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**Ohio House passes bill to help people with communications difficulties interact with police**

COLUMBUS (WCMH) - A proposed law to help interactions with police and people with communication disabilities passed the House of Representatives today with overwhelming support.

Concerned parent and mother of two autistic sons, Jenny Hughes, testified for the bill when it was still in committee. Her older son Jay, 23, has a driver's license.

"He's not just ignoring or being defiant. He doesn't understand," she said. "When he started driving I got nervous because of the certain incidents that have happened in the past with law enforcement and people with disabilities."

One of those incidents involved an autistic man, Chris Page, who was arrested in Dublin for OVI despite being sober. His charges were eventually dropped.

Hughes worried what could happen if she got pulled over with her younger son Gabe, 22.

"I have a CCW. So, I figured with the lights from a police car it would over-stimulate him and he'd start bouncing back and forth and I didn't want an officer to think he was going for my weapon," she said.

She said Jay may not respond to an officer's commands at all.

"He would probably freeze up, which is what I'm afraid of or start crying," she said. "He's 6-foot, 250 pounds, so I don't want an officer to think, 'Why is this grown man crying?' and not realize there could be a reason behind that."

The law, if passed, would allow people with communication disabilities, like autism or deafness, to put their names on a voluntary registry visible to police officers in the case of a traffic stop.

"I think for a law enforcement official it gives them the ability to better assess the situation and make sure that it doesn't get escalated because of misunderstandings in that communication," said State Rep. Scott Wiggam.

"It's going to help the law enforcement know what they're dealing with when they get to the car and it's going to help keep the occupants of the car safer," said State Rep. Theresa Gavarone.

State Rep. Wiggam said he hopes the bill will make it to the Senate floor in a few months.

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Statement from the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, Inc.

## School Safety

The Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio has always felt strongly about the need to secure our schools in an effort to protect our children.

The FOP of Ohio believes that the path to addressing school shooting requires two actions. The first is to have well-trained, commissioned law enforcement officers in schools doing the job police are trained to do. School Resource Officers (SRO) who will arrest violators, confront suspicious behaviors, recognize danger and respond according to our training will keep schools safer.

In addition to improving security, SROs build relationships between students and law enforcement, provide a positive role model and serve as guest instructors in classrooms on issues such as drug addiction.

The second essential action needed to protect our schools and students is to ensure that the school facilities are secure. In every other government building, other than schools, visitors and staff must go through a screening to enter the building. Our Statehouse, the Capitol, courthouses, airports and city halls all have security screening at limited access points. If we implement the types of security measures we use to protect legislators and judges for teachers and students, we'll see an environment less conducive to violence and more likely to give peace of mind to teachers, students and parents.

If school building access is limited, and those access points were manned by law enforcement personnel with security screening responsibilities, the ability of someone bent on committing a mass shooting would be severely limited. Yes, this would require an investment of federal and state dollars, but nothing is more important than public safety.

In coming days, you'll hear many different ideas to limit gun violence. Many will help supplement what we've outlined above and should be prioritized, including enforcing existing gun laws, establishing gun violence restraining orders, improving the sharing of mental health information so that access to firearms can be restricted when necessary and imposing strict prison sentences for gun crimes.

# Countywide APB

**Allen County Sheriff's Office:** After several months of research, this summer the department will undergo a technological makeover in jail operations. The new improvements will enhance visitation, commissary delivery, and inmate account management services. Every cellblock will be outfitted with a kiosks for use by the inmates. This upgrade in hardware and software will also give jail administrators more flexibility with allocation of manpower in the facility.

