



# The Monthly Sentinel

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## KOHS Training Touches Every First-Responder Discipline

“Tailored training” is a service hallmark at The Kentucky Office of Homeland Security.

This means making available outstanding instruction that meets the varying needs of first-responder audiences.

It enhances the capacity of local jurisdictions in preventing, deterring and responding safely and effectively to all types of emergency incidents. This includes reaching multiple disciplines through preparation at the awareness, performance and planning/management levels.

KOHS training employs the most appropriate mediums and vehicles for diverse participants:

- Direct delivery
  - Train-the-trainer
  - Computer-based education
  - Web-based schooling
- Through the DHS/FEMA Training



and Exercise Program such operations comply with nationally recognized standards, adhere to the precepts of Instructional System Design and focus on adult-learning principles including problem-based applications.

Additionally, these courses must endure a rigorous validation process before delivery. They are assessed continuously once training methods are initiated.

Homeland Security instruction is being tested increasingly through state and local *exercises* with the results being used to seek program improvements and innovations.

A coalition of partners brings high caliber state and local experts to the various classrooms for both development and delivery. Continuous instructor improvement is a shared priority.

Making specialized preparedness training for first responders across the commonwealth a part of a national program also provides specialized equipment and technical assistance. These trainings are federally funded and offered at no cost to our local responders.

KOHS has partnered with the Kentucky Community and Technical College System, Kentucky Depart,

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### ***Watch Out for Census Count Scammers***

The Better Business Bureau is advising people to be cooperative, but cautious, so they won't become a victim of fraud or identity theft with the U.S. Census under way.

The BBB noted that law enforcement in several states have issued warnings that scammers are already posing as Census Bureau employees and knocking on doors asking for donations and Social Security numbers.

According to the BBB, Census workers going door-to-door have a badge, handheld device, a Census Bureau canvas bag, and a confidentiality notice. Workers may ask for basic financial information, such as salary range, but they will not ask for Social Security, bank account or credit card numbers.

And while Census workers may contact citizens by telephone, mail or in person at home, they will not contact people by e-mail, so be on the look out for electronic scammers impersonating the Census.

More information: visit <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/about/whole> or [www.bbb.org](http://www.bbb.org).



# KOHS Training Touches Every First-Responder Discipline

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ment of Emergency Management, Kentucky Board of Emergency Medical Services, and Kentucky Department for Public Health to provide outreach to communities, first responders, and families to ensure an awareness-level trained commonwealth. Part of the prospectus will include rural-preparedness training through a partnership with Eastern Kentucky University to develop a preparedness curriculum for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

### Goals

- Statewide outreach to communities, first responders, and families.
- Ensure awareness-level trained commonwealth.
- Create delivery mechanisms that allow for increased participation.
- Increase student feedback to measure the effectiveness of coursework.

### Objectives

- Develop a consistent message throughout each training course promoting awareness level of preparedness throughout the commonwealth.



- Ensure a minimum curriculum is set to include coursework for communities, first responders, and families.
- Create a training council that will ensure an effective homeland -

security course and instructor certification.

- Provide a statewide training calendar to allow potential students a mechanism to track KOHS-sponsored trainings.
- Ensure cross-disciplinary methods of training are utilized.
- Use an existing training tracking system that will assist a NIMS compliant credentialing.
- Oversee funding of training initiatives.
- Encourage utilization of ECU Rural Preparedness Training offerings.

### Accomplishments

- Increased utilization of federally funded homeland-security training within the state, reaching out to all responders and elected officials.
- Hosted more than 100 in-state training courses across the commonwealth since May 2008.
- Approved over 150 applications for our responders to attend out-of-state training courses.
- The DOCJT provided 40 hours of homeland-security training for all law-enforcement officers.
- Developed partnerships with several statewide fire conferences, the Kentucky Emergency Management Association Conference and KCTCS to incorporate preparedness training into their existing annual training conferences.
- Partnered with the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI/Louisville Metro) region to train over 2,000



The KOHS training program touches every first-responder discipline with specialized homeland-security training.

For more information, contact Tom Arnold, NIMS Compliance and Training Program Coordinator, at 502.564.2081 or Tom.Arnold@ky.gov.



### Contributing Agencies:

- Kentucky Office of Homeland Security
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- Kentucky State Police Intelligence
- FBI Louisville Division
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives
- U.S. Secret Service
- Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
- Kentucky State Police Headquarters Communications
- Lexington Division of Police
- Kentucky Department of Corrections
- Kentucky Army National Guard

# U.S. Officer Fatalities Decline in 2009

Last year was a tale of two trends in law-enforcement fatalities in the United States, according to preliminary data compiled by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund.

Officer deaths declined 7 percent, from 133 in 2008 to 124 in 2009. It was the fewest line-of-duty deaths since 1959, when there were 108.

However, firearms-related fatalities increased 23 percent—to 48 in 2009 from 39 the previous year.

**Kentucky did not record any officer fatalities in 2009, the first time since 1906.**

While 2000-2009 was one of the safer decades in recent law-enforcement history, it also saw the deadliest single day: Sept. 11, 2001, when 72 officers were killed in ter-

rorist attacks on America.

Nearly one-third of the firearms-related fatalities in 2009 occurred in five incidents in which more than one officer was fatally shot by the same gunman.



They took place in:

**March:** Four Oakland (Calif.) police officers killed following a traffic stop and subsequent barricade situation.

**April:** Three Pittsburgh police officers ambushed by a heavily armed gunman wearing a bullet-resistant vest as the officers responded to a domestic-disturbance call.

