



OHIO INVESTIGATORS ASSOCIATION

The Professional Association for State Investigators

77 SOUTH HIGH STREET
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215

NEWSLETTER

July 2004 Issue

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

OIA MEETING DATES- 2004

July	28
September	22
November	10 (2 nd Wednesday)

TRAINING DATES

October 14 & 15, Attorney General's 2004
Conference on Law Enforcement

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

If you have not received a copy of the new membership directory, please contact Gary Kennedy at gkennedy@serb.state.oh.us. We apologize for any mistakes or omissions found in the directory. Please send an email to Gary so that the corrections can be made before the next publication.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

By Gary Kennedy

I hope that all of you are enjoying your summer. I recently attended The Emerging Trends in Fraud Investigation and Prevention Conference. I think that it was a great success. The conference saw its biggest increase in attendance and offered a diverse and interesting array of topics. Be sure to check the website for information about the AG's Conference on Law Enforcement.

A special thanks to our speaker in May, Marty Susec, for his excellent presentation on the public records laws. Anyone interested in updates on this subject can obtain a copy of "An Ohio Sunshine Laws Update – 2004 Edition" at the Attorney General's web site www.ag.state.oh.us

Our speaker this month is long time member, Mike Moran. Mike has done extensive legal work in firearms litigation and will be providing us with some background on House Bill 12 as well as Ohio Revised Code provisions concerning concealed handgun licensing. Please visit the website to read Mike's biography.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new members: Brian Costa, Deborah Love, and Kimberly Obermeyer. Please extend a warm welcome to these new members by introducing yourself at our next meeting.

The OIA Bylaws are being revised. Thanks to all who have offered suggestions and input on improving the Bylaws. Please be sure to attend the meeting so that you can vote on acceptance of the new Bylaws. I'd like to extend a big "thanks" to Kelli, our VP, for her hard work as Chair on this important committee.

If you haven't visited the web site lately, please do so. Another big thanks to Kelli for her work on this project.

The 2004 Membership Directories are now in print. Thank you Faith Ottavi for coming through again for OIA. As mentioned by Rex Waldenmyer in our member profile this month, Faith has been a "valuable asset" and key to the success of this organization.

As a special note, when emailing any of the OIA officers regarding OIA matters, please identify OIA in the subject line. The advancements in computer viruses make it difficult to identify legitimate emails.

Thanks to everyone and see you on the 28th.

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OIA MEMBER PROFILE

Name: Rex Waldenmyer
Agency: State Chiropractic Board
Position: Investigator
OIA Membership: Since 1992

This month we are profiling one of the founding Members of the Ohio Investigators Association, Rex Waldenmyer. Rex helped to develop OIA with the assistance of Rick Bearor and Larry Phillips in 1992 and went on to become the first OIA President. "When we first started our meetings we did not have any officers, so we managed the organization ourselves. The whole concept of the organization was to bring investigators from various state and local enforcement agencies together to share information." Rex helped develop training sessions for the members and started the practice of having guest speakers at the luncheons. He also brought in legal counsel, Mike Moran, to assist in registering the OIA name with the State and other legal matters. Rex saw the organization grow to 85 members in the first two years.

Before moving to Ohio, Rex served as a Pennsylvania Constable from 1976 until 1980. Rex is currently a lieutenant, handling all crime scene and internal investigations for Minerva Park. He has also worked for the State as an investigator for 14 years at the Bureau of Workers' Compensation and his current stint at the State Chiropractic Board. Rex is married with two children and two stepchildren.

"I was very happy to see this organization grow and stabilize into the outstanding organization it has been for the last 12 years." Rex would like to mention the great job Faith Ottavi has done for OIA. "She has always worked hard in different positions and committees. I believe she has been a valuable asset to the organization." Rex says that he has enjoyed being a member and hopes that the OIA continues far into the future.

AGENCY PROFILE

Agency: Office of Attorney General,
Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU)

The Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) was created in 1978 and is located within the Health Care Fraud Section of the Ohio Attorney General's Office. The unit is seventy-five percent federally funded and is responsible for the investigation and prosecution of health care providers who defraud the state's Medicaid program. In addition, this unit investigates allegations of patient abuse and neglect, which occurs within Ohio long-term care facilities and assists county prosecutors in the prosecution of abuse cases.

The MFCU work is complaint driven in that we receive over 600 allegations annually from the public, patients, providers, agencies, and law enforcement. We partner with other law enforcement agencies, the Ohio Health Care Fraud Task Force, county prosecutors, the Ohio Department of Health, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, and others in investigating and prosecuting cases.

Some recent investigations have lead to individuals being charged with Medicaid fraud, theft, tampering with evidence, forgery, fraud against private insurers, patient abuse, felonious assault, rape, gross sexual imposition, and kidnapping.

How do you report Medicaid fraud or patient abuse or neglect? Call, write or email us.

Ohio Attorney General Jim Petro
Health Care Fraud Section
150 East Gay Street, 17th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3130
1-800-64-ABUSE
bdailey@ag.state.oh.us



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OIA WEBSITE

By Kelli Coleman DelGuzzo

As most of you know, the OIA website is a useful tool that has been expanded to help you in your internet searches for information. Please visit the site at <http://www.oia.homestead.com/oia.html> to check out all of the updates and changes. If you click on "Other Links and Resources" on the home page you will be taken to a new page where you can choose from "Links to Resources on the Net," "Links to Investigative Articles," and "Links to Investigative Job Postings." If there are links, articles or other information that you would like to have posted on the site, please email me by clicking on the "Email Me" box on the home page.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

FULL-TIME, PERMANENT POSITION

APPLICATION DEADLINE: July 31, 2004

CLASSIFICATION: State Board of Psychology Investigator - 26211 Bargaining Unit, Classified

SALARY RANGE: \$16.00 - \$20.08 ph
(Pay Range 30)

MAIL APPLICATIONS: (614) 466-8808

Ronald R. Ross, Ph.D., CPM,
Executive Director

77 South High Street, Suite 1830
Columbus, OH, 43215-6108

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Independently conducts investigations of alleged violations of ORC 4732 and OAC 4732. Responds to inquiries from citizens regarding complex and sensitive material related to confidentiality, client rights, mental disorders and occupational standards of care in psychology. Interviews appropriate persons to establish facts; prepares reports; reviews findings with supervisor.

FIND FULL POSTING, REQUIRMENTS AT:

<http://ohio.gov/index.stm>

INVESTIGATOR OF THE YEAR

Nominations for Investigator of the Year are still being accepted. Please visit our web site, listed in the footer, for more information or contact Gary Kennedy. The submission deadline is Monday, November 1, 2004.

OIA CONTACTS

Officers & Committee Chairs for 2004

President:

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Nominating Committee Chair:

Alan Bonham (D) 644-7139
ABONHAM@serb.state.oh.us

Submissions by e-mail are welcomed year-round and can be addressed to kelli.coleman@exchange.state.oh.us

Please visit us on the Internet at www.oia.homestead.com/oia.html