**Lima Police Department:** Det. Sgt. Paula Strickler and Det. Sgt. Scott Leland retired from the department last month after nearly 38 & 36 (25 with LPD) Years of Service respectfully. **CONGRATULATIONS Paula & Scott.** Enjoy your retirement it has been well earned my friends. The hiring process has begun for new recruits. They are now in the physical fitness stage of the process. Two new officers will complete their field training June 1<sup>st</sup>. Welcome to the LE family Ptl. Lemke and Ptl. Blodgett. Sergeants J. Garlock (Detective Bureau) and R. Hillard (Community Oriented Policing) will undertake new assignments with the department. Ptl. M. Douglass was recently promoted to the rank of Sergeant. We wish them much success in their new leadership roles.

**Lima Post Ohio State Patrol:** Troopers focused their enforcement efforts on drivers who drove while being distracted. "Click It or Ticket" campaign began this month. Troopers had two successful Aggravated Vehicular Homicide, and one Felonious Assault conviction in Allen County. First year Tpr. Bradon Schrieber becomes the 1<sup>st</sup> **Ace Award** winner (5 stolen car recoveries) for 2018 at the post. Congrats Brandon.

**Shawnee Police Department:** Held their bi-annual awards banquet 2016-17. Winners of Distinguished Achievement Awards were Sergeants R. Kohli, S. Hartman, A. Hoehn, Det. J. Miller, Det. D. Marik Ptlmn. J. Shellenbarger, B. Altenbach, J. Zimmerly, Comm Supv. Stemen, and Comm Oper. L. Stauffer. Comm Oper J. Gause was recognized for her outstanding 45 Years of Service. Several other employees received years of service and attendance recognition awards as well.

Continued prayers for the families of .....

Bob & Tiffany Najmulski

Eric & Jen Pugh Family

We welcomed Brooks Flynn back. Great to see bright eyed and bushy tailed!!!!

## **\*\* REMINDER \*\***

Just a reminder to all of you that have children in the GLADYS DAUCH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM, grade card transcripts are due BY JULY 1<sup>st</sup>. Please mail them to **FOP Scholarship, %Patty Wogerman, 750 W. Robb Ave., Lima, Ohio 45801-2758**. We need this info so that we can get the checks to you BEFORE your child returns to school. If your child's grades are not submitted before the checks are mailed, they will receive NO money. We cannot go back and re-issue checks once they are withdrawn from the bank, so please do not miss out.

## Preliminary 2018 Law Enforcement Officer Fatalities

January 1 through June 2, 2018 vs. January 1 through June 2, 2017

	2018	2017	% Change
Total Fatalities	65	58	+10%
Firearms-related	29	21	+38%
Traffic-related	23	23	0%
Other-causes	13	15	-13%

*Please note: These numbers reflect total officer fatalities comparing January 1 through June 2, 2018 vs. January 1 through June 2, 2017*

### Total Deaths by Month

January  
7  
February  
13  
March  
14  
April  
14  
May  
18

### Total Deaths by State

Indiana  
2  
Kentucky  
3  
Michigan  
2  
Ohio  
2  
Pennsylvania  
2

\*\*Stats from National Law Enforcement Memorial Website

## Speech Technology for Cop on The Beat



From

4 ways speech recognition technology improves police efficiency, safety Paperwork is crucial, but there's a reason they call it a necessary evil. It takes too much time and can keep us away from one of our most important tasks Yesterday at 3:10 PM

By Ed Davis, Nuance Communications

My career in law enforcement spans many ranks and several decades, and while there have been many changes as the result of advances in police technology, there are aspects of the job that remain consistent.

I think I speak for law enforcement professionals across the U.S. when I say that we would rather be catching criminals than doing the less glamorous side of our work that they don't show on "Law and Order" - creating countless incident reports when working a case. Police paperwork is crucial, but there's a reason they call it a necessary evil. It takes too much time and can keep us away from one of our most important tasks - protecting the citizens we serve.

### RELATED ARTICLES

Speech recognition technology requires practice

Voice recognition software: Report-writing without the writing

5 keys to great report writing

According to a national survey of police departments, almost 40% of survey respondents said they can spend 3-4 hours each day on incident reporting and other documentation tasks. That translates to a quarter of the day spent on paperwork alone, rather than policing and protecting our communities.

