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## Behind the Badge

# E-News from the Law Enforcement Foundation

Dear LEF Supporter,

As we all know, 2009 was a year of economic challenges for everyone. Yet, at a time when nonprofits struggled to help those who depend upon their programs and services, your generosity made it possible for LEF to provide professional development to nearly 250 law enforcement officers in 2009.

We appreciate your support this year and look forward to your partnership in 2010. Best wishes to you and yours for a bright, happy holiday and prosperous New Year!

### **Congratulations to STEP Graduates**

Congratulations to our 24 recent graduates of the Supervisor Training Education Program (STEP). This intense three-week training program is designed for recently promoted first-line supervisors to help gain the tools needed to adapt to the new job. The transition requires the understanding of the expectations and role of the supervisor in their overall department, which STEP covers through 14 learning modules translating supervisory and management theory into professional practice. The first STEP class began in 2004 and since then, 168 Ohio law enforcement officers have successfully completed this unique training.

***Sgt. Matthew McCarty of the Brimfield Police Department and a 2009 STEP VI***

*graduate states, “The STEP program is a valuable tool to newly promoted supervisors. All material provided to attendees will greatly impact the successful performance of their career path.”*

We wish these 24 outstanding first-line supervisors well in their endeavors of serving their departments and Ohio communities.

### **Thanks to Our Recent Donors**

We are fortunate to have donors remembering us during this holiday season. We’d like to thank our most recent donors for their generosity:

- Akrochem Corporation, \$300
- American Electric Power (AEP), \$2,500
- Cincinnati Financial Corporation, \$2,500
- Ferro Corporation Foundation, \$1,000
- The Midland Company Foundation, \$500
- Sequoia Financial Group, LLC, \$250
- Stark County Prosecutor’s Office, \$100

### **Safety Tip of the Month**

As the shopping days dwindle, we encourage you to take extra precaution as you search for the perfect gift for friends and family.

1. If possible, try not to carry a purse or wallet and keep all cash and credit cards in your front pockets. Be extra careful if you do carry a purse or wallet, as they are prime targets for criminals in busy shopping malls.
2. Despite feeling rushed and thinking about your many holiday errands, try to stay alert to your surroundings within the crowded stores and outside in the parking lot.
3. Lastly, use the buddy system! Share your shopping experience with a friend or family member – you’ll not only be safer, you’ll be spending quality time

together during this special season.

Safer communities through education and leadership in law enforcement education.

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