



Ohio State Highway Patrol Field Operations

October 2025

Major David R. Brown
Commander/Field Operations

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Commander/Aviation

Aviation Section

OPERATIONS

Incident and Event Support - OSHP Line-of-Duty Death

Aviation supported the Division during the tragic events surrounding the line-of-duty death of Trooper Nick Cayton and his subsequent funeral. On October 16, Trooper Cayton passed away after his marked patrol cruiser was struck by a commercial vehicle in Mahoning County. To expedite the Division's response, Aviation provided transport flights for Senior Staff and delivered food and supplies to personnel already on scene. On October 22, Aviation honored Trooper Cayton with a "missing man" formation flight during his funeral service. This aerial salute features a formation of aircraft in which one veers away, leaving an empty space to symbolize the loss of a fallen member.



Click images with RED boxes for videos!



Elyria Post Motorcycle Pursuit

On October 8, Aviation assisted an Elyria Post trooper with a motorcycle pursuit during a move over/slow down detail. A ground unit initiated a traffic stop, and the motorcycle pulled onto the right shoulder. However, the rider fled when the trooper exited his patrol vehicle. Aviation assumed radio communications during the pursuit and directed ground units to the motorcycle's location. After crashing in a grassy area, the suspect attempted to hide behind a shed. Aviation guided ground units to the suspect's location on foot, where they took him into custody without further incident.



Monthly Missions

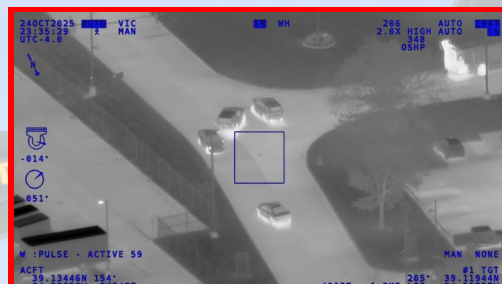
Total Flight Hours	464.7	Total Missions	102	Proactive Patrol	17	Photo Flight	4
OSHP Missions	42%	Located by Air	40	Other	6	Passenger Flight	2
Vs.		Search - Criminal	41	Search - Missing Person	6	Enforcement Demo	1
Outside Agency Missions	58%	ISR Flight	18	Static Display	6	Huntsman Detail	1

OPERATIONS

Cincinnati Proactive Patrols

Aviation participated in multiple proactive patrol details in Cincinnati in October. The flight crews provided aerial support as units with the Cincinnati Police Department and the Cincinnati Patrol Post conducted multiple traffic stops and responded to other calls. Statistics from the details are as follows:

- 5 Suspects Apprehended with Air Assistance
- 3 Vehicle Pursuits
- 2 Foot Pursuits
- 2 Firearms Seized
- 4 Felony Drug Cases Generated



Columbus Proactive Patrols

On multiple evenings in October, Aviation flew proactively over the Central Ohio area, assisting multiple Patrol Posts and the Columbus Police Department. Aviation monitored multiple calls for service, assisting with searches and pursuits during the details. During one of the flights, ground units located a stolen vehicle, and the driver fled on foot when units made contact. Aviation arrived on scene, located the suspect, and guided ground units to his position. Officers took the juvenile suspect into custody and discovered a fake firearm in his possession. During one of the later flights, Aviation identified two vehicles suspected to be stolen based on erratic driving behavior. Aviation directed a trooper to their location, and when a traffic stop was attempted on one of the vehicles, it fled. Aviation tracked the fleeing vehicle until it stopped, and two occupants fled on foot. Ground units were directed to their location and apprehended both individuals. After running the VIN, officers confirmed the vehicle was stolen. The driver, a 19-year-old, also possessed two stolen license plates.



Enforcement Totals

Enforcement Details	61	90+ MPH	194	Motorcycle	11	OVI	3
		100+ MPH	20	Warrants	8	Drug	3
Total Stops	649	Seat Belt	27	Reckless Op	5	Distracted Driving	2
Aggressive	363	DUS	21	Commercial	3	Move Over / Slow Down	1

OPERATIONS

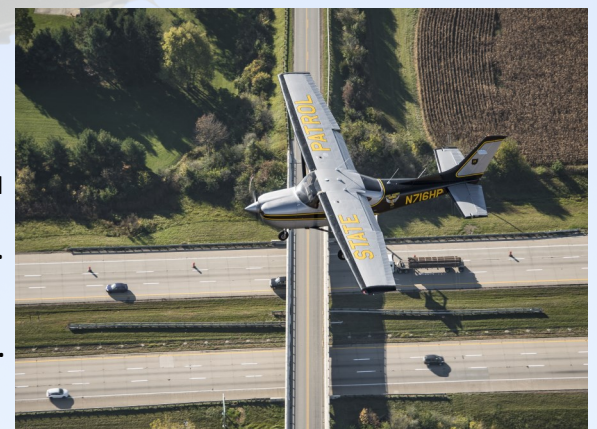
Clark County Criminal Search



Aviation assisted the Clark County Sheriff's Office on October 27, in locating a male suspect who fled on foot after assaulting another individual. Upon arrival, the flight crew quickly spotted the suspect and directed ground units to his location. After the suspect was taken into custody, Aviation cleared the scene.