Tools like speech recognition technology allow officers to dictate documents rather than manually typing them by hand, providing a better way to tackle the heavy documentation demands that plague officers nationwide.

Several benefits speech recognition technologies bring to policing include:

#### 1. INCREASES IN COMMUNITY PRESENCE

Completing incident reports through voice dictation is drastically shorter than the time it would take an officer to create paperwork manually. Technology available today can be up to 99% accurate so officers don't have to sacrifice precision in order to gain back their time. Officers spending less time at their desks buried in reporting means more time spent being visible in the community.

With community visibility at the crux of modern-day policing, it's not surprising that in addition to better training and equipment for their officers, departments are embracing solutions that can allow officers to be more visible in the community.

## 2. ENHANCED TRANSPARENCY

Transparency in policing is why reporting accuracy is so crucial to what we do - everything we say and do can make a difference. Because officers are dictating in the moment, everything is fresh in their minds and more detailed and reliable than if that same information had to be pulled from memory hours later.

Advanced speech technology is able to learn language unique to the trade, so an officer can speak freely and be confident in the system's ability to pick up on and understand traditional police jargon. The accuracy of today's speech technology holds an officer accountable in his or her reporting, which further builds police transparency and trust.

## 3. VEHICLE ERGONOMICS

Next generation police vehicles are delivering new designs focused on safety, technology, performance and handling improvements. Safety, ergonomics and efficiency should always be taken into account, especially when it comes to adopting new technology in a small space. Police cars are changing and problems associated with hand, wrist and back pain from typing can be solved with voice dictation.

## 4. OFFICER SAFETY

The reliance on keyboard-driven, in-car systems, such as the MDT, has impacted officer safety. While cramped conditions in patrol cars can cause minor discomfort using the MDT, or worse - lower back pain - the "heads-down" approach is the major concern. With dictation officers can use their voice and stay "heads-up" while conducting common tasks like license plate lookups, enabling them to stay more alert, present and aware of their surroundings.


Many government law enforcement agencies, including the FBI and the military, have already selected speech recognition technology to keep pace with ever-increasing reporting loads. Speech recognition can be used to streamline reporting processes by allowing officers to dictate reports into the department's Record Management System (RMS) from a desktop computer at the station, an in-car system (such as a mobile data terminal or MDT), or even a mobile device.

Adopting solutions like speech recognition technology to streamline incident reporting will help officers prioritize toward higher engagement tasks, like spending more time on patrol and keeping communities safe.

### **About the Author**

Ed Davis has been in law enforcement for more than 35 years and is a security consultant to Nuance Communications. He served as the 40th Police Commissioner of the city of Boston from December 2006 until October 2013. Prior to that, Davis was the superintendent of the Lowell Police Department, a position he held for 12 years and one he rose to after starting out as a patrol officer in one.

PoliceOne.com

Date	EVENT
Thursday June 14th	<b>FLAG DAY</b>
Sunday June 17th	<b>FATHER'S DAY</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>June 19th</b>	 <b>FOP/FOPA MEETING</b>
Wednesday June 20th	<b>SUMMER OFFICIALLY BEGINS</b>
Sunday July 1st	<b>**Reminder** Due By TODAY!!!</b> Grade transcripts for ALL scholarship recipients. Mail to: FOP Scholarship, %Patty Wogerman, 750 W. Robb Ave., Lima, OH 45801-2758
Wednesday July 4th	<b>Independence Day</b>
Sunday - Tuesday July 22nd to 24th	<b>FOP STATE CONFERENCE INDEPENDENCE, OHIO</b>
Tuesday July 31st	<b>**Reminder** Due TODAY</b> Nominations for FOP and FOPA Officer of the Year. Nominations for Allen County Citizen of the Year.

Email FOP Vice-President D. Ball your nominations for **FOP/FOPA Lodge Member of The Year and Citizen of The Year** by 7/31/2018.

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