

# CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

The Law Enforcement Foundation Annual Report

April 2016



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The Sisler McFawn  
Foundation

## Great Leadership Equals Great Success

As the Law Enforcement Foundation (LEF) celebrates 30 years of service, it is natural to reflect on what has made our charitable organization successful and what has allowed us not only to survive, but to thrive.

In October, the Law Enforcement Foundation's CEO Donna Braxton was honored as one of Central Ohio's Smart 50. The prestigious Smart 50 awards recognize leaders that share the drive toward sustainability and growth. In fact, innovation, impact and sustainability were three of the key metrics used to identify the top 50 leaders. The Smart 50 consists of all sizes and types of companies; however, 86% of these companies are "for profit" entities. The fact Donna Braxton and LEF were chosen for the Smart 50 award within a profit dominated group of companies makes this honor even more impressive.



Joel Brown, CPCU,  
AIS

Donna Braxton has been a part of LEF and the Ohio Association Chiefs of Police (OACP) for 24 years. Since 2008, Donna has served as the Chief Executive Officer of LEF. Donna was promoted to CEO during a turbulent time. The Great Recession impacted all charities. Nationally, charitable giving was down 7% in 2008 with a further decline of 6% in 2009. Although country-wide giving showed slight increases in 2010-2011, the overall giving was not close to approaching 2007 levels. From 2008-2012, five percent of all charities in the U.S. closed their doors, and the failure rate and decline in giving was much more severe for smaller charities like the Law Enforcement Foundation.

*"LEF has strengthened its outreach efforts and partnerships with state organizations to work together to make communities safer."*

Throughout these difficult times, Donna Braxton led with positive and inspirational leadership. She managed smartly, trimmed expenses and along with the entire LEF/OACP team, displayed and defined the term "shared sacrifice". Under her leadership, LEF has strengthened its outreach efforts and partnerships with state organizations to work together to make communities safer. Donna has created an internal environment that inspires employees to take ownership of their work which empowers employees to accomplish the organization's goal. **It is not a coincidence that great companies are led by great leaders.** LEF, the

law enforcement community and our greater communities have all benefitted from Donna Braxton's strong leadership. Thanks—and congratulations Donna.

On a final note, this will be my last time to address the LEF community and supporters. After five years as Chair of LEF and over 7 years working with the organization my term has come to an end. It has been a privilege to serve such a great organization with such worthy goals. I am truly grateful for the opportunity, and thank our supporters for furthering the professionalism and effectiveness of Police and Community Education. My commitment to Law Enforcement has in no way diminished; I am pleased to now be working with the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police as a Project Director for Community and Police Relations.

## Spotlight on Nationwide

Law Enforcement is a profession that requires both dedication and selflessness. As society's first line of defense, we look to police officers to keep the peace.

At LEF, we stand with Ohio's police officers and have made it our mission for the past 30 years to provide them with the tools to better themselves and our communities.

For 22 years, Nationwide has been one of our top donors. Since 1991, this company has contributed over \$355,000 to furthering our mission of creating safe, strong communities.

The donation dollars that have been contributed over the years have supported our Police Executive Leadership & Management Training Series, along with our community programs. These two programs have a direct impact on the relationship between law enforcement and members of the community.

It is with sincere gratitude that we thank Nationwide for the part that they have played for many years in support of our goal.

## A Word from Our President

2015 has been another great year for the Law Enforcement Foundation and the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police. Our STEP, PELC, CLEE, and DOT trainings are all running at capacity with growing waiting lists of officers wanting to attend the trainings. With over 3,000 graduates from our leadership programs in multiple states, our training courses are starting to gain exposure as some of the best leadership trainings in the country.

The Law Enforcement Foundation continues to build strong ties with our corporate and state partners and stakeholders. The partnership between the Law Enforcement Foundation and the Ohio Department of Public Safety has allowed us to bring the CLEE program to law enforcement professionals who would have never been able to afford this type of training in the past.

There are several thank you's that I would like to extend at this time. First Joel Brown, who has been chairman of the LEF board for the last several years. The amount of time and commitment that you have put into the Law Enforcement Foundation is nothing short of remarkable. Your position as Chairman will leave large shoes to fill indeed.

