



MEDIA RELEASE

OHIO INVESTIGATIVE UNIT

Ohio Investigative Unit • Cathy Collins-Taylor, Executive Director
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OIU to Hold Seminar in Bowling Green to Assist with Liquor Permit Enforcement

(COLUMBUS) – The Ohio Investigative Unit (OIU) is heading to the Wood County Education Service Center, not to give them a liquor citation, but to facilitate a Liquor Government Outreach Seminar for the Bowling Green and Toledo areas on Tuesday, June 9.

The seminar, hosted by the ATOD Prevention Program of Wood County and OIU, a division of the Ohio Department of Public Safety, will be facilitated by OIU's Executive Director Cathy Collins-Taylor.

The outreach program was initiated to assist local governments in dealing with liquor permit issues, which can become complicated as they involve local jurisdictions as well as multiple state agencies and commissions. OIU has hosted several seminars around the state since June 2007, but this is the first to be held in northwestern Ohio.

"Making the places we live and work safer is our top priority," said Collins-Taylor. "We can all be more effective if we work together, and this is a great opportunity to sit down and discuss how various law enforcement agencies, prosecutors and other municipal and county officials throughout Ohio can work together to enforce liquor laws."

The one-day seminar will focus on various facets of liquor laws and enforcement – what role local agencies can play, how state agencies can help if needed, and other services that the state can offer. The seminar will also touch on how OIU can assist local governments with problem establishments, additional agents, tracing sales of alcohol and awareness programs. The seminar will also include information about the process by which liquor establishments obtain their licenses, the liquor hearing process, nuisance abatement, and what steps local governments can take to object to the issuance or renewal of a permit.

Speakers include Collins-Taylor, representatives from the local OIU office, Ohio Department of Commerce's Division of Liquor Control, Ohio Liquor Control Commission and Ohio Attorney General's Office.

MEDIA NOTE: A media availability with Executive Director Collins-Taylor will be held from 9:30 – 10 a.m. outside the conference room. Because many of the participants are undercover law enforcement, please do not shoot video or take photos until directed to do so. The Wood County Educational Service Center is located at 1867 North Research Drive in Bowling Green.

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The Ohio Investigative Unit is a division of the Ohio Department of Public Safety. The Investigative Unit enforces local, state and federal laws with emphasis on liquor, food stamp and tobacco offenses, further offering educational guidance and professional assistance to law enforcement agencies and the general public.