



MEDIA RELEASE

Investigative Unit

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Lucas County Residents Appear on National TV Show to Bring Awareness to Underage Alcohol Consumption

Last week, Ottawa Hills residents Dr. Brian and Mrs. Cindy Hoeflinger appeared on the Katie Couric show and shared the story of their 18-year-old son Brian.

Last February, Brian consumed an excessive amount of alcohol at a house party, and attempted to drive –before crashing his car into a tree. Brian was pronounced dead as a result of the crash.

At the request of the Ottawa Hills Police Department, agents from the Ohio Investigative Unit's (OIU) Toledo District Office conducted a trace-back investigation. The agents were able to determine that the young-man's friends were able to purchase alcohol underage and supplied it to Brian. The clerk that sold the alcohol was charged with selling alcohol to a person under 21. The case is still pending in Toledo Municipal Court.

In October, the Hoeflinger's spoke during an Alcohol Server Knowledge training program hosted by OIU, Ohio State Highway Patrol and University of Toledo Police Department. More than 130 Lucas County area liquor permit holders and staff attended the training.

To view the Hoeflinger's on Katie Couric, log onto <http://katiecouric.com/videos/parents-heartbreak-after-son-dies-from-drinking-and-driving/>.

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The Ohio Investigative Unit agents are plain-clothed fully sworn peace officers. OIU is charged with enforcing the state's liquor laws and is the only state law enforcement agency specifically tasked with investigating food stamp fraud crimes. Agents also investigate tobacco violations. Follow OIU on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Ohio-Investigative-Unit/165782203506269> and on Twitter by logging onto http://twitter.com/Ohio_OIU.