OHIO TERT INTERSTATE ACTIVATION



The Ohio Telecommunicator Emergency Response Taskforce (Ohio TERT) received a request for support last week from the Adams County Sheriff's Office in West Union following a Line-Of-Duty incident on 29 October. During a response in Liberty Township, a suspect exchanged gunfire with personnel from the Adams County Sheriff's Office, resulting in a Sergeant from ACSO being struck and injured. The injured Member was flown to Cincinnati for treatment, and has since been released.

The trauma associated with an officer-involved Line-Of-Duty incident is significant for any jurisdiction, but the impact can be magnified several times over in smaller agencies where all staff are acquainted with each other and their communities. Thus, Ohio TERT was activated to allow ACSO Communications personnel time to process the incident, and participate in debriefings, and receive any and all support required. (5) TERT personnel from PSAP's across the state are filling in this week as the Adams County Sheriff's Office team supports each other and their community. Ohio TERT Assistant Team Leader Johnna Sells said, "Sometimes we get to help our peers across the country, and sometimes the emergencies happen here at home. We are in for every task, and are committed to serve when called."

TERT personnel will conclude shift coverage on Friday, 6 November. We acknowledge Adams County Sheriff Kenny Dick and the ACSO team, and offer our continuing support during this difficult time.

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The Ohio Telecommunicator Emergency Response Taskforce (Ohio TERT) is part of the National Joint TERT Initiative. Established in 2005, NJTI is a joint effort of the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials International and the National Emergency Number Association. For further information, visit http://www.njti-tert.org or www.ohiotert.org.