



The SHIELD

A quarterly bulletin from the Summit County Sheriff's Office

2022, Volume 1

Inside the CSI Unit

The \$61K state grant to boost Sheriff's Office recruitment

Lifesaving Partnership

The Sheriff's Office and Highway Patrol team up to rescue a missing senior

Meet our youngest deputy, 8-year-old Joshua Eastman



New Year – New Look!

We kicked off the new year with the launch of a brand new website! This new site will allow us to better serve, inform, and communicate with the public, and brings a sleek new design to the Sheriff's Office. Check it out today at sheriff.summitoh.net.



The screenshot shows the website's header with navigation links: SUMMIT COUNTY | COUNTY OFFICES > | CONTACT US | I WANT TO... > | Q. The main header features the County of Summit Sheriff's Office logo and the name KANDY FATHEREE, SHERIFF, alongside a photo of Sheriff Kandy Fatheree. A navigation menu includes: HOME, ABOUT US, COMMUNITY PROGRAMS, PATROL, CORRECTIONS, COURT SERVICES / CIVIL DIVISION, RESOURCES, MEDIA, CCW, JOIN OUR TEAM. The main content area has a large banner for 'JOIN OUR TEAM' with the text 'Find a rewarding career serving and protecting your community' and a 'More Info >' link. Below this is a 'Welcome to the Summit County Sheriff's Office website.' section with a 'Learn More...' button and a paragraph about the office's mission and history.

SUMMIT COUNTY | COUNTY OFFICES > | CONTACT US | I WANT TO... > | Q

COUNTY OF SUMMIT
Sheriff's Office
KANDY FATHEREE, SHERIFF

HOME ABOUT US COMMUNITY PROGRAMS PATROL CORRECTIONS COURT SERVICES / CIVIL DIVISION RESOURCES MEDIA CCW JOIN OUR TEAM

JOIN OUR TEAM
Find a rewarding career serving and protecting your community
[More Info >](#)

Welcome to the Summit County Sheriff's Office website.

The mission of the Summit County Sheriff's Office is to provide the safest environment possible for every citizen of Summit County.

Sheriff Kandy Fatheree is the 38th Sheriff of Summit County. The Sheriff's Office was formed within days after the establishment of Summit County in 1840. Today, it consists of over 300 deputies and nearly 80 civilian staff, making it both the oldest and the largest government office in Summit County.

[Learn More...](#)

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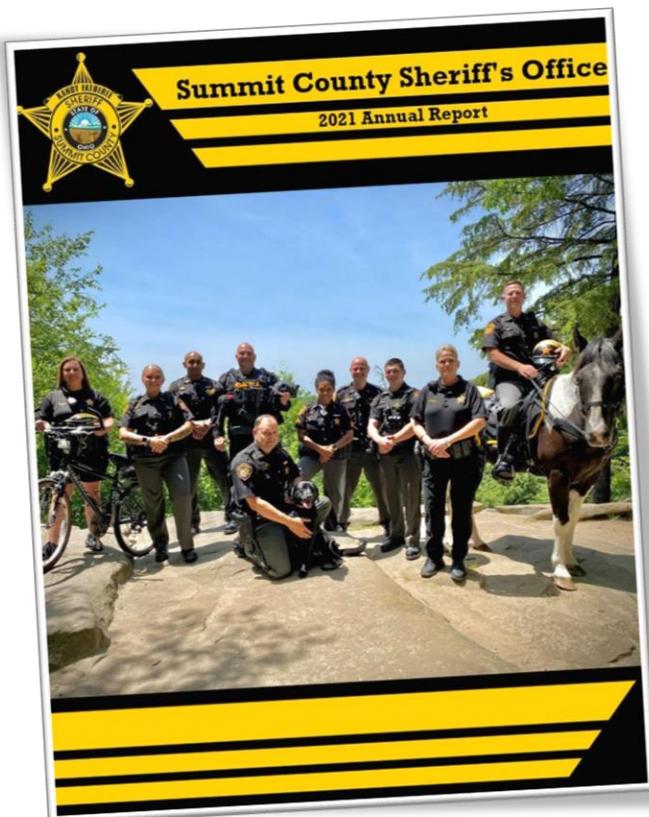


@SummitSheriff



Summit County
Sheriff's Office (OH)

Congratulations to our Corrections Division Commander, Major Matamba Kaalima, who was recently honored by Summit County Council as the highest-ranking African American deputy in the 180-year history of the Summit County Sheriff's Office following his promotion by Sheriff Fatheree late last year.



