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Homeland Security

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OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

John R. Kasich, Governor

John Born, Director

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OHIO HOMELAND SECURITY PRESENTS EXPLOSIVE DETECTION CANINE TO THE BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

COLUMBUS – The Bowling Green State University and the surrounding area are safer today with the introduction of Jerry, the university’s new explosive detection canine. The canine was provided by federal grant funding through Ohio Homeland Security (OHS), a division of the Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS).

“In an effort to keep Ohio and its citizens safe, I am pleased that Ohio Homeland Security is able to offer this valuable resource to Bowling Green State University and northwest Ohio,” said ODPS Director John Born. “I am confident that the efforts of Lieutenant Stewart and Jerry will help to contribute to a safer Ohio.”

After 10 weeks of training, Jerry, a male Belgian malinois, is ready to patrol BGSU alongside his handler, Lieutenant John Stewart. Lieutenant Stewart spent the past five weeks training with Jerry in Columbus. Although their primary duty is on the BGSU campus, Lieutenant Stewart and Jerry can be called upon by nearby local law enforcement for assistance.

“The University would like to extend its thanks to Ohio Homeland Security for providing us with this valuable resource,” said Chief Monica Moll of the BGSU Police Department. “Having an explosive-detection canine available will assist us with keeping not only the faculty, staff, students and visitors to BGSU safe, but also the surrounding community.”

In addition to BGSU, Youngstown State University and Ohio State University were selected to receive canines based on their geography and whether other explosive detection canines are in the area. OHS created the pilot program this year to aid in response to bomb threats at Ohio universities and their surrounding communities.

Existing federal grants through OHS cover the expense of the purchase, training, veterinarian bills and other equipment necessary for the program’s success. The cost for each canine is \$12,767.

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