Donna Braxton, 2015's honoree as one of the Smart 50 most innovative business leaders in Central Ohio. As CEO, you have progressed the LEF to be the premier training organization in the region.

Finally the board of the Law Enforcement Foundation. A mix of both Law enforcement and business professionals who have one common goal: the enrichment and advancement of training for law enforcement professionals in the State of Ohio. The board unselfishly volunteers its time and talent to ensure the LEF continues to thrive and grow.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your president for the past six months and work side by side with both the board and staff of the LEF. I eagerly look forward in anticipation to the great things that the Law Enforcement Foundation has in store for us in 2016.



Chief Keith C. Torbet, CLEE Wauseon Police Department

## Committed to Our Communities for Over 30 Years

*DARE (1987—Present)*

*Police Executive Leadership College (1988—Present)*

*Human Diversity Program (1992—1995)*

*Community Oriented Policing (1994—2003)*

*Certified Law Enforcement Executive (1995—Present)*

*Police Ethics Training (1998—2001)*

*Changing the Institution of Policing (1998—2000)*

*Preventing Race-Based Traffic Stops (1999—2001)*

For over three decades, the LEF has made it our mission to better the lives of community members. We have done this by providing programs which tackle current issues in our society. Now, more than ever, the need for our community initiatives has become overwhelming. It is our belief that by extending the reach of law enforcement into schools, neighborhoods, and families, we are creating positive and lasting relationships between law enforcement and those they serve. These positive relationships lead to the strengthening of communities, making them safer now and for many years to come.

*Operation Gunlock (2001—2002)*

*Alzheimer's Disease Training Project (2002)*

*Critical Incident Management (2002—2004)*

*The Autism Awareness Project (2003)*

*Domestic Violence Training Initiative (2003)*

*Supervisor Training and Education Program (2004—Present)*

*Child Abduction Response Team (2006—Present)*

*Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate (2013—Present)*

## Spotlight on the Honda of America Foundation

For 23 of these last 30 years, the Honda of America Foundation has been a champion of our programs. Since 1992, Honda of America Foundation has been one of our largest donors, contributing almost \$200,000 in support of the Police Executive Leadership and Management Training Series.

This support has assisted the LEF in successfully training over 2,700 of Ohio's law enforcement officers.

The investment made by the Honda of America Foundation has resulted in numerous positive changes, including the creation of opportunities for law enforcement officers to better serve their communities by becoming quality leaders.

We thank the Honda of America Foundation for their continued support of Ohio's law enforcement officers. Together we are laying the foundation to make a difference.

### PELC: From Then to Now

Chief Doug Knight of the Vandalia Police Department was one of the first police officers to graduate from the inaugural PELC class of 1988. Not only can he attest to the effective nature of the program, but so can every law enforcement supervisor that has advanced through the Vandalia Police Department since 1988. In his testimonial below, he outlines the ways in which PELC 1 helped to shape him as an officer and leader.



Chief Doug Knight,  
PELC  
Vandalia Police  
Department

“As a young, new police chief in 1988, I searched for a unique leadership training opportunity. By coincidence, OACP launched the first session of the Police Executive Leadership College (PELC) that same year. I applied and was indeed fortunate to have been admitted to PELC I.

I soon discovered that the leadership focus of the PELC curriculum, the knowledge and credentials of our PELC instructors, and the sharing of experiences by PELC classmates made PELC an exceptional opportunity. In fact, I felt so strongly about the benefits of my PELC experience that every Vandalia police supervisor appointed or promoted since 1988 is a PELC graduate. Vandalia police leaders receive a broad array of leadership training opportunities, but PELC is the common experience we all share. I believe that PELC is arguably the LEF's most enduring and impactful contribution to the quality of law enforcement in Ohio.”

### STEP: Building Blocks

The inaugural STEP class took place in 2004, with a graduating class of 25 officers. One of those graduates was Cpl. Kevin Keiffer of the Dublin Police Department. Below he details the ways in which the skills learned in STEP 1 have helped him to this day.



