



The SHIELD

A quarterly bulletin from the Summit County Sheriff's Office

2024, Volume 4

**Making spirits
bright through
Christmas
with a Cop!**

**Dudley Seward:
Summit County
Sheriff turned
Civil War Hero**

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text 911?**

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SummitSheriffOhio



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Summit County
Sheriff's Office (OH)

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MOBILE APP:**



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in the app store

**FROM THE NORTHFIELD
CENTER VFW TO
STEWART & CALHOUN
FUNERAL HOME, FROM
PATTERSON PARK TO
THE AKRON-CANTON
AIRPORT, OUR
DEPUTIES HAD A BLAST
IN THE COMMUNITY
THIS HALLOWEEN!**





From the desk of

Sheriff Kandy Fatherree

As my first term as Sheriff nears completion, I want to take a moment to acknowledge and thank the incredible men and women of the Summit County Sheriff's Office for their dedication, professionalism and perseverance these past four years.

It's no secret that this has been a difficult time to be working in law enforcement. We have faced numerous challenges both nationally and locally: a global pandemic, an increasingly negative view of the police, a nationwide shortage in law enforcement staffing, protests and civil unrest, and more. But the men and women of the Summit County Sheriff's Office have endured and will continue to endure.

Over the past four years, we have rolled out many new programs and initiatives both within our office and in service to the community. We have improved, streamlined, and made equitable many of our internal procedures, we have dramatically reduced our deputy shortage by nearly three quarters, we have increased the number of women and minorities in our ranks, we have overseen one of the largest technological and communications expansions in our office in decades, and so much more.

None of this would have been possible without the support, cooperation, and patience of our deputies and staff at every level.

I am humbled to have been re-elected to serve a second term as your Sheriff, and I am honored to lead such an incredible group of dedicated public servants.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kandy Fatherree". The script is fluid and cursive.

Kandy Fatherree
Sheriff, Summit County,



On Friday, November 22nd the Sheriff's Office held its annual Awards Dinner. Below is just a sampling of just some of the awards and commendations given that evening. To read more of them, visit the "About Us" section of our website.



Deputy Curtis Flaviani

On October 20, 2023, Deputy Flaviani was patrolling in Northfield Center and came across an individual outside the library that he had arrested earlier that month. Deputy Flaviani discovered the subject was homeless and living in his vehicle, and that the vehicle had flat tires. Deputy Flaviani gave the male clothing and new shoes to help keep him warm and took him to Walmart and bought him food and clothing using his own money. He also met with staff at Northfield Tire, who offered to donate two new tires so the subject could get his vehicle mobile again.

Deputy Flaviani often spends his spare time on shift at Pinewood Garden apartments in Twinsburg Twp. playing football with the kids in the area. Recently, he gave a ride to school to a 12-year-old who lives there after he missed the bus. Not only did Deputy Flaviani drive the juvenile to school, but he also stopped and purchased breakfast for him on the way.

Deputy Flaviani exemplifies what it means to be a public servant, going above and beyond, and showing kindness and generosity to others. Sheriff Fatheree has awarded Deputy Flaviani with a Certificate of Appreciation.



Deputy James Hipp

On February 1, 2024, Deputy Hipp was conducting extra patrols at Nimisila Lake when he located an occupied vehicle parked near the boat ramp. Deputy Hipp contacted the male driver who said he had come there to commit suicide, and that he had a pack of razor blades in his pocket. Deputy Hipp was able to convince him to speak with him and relinquish the razor blades. Green Fire Department arrived on scene, assessed the male and transported him to a local hospital for further treatment. The actions of Deputy Hipp and his vigilance prevented the man from ending his life. Deputy Hipp has been awarded Commendation from Sheriff Fatheree.

Sergeant Corin Usinski

On September 6, 2024, a vehicle struck a pedestrian at Blossom Music Center and fled the scene. The victim suffered serious injuries. Sgt. Usinski was assigned as lead investigator for the incident. He processed the scene and obtained evidence and witness accounts, following up with over a dozen leads while also working his primary job as a shift supervisor in patrol. Using flock cameras, he located a potential suspect vehicle in Louisville, KY. Sgt. Usinski requested the assistance of the Louisville PD in responding to the home where they located the damaged vehicle. Sgt. Usinski contacted the driver of the vehicle who admitted to being at Blossom Music Center that evening. The driver was charged, and the victim was released from the hospital and is expected to make a full recovery. Sgt. Usinski has been recognized by Sheriff Fatheree with an Office Citation for his diligence and persistence in this case.