Ashland Post Reckless Operation Support

While conducting VFR proficiency on October 4, Aviation operated in the vicinity of the Ashland Patrol Post's southbound airspeed zone on I-71. While monitoring local post radio traffic, Aviation received a BOLO from the Wooster Dispatch regarding a reckless commercial vehicle traveling southbound on I-71. During the search, Aviation observed a white SUV traveling at a high rate of speed, passing multiple vehicles. Aviation notified the Ashland Post and relayed the vehicle's location to ground units. The SUV continued southbound through the airspeed zone at milepost 188, where Aviation recorded a speed of 96 MPH. A trooper, positioned in a nearby crossover, stopped the vehicle. Following the stop, units established probable cause to search the vehicle. The search uncovered misdemeanor and felony-level drugs, along with drug paraphernalia. The driver was also arrested for OVI. Once an additional unit arrived and suspects were secured, Aviation disengaged from the scene.



Pickaway County Criminal Search



On October 14, Aviation supported the Pickaway County Sheriff's Office during a pursuit in the City of Circleville. Ground units attempted to stop a missing 15-year-old male who had stolen his mother's car after his probation officer prohibited him from attending the Circleville Pumpkin Show. Just before Aviation arrived on scene, ground units lost visual contact with the vehicle. Officers later found the vehicle abandoned behind a building, with the driver fleeing on foot. Aviation spotted three males running across a large field nearby and directed ground units to their location. Deputies apprehended all three individuals, who included the 15-year-old driver and two additional suspects, ages 12 and 13.

AGENCIES ASSISTED

Police Departments:

Toledo PD
Akron PD
Cincinnati PD
Cleveland PD
Columbus PD
Dayton PD
Fairborn PD
Hamilton Township PD
Harrisburg PD
Lima PD
Medina Township PD
North Canton PD
Pickerington PD
Springfield PD

Sheriff's Offices:

Toledo PD
Youngstown PD
Clark County SO
Fairfield County SO
Greene County SO
Hancock County SO
Jackson County SO
Knox County SO
Lake County SO
Marion County SO
Montgomery County SO
Morrow County SO
Noble County SO

Pickaway County SO

Pike County SO
Ross County SO
Warren County SO
Task Forces:
Delaware County Drug Task Force
RANGE Task Force
State Agencies:
ODOT
Federal Agencies:
DEA
FAA
FBI

US Border Patrol US Secret Service

OSHP:
Academy
Akron
Ashland
Batavia
Canfield
Chillicothe
Circleville
Colonel's Office
Columbus
D1 DHQ
D3 Criminal Patrol

D3 DHQ
Dayton
Elyria
Hamilton
Lima
Mt. Gilead
Norwalk
Portsmouth
SRT
VTFU
Warren
West Jefferson

OPERATIONS

Cleveland Proactive Patrols

Aviation supported units from the Cleveland Patrol Post and the Cleveland Police Department during multiple proactive patrol details in the City of Cleveland throughout October. Statistics from these details are as follows:

- 13 Suspects Apprehended with Air Assistance
- 8 Vehicle Pursuits
- 6 Foot Pursuits
- 3 Felony Drug Cases Generated
- 6 Firearms Recovered
- 4 Stolen Vehicles Recovered



Toledo Proactive Patrol

Aviation received a request from the Toledo Police Department, and the Toledo Patrol Post to assist with multiple proactive patrol details in October. During the flight on October 6, Aviation identified a vehicle operating recklessly and guided ground units to its location for a traffic stop. Units arrested the driver for OVI and recovered crack cocaine and needles during the stop. The driver also had two outstanding felony warrants.



TRAINING

APSA Stand-To Event - Harrisburg, PA

On October 8, multiple Aviation Section personnel traveled to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania to attend a Safety Stand-To event organized by the Airborne Public Safety Association (APSA) and hosted by the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General Aviation Unit. APSA is a nonprofit educational organization, founded in 1968, dedicated to supporting and advancing the safe and effective use of manned and unmanned aircraft by government agencies engaged in public safety operations. Through training, networking, advocacy, and educational programs, APSA promotes operational excellence across the industry. The Safety Stand-To is one of APSA's signature offerings—specialized events designed to reinforce safety protocols, share best practices, and foster a culture of continuous improvement within airborne public safety operations.

Coming in April 2026, the Aviation Section will host an APSA-sponsored stand-to event at the OSHP Hangar in Columbus.



Since 1948, the Ohio State Highway Patrol Aviation Section has been supporting citizens of Ohio from above. With a modern fleet of 11 Cessna 182s, 3 Airbus helicopters, 1 Cessna Grand Caravan, and 1 GA-8 Airvan, and with an array of sophisticated camera technology, we provide a full variety of services to public safety entities throughout Ohio.