Cpl. Kevin Keiffer,  
STEP, Dublin Police  
Department

“Prior to beginning STEP 1, I had mixed emotions because this course had never been offered before, and I was unsure of what to expect. One of the most important activities from this class was the impromptu speeches that we were required to make. My confidence in my public speaking abilities significantly improved as a result of those assignments. The other portion of the class that I learned the most from was Employee Counseling. I still to this day reflect on the guidelines that were taught to me in that class.

After completing this course, I felt like I had the foundation to build a successful career as a Patrol Supervisor. When our new supervisors are enrolled in this course, I am proud to tell them that I graduated from STEP Class #1.”

### CLEE: Providing A Framework

Chief Phillip Potter, currently of the Alcoa, Tennessee Police Department was one of the first officers to graduate from the inaugural CLEE class of 1996. His testimonial describes how the CLEE modules allowed him to create a framework for long term success.



Chief Phillip Potter,  
CLEE, Alcoa TN Police  
Department

“In 1996 as the Chief of Police of the Piqua Police Department, I had the opportunity to participate in the initial “Pilot” of the Certified Law Enforcement Executive (CLEE) Program. CLEE was developed to provide a formal process for law enforcement executives to voluntarily improve and verify competence in their profession through eight learning modules.

The CLEE Program provided me excellent police leadership training, as well as the framework and model for successfully leading and transforming three different police organizations in three different states over the last 20 years. The intensive training and skills I learned specifically through the CLEE modules of Change Management, Vision, Strategic Planning and Team Building provided me the critical foundation for leading these organizations through the ever changing environment that law enforcement faces every day.”

## Spotlight on The Sisler McFawn Foundation

Since 1985, the LEF has been determined to extend the reach and support of law enforcement's role in the community.

The law enforcement profession is the glue that holds the fabric of our society together, being our first line of defense. It is imperative that our first line of defense has access to the advanced education necessary for improvement.

The Sisler McFawn Foundation has recognized this need since 1989. For the last 27 years they have invested in our mission. Over \$127,000 has been donated by The Sisler McFawn Foundation to assist in the training of police officers and community outreach programs.

It is with great sincerity that we thank The Sisler McFawn Foundation for the difference that they have helped to create in our communities. Thank you for helping to promote positive change for the future. Together we are absolutely making a difference.

## Laying the Groundwork...

The very first Annual Report for the LEF was released in January of 1989. As we celebrate 30 years of service, we look back on the goals and objectives that the foundation has been rooted in and continues to uphold. We look back on a fledgling organization that turned ideas into realities. Included below is that Annual Report written on January 30th, 1987 by Chief Michael Kelly, the first Board Chair of the LEF.



This is the first Annual Report of your Law Enforcement Foundation. It is prepared in honor of those we serve. They include the children who are today stronger citizens because of their exposure to the messages of the DARE program. They include the community and county residents who are protected by the leadership of their local police departments. These leaders' experiences through our Police Executive Leadership College advance the quest for excellence that Police Executives seek each day in making Ohio cities and villages safer for all.



Five years ago the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police Executive Board envisioned a Foundation. The dream became a reality in 1987 when the Foundation's Board of Trustees began to formulate a challenging mission. The foundation's mission was subdivided into three principle areas of activities: first, to address long term community safety needs; second, to enhance the leadership skills of police professionals; and third, to encourage realistic hands-on research that could better address both Police Managers and community safety concerns. If there is one central theme to this mission it is to think and act futuristically.

The Police Executive Leadership College has been an inspiration, capturing the interest of all Ohio Police Executives seeking the best in professional education. DARE represents the growing police philosophy that a community's solution to substance abuse lies with the deployment of officers in the classroom as much as in the street.



We have a dream. We have a start. We now have experience which sparks our enthusiasm to work even harder. We intend to make a difference.

Best Regards,

Chief Michael J. Kelly

## DARE Makes A Comeback

The DARE program has seen a resurgence of interest in Ohio in the past two years, and that interest is continuing to grow. This program is needed now more than ever in our society, as drug abuse has continued to grow and the heroin/opiate epidemic has infiltrated our communities and schools.