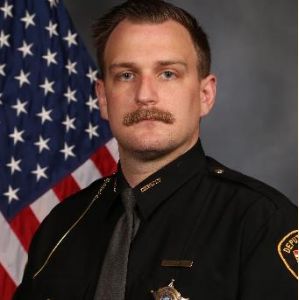
Sgt. Michael Lopez, Deputy Robert Bowen, & Deputy Lucas Dies

On May 16, 2024, Stow Police made a call for assistance in locating a male who had taken a vehicle and fled with a 4-month-old child. The male had fresh Domestic Violence and other charges. Sgt. Lopez located the vehicle traveling on 77 northbound near S. Arlington Road and initiated a traffic stop. Deputy Bowen assisted with the stop and provided cover on the vehicle while Sgt. Lopez ordered the suspect out of the car. The male failed to comply with orders to step out of the vehicle. Deputy Dies who was returning from training overheard the escalating situation over the radio and responded to the scene.



Sgt. Lopez ordered Deputies Bowen and Dies to block the vehicle in to prevent the suspect from fleeing and putting the child in further danger. Deputies approached the driver's door where the male was holding the child and refusing to give it over. Deputies continued to talk to the suspect, and through their diligent efforts the male finally gave up the child. The Stow Police Department showed up on scene with the child's mother and the child was safely reunited with her. The suspect was taken into custody and was transported to jail without further incident.

Sgt. Lopez, Deputy Bowen and Deputy Dies received Certificates of Appreciation from Sheriff Fatheree for their coordinated response to this high stress situation that resulted in a positive outcome.

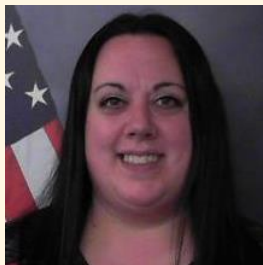


Deputy El Ser, Deputy Eslie Johnson, Nurse Erin Braybon & Nurse Shanita Jones

On May 3, 2024, an inmate was brought into the sallyport of the Summit County Jail. The inmate had been transported from Akron Summa Hospital where he refused treatment for an overdose that occurred earlier that day. Once in the sallyport of the jail, the inmate became unresponsive in the back of the cruiser, and Deputy and medical staff rushed to help. Deputies El Ser and Eslie Johnson, along with Nurses Erin Braybon and Shanita Jones arrived on scene.

The inmate was removed from the back seat of the cruiser, restraints were removed, and he was placed on the ground. The inmate had a weak pulse and was unconscious. He was given three doses of Narcan as the Deputies and Nurses performed chest compressions, utilized an AED, and operated a resuscitation bag. Akron Fire responded to the jail, continued treatment on the inmate, and transported him to the hospital for further treatment and evaluation.

The quick response and actions of Deputy El Ser, Deputy Eslie Johnson, Nurse Erin Braybon and Nurse Shanita Jones led to a positive outcome for the inmate, and they have been recognized by Sheriff Fatheree with a Life Saving Award.



Colonel Dudley Seward

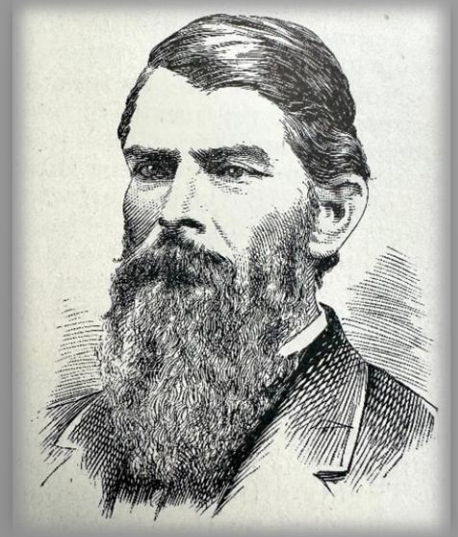
Civil War Hero, Statesman, & Summit County Sheriff

Dudley Seward was born in Utica, NY on January 14, 1819. He worked for a time at a general store, then spent several years farming and teaching before locating to Ohio in 1842. He lived in Middlebury Township (now a part of Akron), Wadsworth, Tallmadge, and finally Akron.

Seward was made a Deputy in 1847 by Sheriff Lewis Janes (1844-1848) and continued serving under Sheriff William Clarke (1848-1852). In 1848, Seward married the daughter of Sheriff Clarke, Sarah Lois Clarke, and the couple had three children together.