**April:** Two Okaloosa County (Fla.) sheriff's deputies gunned down while trying to arrest a domestic-violence suspect.

**July:** Two Seminole County (Okla.) sheriff's deputies fatally shot while attempting to serve an arrest

warrant.

**November:** Four Lakewood (Wash.) police officers slain in a local coffee shop as they planned their upcoming shift.

The 2009 reduction was driven largely by a steep decline in traffic-related deaths. After reaching a record high of 83 in 2007, traffic-related fatalities have fallen by one-third over the past two years, to 71 in 2008 and 56 in 2009.

Still, for the 12th consecutive year, more officers died in traffic-related incidents than from any other single cause of death.



Source: Research Bulletin (Dec. 2009), National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund

## LEPP Helps Protect Law Enforcement

The Kentucky Office of Homeland Security was selected by the Kentucky General Assembly in 2008 as the agency to disburse funds designated for the protection of law-enforcement officers.

KOHS assumed the program on July 1, 2008. Formerly known as the Body Armor Program, it is now called the Law Enforcement Protection Program.



In 2009, LEPP allocated grants to 149 city, county, and public university law-enforcement agencies. Funds for the program come from periodic confiscated-weapons auctions by the Kentucky State Police to licensed federal-weapons dealers.

The program can assist in purchasing body armor, firearms, ammunition, and electron-muscular disrupt-

tion technology to approved law-enforcement agencies across the state. Service animals, as defined by KRS 525.010, also are eligible for body-armor funding.

However, the initiative always receives far more dollar requests than it has resources.

Applications are accepted during the entire year, reviewed monthly by KOHS staff, and approved by the executive director. A number of factors go into the approval process to ensure funding at the greatest need level.

Additional information is available at [www.homelandsecurity.ky.gov/lepp](http://www.homelandsecurity.ky.gov/lepp).

Law-enforcement agencies can also contact **Gene Kiser** at [gene.kiser@ky.gov](mailto:gene.kiser@ky.gov) or **Holly Downey** at [holly.downey@ky.gov](mailto:holly.downey@ky.gov) or by calling 502.564.2081.

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# Meth Labs Back on the Rise in Commonwealth

Kentucky State Police released the 2009 methamphetamine lab statistics and the numbers are soaring.

KSP reports that there were 716 meth labs in the Commonwealth last year, which is an all-time high for the state, increasing 60 percent over the 2008 totals.

The last record was set in 2004, when 600 labs were discovered. The production of meth in Kentucky dropped after a 2005 law went into effect requiring that purchases of pseudoephedrine (PSE) tablets be made at pharmacy counters. This 'pharmacy log' statute (KRS 218A.1446) had an immediate effect by substantially reducing meth labs in the state by 50 percent over a three-year period.

**Maj. Joseph Williams**, commander for the KSP Special Enforcement Troop, contributes meth's popularity to the relatively easy cooking process, the highly addictive nature of the drug, and the ease of obtaining pseudoephedrine.

"With a small investment consisting of supplies bought from neighborhood stores, dealers can easily cook up hundreds of dollars worth of a drug so addictive, that users quickly descend into an abyss of violence and crime to get to their next high," Williams said.

The total cost to KSP last year to remove the meth labs was \$1,373,825. These costs include the discovery of labs, certified-lab responder salaries, removal and transportation of waste from the scene and hazardous-waste disposal fees.

As the drug's popularity grows in the state, so does its far-ranging, devastating effects: jails are packed with inmates who need health care, children are being permanently removed from their parents, addicts face the challenge of trying to kick a powerfully addictive stimulant and law-enforcement agencies struggle

for resources to battle the growing number of labs.

On June 1, 2008, in an effort to further reduce meth-lab production, a new Kentucky statute required pharmacy logs to be reported on a centralized database designated by state government.

This computerized system utilizes an electronic PSE monitoring system known as Meth Check. In spite of the new Meth Check system, the state's 2008 meth-lab total rose 41 percent.

Trend analysis in Kentucky and other states show that meth labs are moving into urban areas because of the ease of the one-step method.

In 2009, 240 meth labs were found in structures that are classified as multi-family dwellings, which include apartment complexes, hotels and motels. Seventy-four meth labs were found in vehicles and over 148 labs were found in locations within 1,000 yards of a school.

Methamphetamine is not just a Kentucky problem. Occurrences of meth labs have been on the rise across the country and states are scrambling to find solutions. According to the El Paso Intelligence Center, Kentucky ranks third nationally for the number of meth labs discovered in 2009. Missouri is No. 1, with 1,537 labs, followed by Indiana with 1,096.

Oregon has made PSE available by prescription only. Since that time, meth-lab incidents have gone from over 400 per year (prior to the prescription only law) to averaging



KSP Photo

## KSP personnel involved in cleanup of meth lab.

fewer than 20 a year.

Oregon **Sen. Ron Wyden** has committed to proposing legislation to take the Oregon Anti-Meth Legislation nationwide, requiring all states to comply with a PSE prescription only process.

KSP offers a tip line for citizens to call if they suspect someone is making the drug or if they encounter a meth lab. The number is 1-800 DOPETIP (1-800-367-3847). Callers can remain anonymous.

### Conference and Training Schedule

- Feb. 8-12 — FLETC Introductory Intelligence Analyst Training Program, Frankfort
- March 22-24 — ROCIC Narcotics Conference, Tulsa, OK

