

Update on the Ohio Collaborative and State Wide Standards

August 1, 2016

Just over six months ago the Ohio Collaborative introduced new State-Wide Standards for Ohio. Since that time, 161 law enforcement agencies have submitted and had their applications approved by the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS). Of those 161 agencies, 96 have now submitted the compliance documentation. A total of 48 agencies have received provisional approval and 28 agencies have received final approval. While these may sound like big numbers, those agencies in the certification process only represent 17% of Ohio law enforcement agencies.

Many agencies have waited for the State Wide Standards process and procedures to be refined. ***Many positive changes have been made and if your agency has been waiting, now is a great time to submit your information and begin the certification process.*** The original rush of agencies seeking approval has been processed and soon additional agencies will enter the process in order to be included in the March 2018 list of agencies in compliance.

If your agency wants to be certified but does not know where to begin, remember the Peer Process. The Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP) has over 40 trained individuals throughout the state ready to assist you in successfully achieving certification. If you are interested in having a Peer assigned, contact Joel Brown at OACP.

joel.brown@oacp.org

614-761-4618

Certification through adoption of the State Wide Standards is an excellent way to show your community that your agency has achieved a recognized high level of excellence.

Community Policing is also an important part of the Ohio Collaborative. The Sidney Police Department led by Chief Will Balling has been active and successful in interacting with their community. The attached article features many of the successful programs Sidney has implemented. The Sidney Police Department received its final certification through the Ohio Collaborative on April 4, 2016.