Our 2021 Annual Report is now available and can be read on the "About Us" tab of our website at sheriff.summitoh.net.

In The News

sheriff.summitoh.net

Your Source for Summit County Sheriff's Office News

Since 2021

Sheriff's Office, Highway Patrol Team Up to Locate Missing Sagamore Hills Resident

SAGAMORE HILLS – At approximately 1:30pm on Tuesday, February 1, a 65-year-old female with dementia who is non-verbal wandered away from a Sagamore Hills property owned by her husband. She was wearing only pajamas and a coat. The husband quickly phoned Sagamore Hills Police who were unable to locate her after searching throughout the afternoon.

At approximately 5:30pm the Sheriff's Office was alerted to the operation and quickly rounded up a team of deputies and our entire Detective Bureau to search for the woman.

With temperatures that evening forecasted to dip into the teens, the missing woman was facing the risk of severe frostbite, hypothermia, or even death. Realizing this, we reached out to the Ohio State Highway Patrol to assist in the search by sending their helicopter from Columbus.

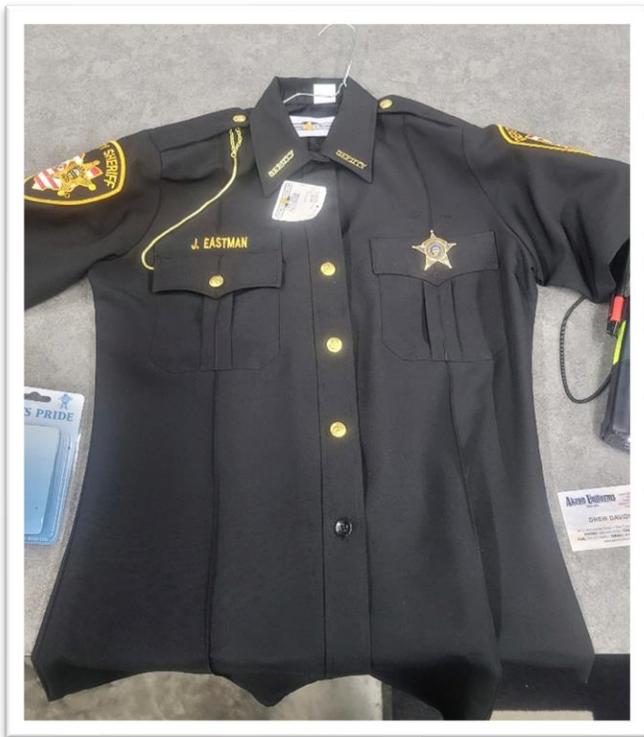
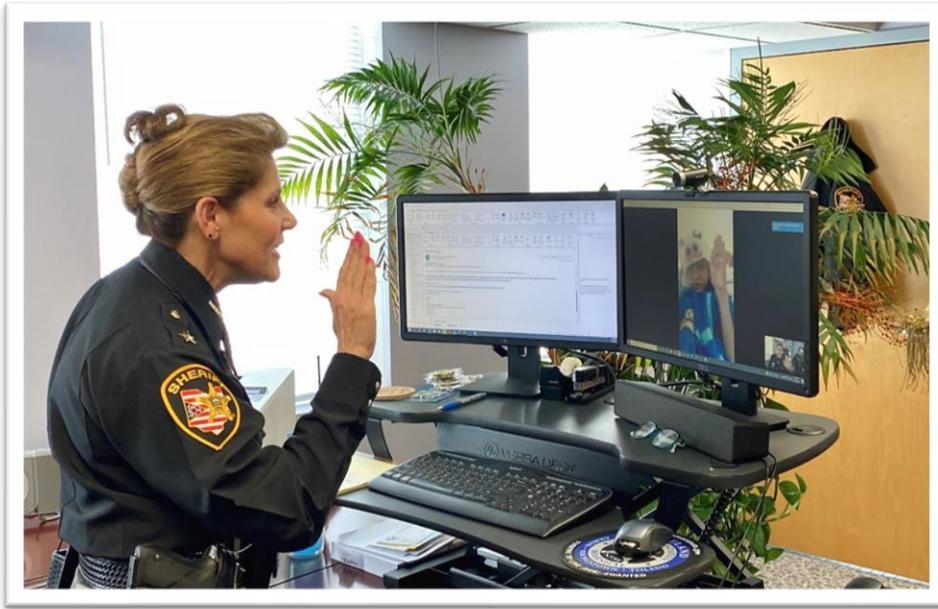
Using aerial thermal imaging, State Troopers were able to locate the woman just before 9:00pm, and guide our deputies down into a wooded ravine where they made contact with her. The woman was given immediate medical attention, transported to a local hospital, and later released in good condition today.