Following his father-in-law's retirement, Dudley Seward was elected Sheriff in 1852, then re-elected again in 1854. At this time, Sheriff's terms were only two years.

After the Confederate attack on Fort Sumter in April 1861, President Lincoln issued a call for 75,000 volunteers to join the Union cause. Seward enlisted in Company G, 19th Regiment of the Ohio Volunteer Infantry where he served as a Sergeant. He was promoted to Colonel with the 2nd Ohio Cavalry Regiment, which engaged in numerous battles during the war, and lost 267 men.



Colonel Seward participated in the Wilson-Kautz Raid of 1864, a mission to destroy Confederate rail lines and bridges in Virginia. Afterwards, he wrote to a friend back in Akron describing the harrowing journey northward with rebel troops at their heels:

"During our long and tedious march, I knew we were treading on dangerous ground. I knew the rebels were on each flank and in rear, ready to fall upon us at the favorable time."

He went on to describe his sadness and regret in knowing that the hundreds of the escaped slaves racing north alongside the Union troops risked being recaptured due to the soldiers' inability to protect them in their own haste to escape:

"To see the poor slaves flocking to us for protection, and knowing at the same time the impossibility of one in a hundred getting through to safety, was not only a cause of sadness, but of tears. I am not ashamed to acknowledge that. Those who witnessed the attacks of the rebels upon the unarmed blacks call it the most heart sickening scene they ever beheld. Many we recaptured, but about 400 did escape with Wilson."

Seward remained in the Army until his discharge in October of 1865.

Seward then went on to serve as Assistant Clerk of the Ohio State Senate, but in 1867 he was appointed Captain in the 8th US Cavalry. He served for four years in California, Oregon, and the western territories.

In 1873, he was elected Justice of the Peace and served in that position until his death on May 24, 1882 at the age of 63. Seward is buried in Akron's historic Glendale Cemetery.

Seward's son Louis later became Mayor of Akron from 1886-1888. Dudley Street in Akron's Middlebury neighborhood is named in his honor.

The Princess Within

In October, Sheriff Fatheree and several of our deputies served as escorts in the annual Princess Within Pageant, a non-competitive pageant for developmentally disabled women of all ages.





Christmas with a Cop!

Christmas with a Cop 2024 was a blast, as law enforcement agencies from across Summit County joined together to help brighten the holidays of over 100 area children whose families are facing economic difficulties or have had a recent trauma or loss.





**Text to 9-1-1 is
now available
for emergencies in
Summit County, Ohio.**



Great option for:

- individuals with speech or hearing impairments
- non-English speakers
- those facing a dangerous situation where staying quiet is safest



DO use a text-capable phone with a wireless service plan.

DO keep messages short and to the point.

DO describe your emergency and include your EXACT address.

***“55-year-old male,
chest pains, needs
ambulance at 222
Cannonball Run Road”***

DO only use for emergencies.

DON'T send videos or photos. Dispatchers cannot receive them.

DON'T use messenger apps like WhatsApp or Facebook Messenger.

DON'T use abbreviations, slang, or emojis.

DON'T group text or send to multiple recipients.

We're excited to announce a new partnership with the Coventry Township Fire Department. Going forward, medics from Coventry will accompany our Bomb Squad on callouts when needed, adding an extra level of safety and security.

Thank you to the Township Trustees, Chief Rokich, and the Coventry Fire Department for helping to make this possible.



CONCEALED CARRY WORKSHOP

Presented by
**Sheriff Kandy Fatherree &
County Prosecutor Elliot Kolkovich**



Learn about...

- Recent changes to Concealed Carry laws and how they effect you.
- What gunowners can expect from law enforcement.
- Self-defense laws, defense of property, "castle doctrine," and more.
- Best practices to safely carry and secure your weapon.

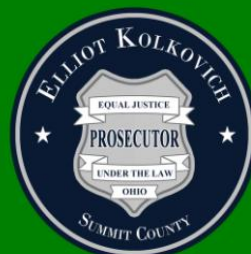
**Wednesday, January 29th
6:30pm-8:30pm**

Mogadore VFW Post 8487
383 Randolph Rd.
Mogadore, OH 44260

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!
REGISTRATION REQUIRED



Sign-up by visiting the CCW section on the Sheriff's Office mobile app or at sheriff.summitoh.net, or by scanning:



The image is decorated with several yellow starburst or firework-like graphics scattered across the white background. These graphics consist of multiple thin lines radiating from a central point, with some having small dots or stars at their tips.

Happy
NEW YEAR

2025

from the
Summit County Sheriff's Office