Drug overdose is the leading cause of death in the United States. Heroin alone has been the cause of over 1,000 deaths in Ohio this year. 5,500 Americans misuse a prescription for the first time everyday. In response to this epidemic, Attorney General Mike DeWine established a new Heroin Unit in 2013 to provide support for law enforcement, legal, and outreach assistance.



Attorney General DeWine has also taken the steps to make Naloxone/Narcan more affordable to public entities. Naloxone is a prescription drug used in the case of an overdose of opiates. Naloxone blocks receptors, which will not allow the opiate to affect the body further. Since 2004, there has been a 127% increase in the number of overdose patients treated with Naloxone in the state of Ohio.

It is time that the DARE program is brought back into Ohio's schools. The DARE program has proven its value since its implementation in 1983. Over the course of 32 years, our DARE officers have witnessed real life results of the DARE program at work. In one such instance the DARE program helped to save the lives of a young girl and three others.

Sheriff Jason K. Landers of the Paulding County Sheriff's Office has seen the DARE program recently save lives and can personally attest to its necessity. In May of 2015, Sheriff Landers was asked to speak to an eighth grade class regarding the dangers of illegal drug use. He noticed a female student keeping her head low who seemed nervous and afraid, yet interested at the same time. Later that evening, Sheriff Landers received an email from what turned out to be that young girl from class. The email went on to state that she believed her father had what Sheriff Landers had described as "one-pot" meth labs in their home. The young girl asked that he look into the situation and gave him her address. The next day, after further investigation, a search warrant was obtained and served at the residence the little girl had specified.

Once the door was breached, law enforcement was faced with a very dangerous situation. In addition to active meth labs in the living room, the father was in possession of a firearm in the same room with his girlfriend and two little girls. The situation was resolved without incident, and the father and girlfriend were taken into custody with the young girls taken into Child Protective Services.

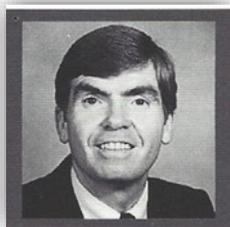
DARE opened the door for this young girl to share her fears regarding her father. Although she had been trying to for some time, the DARE staff made her feel safe enough to reach out more aggressively. Due to this the course of the young girl's life was changed, as well as the life of her sister.

Unfortunately, there are far too many stories that don't have this type of positive ending. Too often, law enforcement is contacted after the situation has gotten too far out of control. Sheriff Landers has made it his mission to get trained, uniformed DARE officers in each school district within Paulding County.

Making a change starts with educating our youth and guiding them to make the right choices from the start. DARE helps to make that change.



## Thank You to Our Leaders



Michael J. Kelly  
1987-1989



John D. Ong  
1990-1992



Daniel E. Evans  
1993-1995



John H. McConnell  
1996-1998

The LEF would like to thank all of our past board chairs for their support and dedication over the years. This innovative group of business leaders has been instrumental in making this organization what it has become. It was Chief Michael Kelly who stated it best in 1987, "We have a dream. We have a start. We now have experience which sparks our enthusiasm to work even harder. We intend to make a difference." And what a difference that has been made over the past 30 years in the state of Ohio. That fledgling organization has grown into a Foundation that offers the highest-level of advanced law enforcement training, as well as programming aimed toward building better communities.

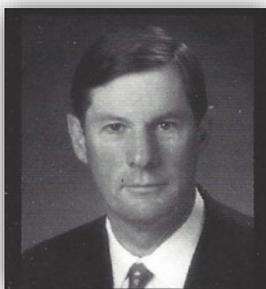
The LEF has built its foundation on honesty, integrity, and the highest of ethical standards. These are the characteristics we look to foster in Ohio's law enforcement officers. We recognize the perils faced by law enforcement officers today, and have made it our goal to provide them with the tools to keep themselves and our community members safe. We have a history of developing able leaders, who are willing to make the necessary changes in order to secure safer and stronger communities now and in the future.



William B. Summers, Jr.  
1999-2003



Carl H. Lindner (Honorary)  
2003-Present



Jerry Jurgensen  
2004-2007



Sandra Harbrecht, APR  
2008-2010



Joel Brown, CPCU, AIS  
2011-2015

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Mr. Carl H. Lindner, Jr., Deceased  
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