Photo from Ohio Highway Patrol helicopter thermal imaging

Meet our Youngest Deputy!

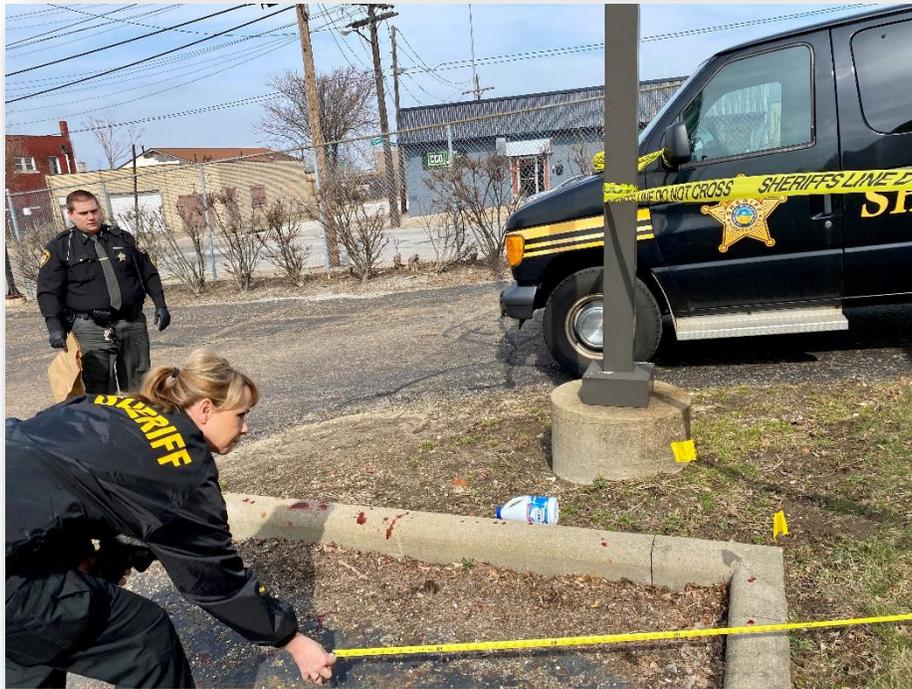
We'd like to introduce you to the youngest deputy at the Summit County Sheriff's Office, 8-year-old Joshua Eastman. Joshua is currently undergoing treatment for cancer in Pittsburgh. He hopes to be a police officer one day. When local police learned that he collects badges and patches they shared his story, and before long gifts started pouring in from across the country! We sent Joshua a fully outfitted deputy's shirt, which he absolutely loved. Then, Sheriff Fatheree surprised Josh by swearing him in as an honorary deputy! His mother later told us that it was the biggest smile she'd seen from him in a long time. Welcome to the team, Joshua!



You can see video of Joshua's swearing-in on the Summit County Sheriff's Office Facebook page, Instagram account, or YouTube Channel!

Inside the CSI Unit

The Summit County Sheriff's Office Crime Scene Investigation Unit is tasked with collecting and processing physical, biological, and trace evidence at crime scenes, which is then presented to the detectives, prosecutors, and the courts. They are on-call around the clock ready to respond to crime scenes throughout the county.



