce gun violence. One of the items mentioned most frequently by community groups is the need to coordinate prosecution efforts. Federal gun laws prohibit people who have been convicted of a felony in federal or state courts from ever having a firearm. U.S. Attorney Carter Stewart has amended the office's prosecution guideline provision for felons in possession of firearms to reflect the office's ongoing efforts to more aggressively address individuals who illegally possess firearms.

The amended guideline for 18 U.S.C. section 922(g) cases provides an additional, broader provision which takes into consideration individuals (felons) who have been convicted of a total of **three** or more state charges of carrying a concealed weapon and/or weapons under disability **and** a crime of violence on their record.

"This change helps us focus in on those who have already shown a propensity for violence and punish those who illegally carry firearms," Stewart said.

STEWART, HILL TO EDUCATE COMMUNITY ON INTERNET SAFETY THROUGH DALMAR TV



Assistant U.S. Attorney Heather Hill recently recorded a segment on Internet safety at Dalmar TV, Central Ohio's Somali television station.

U.S. Attorney Carter Stewart, Assistant U.S. Attorney Heather Hill, and Sergeant Dan Johnson from the Franklin County Sheriff's Office recently recorded TV segments to air on Dalmar TV. The trio talked about the realities of online risks, particularly focusing on child predators and child pornography. They offered case examples and safety tips for parents.

Dalmar TV is the first Somali language television network in the United States. Its pre-recorded programs currently reach approximately 64,000 households in Central Ohio.

Thanks to Mahad Hassan, Mohamed Mohamed, and the Dalmar TV crew, the community will be informed about ways to keep themselves and their families safe online.

Air dates and times will be shared once determined. The segments will also be available online through www.DalmarTV.com.

CONGREGATION TIFEREETH ISRAEL HOSTS COLUMBUS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COUNCIL

The Columbus Community Engagement Council (CCEC), led by the U.S. Attorney's Office Southern District of Ohio, welcomed Judge Edmund A. Sargus, John Dierna, and Penny Barrick from U.S. District Court to its quarterly meeting May 13. Rabbi Harold Berman graciously hosted the meeting at Congregation Tifereth Israel, which has a rich and longstanding history with the Columbus community.

U.S. District Court Judge Sargus and John Dierna (Chief U.S. Probation Officer) led discussion on collateral sanctions for felony convictions and faith-based reentry programs.

Those in attendance included Gloria McCauley of BRAVO, Sunni-Ali Islam of Native Sun, Steve Bosserman of the Interfaith Association of Central Ohio, Dorian Wingard of the Columbus Urban League, J.S. Jindal of the Community Relations Commission, Kevin Dixon of the ADAMH Board, Todd Lindgren with the FBI, and U.S. Attorney Carter Stewart, Fred Alverson, and Jennifer Thornton with the U.S. Attorney's Office.

The intent of the CCEC is to build relationships with and learn from community leaders who represent the city's diversity in terms of ethnicity, religion, and sexual orientation.

The next formal CCEC meeting will be scheduled for September. Details and request for agenda topics will be sent in August. If you're interested in joining CCEC, please contact Jennifer Thornton at jennifer.thornton@usdoj.gov or 614-255-1570.

OUT AND ABOUT

- April 23: U.S. Attorney Carter Stewart presented in the opening session of the New American Civil Rights Town Hall: Know Your Rights & Responsibilities in Columbus.
- April 23: Criminal Chief Kenneth Parker presented on hate crimes during the New American Civil Rights Town Hall: Know Your Rights & Responsibilities in Columbus.
- April 23: Criminal Chief Kenneth Parker presented at the 3rd Annual Cincinnati Summit for National Crime Victims' Rights Week.
- April 26: Assistant U.S. Attorney Mike Marous presented at the Ohio Bar Association's annual environmental law seminar in Newark, OH.
- May 2: Assistant U.S. Attorney Debbie Solove talked about cybercrime to the FBI Citizens' Academy in Columbus.

- May 3: Criminal Chief Kenneth Parker spoke to the Urban League of Greater Cincinnati's African American Leadership Development Program participants.
- May 11: Criminal Chief Kenneth Parker presented at the LULAC Ohio convention in Cincinnati.
- May 28: U.S. Attorney Carter Stewart, Law Enforcement Coordinator Fred Alverson, and Outreach Coordinator Jennifer Thornton participated in Congressman Steve Stivers' roundtable in Lancaster to discuss the scope of opiate abuse in Southern Ohio.
- May 31: Assistant U.S. Attorney Dave DeVillers presented in Columbus on Security Threat Groups and the influence of prison gangs.
- June 21: Assistant U.S. Attorney Heather Hill presented at the Unlocking the Chains Anti-Human Trafficking Conference in Columbus.
- June 25: Outreach Coordinator Jennifer Thornton provided federal resources at the Human Trafficking Conference for School Nurses in Reynoldsburg.
- June 27: Outreach Coordinator Jennifer Thornton participated in the Department of Homeland Security Civil Rights Civil Liberties Division community engagement roundtable in Chicago.
- June 27: Criminal Chief Kenneth Parker spoke at the farewell ceremony for Federal Public Defender Steven S. Nolder in Columbus.
- July 2: Criminal Chief Kenneth Parker spoke to students at a luncheon meeting for Cincinnati Works' Bridging the Gap program.
- July 9: Criminal Chief Kenneth Parker presented during the Federal Bar Association Admission course in Cincinnati and represented the office at the admission ceremony.
- July 10 (pictured below): High school students participating in a scholars program through The Ohio State University visited the U.S. Attorney's Office and the federal courthouse to talk with U.S. Attorney Carter Stewart and U.S. District Court Judge Algenon L. Marbley about future career goals.



TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

FREE GRANT WRITING SEMINARS

The Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) is hosting free Grant Writing seminars in 2013. OCJS's grant trainings provide an overview of identifying grant sources, analyzing program objectives, creating a budget, seeking letters of support, and writing proposals. Federal and state grants available to criminal justice professionals are discussed. Grant Writing 101 trainings take place on the following dates: **August 8, October 8, November 7 and December 12**. All trainings are held from 9 a.m. to 2p.m. in the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Motorcycle Classroom, located at 1970 W. Broad St., Columbus, on the first floor. Click [here](#) to register.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE DELINQUENCY PREVENTION OJJDP FY 13 NATIONAL RESOURCE MENTORING CENTER GRANT

US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&oppld=236112>

OJJDP FY 13 DIVISION OF INNOVATION AND RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP ON JUVENILE JUSTICE DATA

US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&oppld=235598>

YOUTH WITH SEXUAL BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS PROGRAM

US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&oppld=236155>

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Outreach event dates are subject to change. If you have questions or suggestions regarding community outreach at the U.S. Attorney's Office Southern District of Ohio, contact Jennifer Thornton at jennifer.thornton@usdoj.gov or 614-255-1570.

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