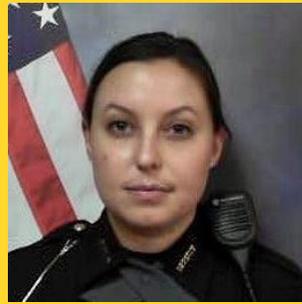
Out in the field, Deputies Seese, Plouse, and Calhoun mark, measure, photograph, and take DNA samples of blood and other evidence found at a scene.



Back at the lab, Deputies Gorham and Seese and Lt. Hemsley process a piece of evidence used in a recent crime, dusting for fingerprints and swabbing for DNA to be sent to the Bureau of Criminal Investigation.

Meet some of the incredible men and women that joined the Sheriff's Office family over the past year!





Sheriff's Office receiving \$61K grant from Governor DeWine to boost recruitment of women and minorities

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine announced in February that the Summit County Sheriff's Office will be receiving \$61,000 in grant money from the Ohio Office of Law Enforcement Recruitment. The funds will be used to offer 20 new training academy scholarships, and to increase outreach and recruitment efforts geared towards women and minorities. The sum awarded to the Summit County Sheriff's Office is the second largest of the twelve recipient agencies in the state.

"This news is a net positive for the entire Summit County community," said Sheriff Fatheree. "This funding will help us better serve and protect our residents, and will strengthen the Sheriff's Office both in terms of numbers, and in the strength that comes with greater diversity."



The Ohio Law Enforcement Recruitment Grant Program was created last year by the Ohio General Assembly with the goal of boosting the recruitment and retention of women and minority officers. "Agencies all over the country are facing serious shortages in new recruits, which is dangerous for the current workforce and for the citizens they serve and protect," said Governor DeWine in his announcement. "The agencies receiving grants today have all developed plans that will help them recruit more qualified job candidates, particularly women and minorities who often times face barriers to employment in criminal justice careers."

The Sheriff's Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Esther Thomas, will direct the grant activities along with the Sheriff's Office diversity team comprised of department heads, deputies and civilian staff, and the chaplain. "The approved plan is to create a comprehensive marketing strategy to reach women and minorities," said Ms. Thomas. "Other initiatives include a mentoring program for academy attendees and opportunities for job exposure."

The Sheriff's Office will use traditional avenues for recruitment, as well as online and social media targeted efforts, print, billboard and digital advertising, increased outreach to community groups, and attendance at job fairs and Sheriff's Office-sponsored events.

For more on available job opportunities with the Summit County Sheriff's Office, check out the **Join Our Team** section on our website at sheriff.summitoh.net.

Inside-Out

University of Akron students and Summit County Jail inmates received certificates after completing their final week of the *Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program*. This international program is designed to create partnerships between correctional systems and universities to transform approaches to issues of crime and justice. College students are brought together with incarcerated individuals to study as peers behind jail walls. The program encourages students to rethink what they've learned in the classroom, and aims to inspire a desire for further education for the men and women inside the jail.



Sheriff's Office and Springfield Township PD Launch New Partnership

The Summit County Sheriff's Office and Springfield Township Police Department announced a new joint effort designed to curb drug and other criminal activity in Springfield Township.

“Effective immediately, Sheriff's Deputies will be joining Springfield Township Police for an increased presence in patrolling areas of the Township, with a particular focus on the northern Canton Road corridor, and areas along S. Arlington Rd,” said Sheriff Fatheree. “This partnership will reduce crime and improve the safety of the residents of Springfield Township and all persons traveling in those areas.”



Summit County Forms New Regional Dispatch Center

In February, Summit County along with the cities of Akron, Cuyahoga Falls, Fairlawn, Stow, and Tallmadge officially signed-off on the creation of the Summit County Regional Dispatch Center.



The County and participating cities entered into an agreement creating a Council of Governments (COG) to jointly own and operate the new state of the art facility, which is located in Tallmadge and is set to be operational in 18-24 months. Once up and running, it will be the largest dispatch center in Summit County, serving 14 communities and over 365,000 residents.

This consolidation will not only result in a long-term financial savings for the County but will also improve public safety, saving precious time in an emergency by no longer having to transfer 911 calls between jurisdictions. It will also enable participating agencies to leverage their purchasing power to provide training, quality resources, and ongoing investments in technology, including Next Generation 911.