



Sharing Ohio's Best Program

Recognizing Outstanding Community Policing



Agency of the Month

Wright State Police Department

July 2025

The Wright State University Department of Public Safety (WSU DPS) is proud to serve and protect our Raider community through innovation, education, and engagement. As a campus law enforcement agency, we prioritize proactive outreach, community trust, and continuous safety education.

WSU DPS is committed to fostering positive relationships with students, faculty, staff, and the surrounding community through meaningful annual events that bring people together and create lasting connections.

Trunk or Treat

The Trunk-or-Treat event is a campus and community favorite, inviting families and students to enjoy a festive and safe Halloween experience alongside our officers, who decorate patrol vehicles and hand out candy in a fun, approachable environment. In the last truck-or-treat event, we welcomed nearly 500 attendees, including families from both the Wright State campus and surrounding neighborhoods. Each year, participation increases, reflecting the event's growing popularity well beyond the Raider community.

Donuts with DPS

This event is held twice a year, provides a welcoming, informal setting for students, faculty, and staff to meet our team, ask questions, and engage in open conversations that build trust and transparency. Thanks to the generosity of numerous local donut shops, we collect over 25 dozen donated donuts for each event, which plays a big role in drawing attendees and making these events such a success. The support from our community partners not only sweetens the experience but also reinforces our shared commitment to campus connection and collaboration. Additionally, hosting the event at three different locations across campus allows us to reach a broader audience and maximize the positive connections we make with members of our community.

Drug Take Back Days

WSU DPS also hosts Drug Take Back Days on campus, giving students, faculty, and staff a safe and convenient way to dispose of unused or expired medications. This initiative supports public health and safety by helping to prevent drug misuse and environmental contamination. Over the last two events, more than 20 pounds of unused or expired medications were safely collected and disposed of.

Read Across America

Officers visit Mini University, the on-campus early childhood education center, to read to children and promote early literacy. These visits create a fun, engaging environment where kids can enjoy stories while learning about the importance of reading and education. They also give officers a chance to serve as positive role models, helping to build trust and show that law enforcement is about connection,



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compassion, and community.

No-Shave November fundraiser

For six years in a row, WSU DPS has proudly led a No-Shave November fundraiser in support of the Raider Food Pantry. In 2024 WSU DPS raised nearly \$1,800 in nonperishable food donations including bottled water, soup, cereal, and more. Officers personally delivered the items, filling cruisers with goods purchased from a local Sam's Club. Since the initiative began, the department has contributed over \$16,000 to help combat student food insecurity.

Fairborn 4th of July Parade / National Night Out

Officers march and engage with residents in celebration of community and national pride. Each year, we join National Night Out, a community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie, allowing us to connect with the wider public and demonstrate our commitment to proactive and friendly policing.

Operation Santa Sleigh

In December, officers take part in Operation Santa Sleigh, bringing holiday cheer to local families by participating in a festive escort of Santa Claus through surrounding neighborhoods, spreading joy and reinforcing our dedication to community engagement in all seasons.

"Community Connections" Program

Chief Holden implemented the "Community Connections" program, designed to increase positive daily interactions between officers and members of the Raider community. This proactive outreach has resulted in over 10,000 (positive) officer-initiated community contacts in the past year alone. These aren't traffic stops or enforcement actions, they're conversations, event attendance, and casual, friendly engagement that helps strengthen trust and visibility.

As a result of these efforts, the department was nominated by the University's Black Student Union President and awarded the 2023 Department Excellence of the Year. The program's continued success also led to the department receiving the Champions Award from the Mental Health & Recovery Board of Greene, Clark, and Madison Counties.

Ongoing Education and Prevention

Education is central to the mission at the Wright State University Department of Public Safety. We believe that informed individuals are empowered individuals, and we are committed to providing our campus community with the tools and knowledge they need to stay safe and prepared. Our Campus Safety Series offers weekly training sessions year-round, providing consistent, accessible education on a wide range of public safety topics. These sessions are open to all members of the Wright State community and are designed to be practical, engaging, and impactful.

Training topics include:

- Driver Safety & Distracted Driving – This session educates participants on the dangers of distracted and impaired driving, and current traffic laws.
- DPS Overview & General Safety – This foundational session introduces participants to the Department of Public Safety's mission, services, and officers, while covering general personal



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safety tips and emergency procedures specific to our campus environment.

- Drug & Alcohol Safety – Focused on awareness and prevention, this training covers the risks associated with substance use, signs of overdose, responsible decision-making, and available campus resources for those seeking help.
- Human Trafficking Awareness – Participants learn to recognize the warning signs of human trafficking, understand how it affects communities (including college campuses), and discover how to report suspicious activity safely and responsibly.
- ID Scam Prevention – With scams and identity theft on the rise, this session helps attendees identify common fraud schemes, protect personal information, and respond effectively if they suspect they've been targeted.
- NARCAN (Overdose Response) – This life-saving session trains participants to recognize the signs of opioid overdose and administer NARCAN (naloxone), equipping them with the confidence and knowledge to act in an emergency. A Free NARCAN kit is provided to each participant at the end of the training.
- Personal Safety Awareness – Designed to increase situational awareness, this training offers practical tips on how to avoid potentially dangerous situations and protect oneself in both every day and high-risk environments.
- QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) Suicide Prevention – A nationally recognized program, QPR teaches participants how to recognize the warning signs of suicide, initiate a conversation, and connect individuals to the appropriate mental health resources.
- Run. Hide. Fight. – This active threat response training equips attendees with a clear understanding of how to react in the event of an active shooter or violent intruder. The session emphasizes situational awareness, quick decision-making, and survival tactics.
- Sexual Assault Awareness – This session focuses on prevention, bystander intervention, and survivor support, encouraging a culture of respect and accountability while promoting available campus and community resources.
- Stop the Bleed – Participants learn how to respond in emergencies involving severe bleeding, including how to apply pressure, pack wounds, and use a tourniquet—crucial skills that can save lives before professional help arrives.

Over the past year, the Wright State University Department of Public Safety were tasked with training university faculty and staff in a series of core safety and emergency response modules. These included Run. Hide. Fight., DPS Overview & General Safety, NARCAN (Overdose Response), and QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) suicide prevention. This campus-wide initiative reflects our commitment to ensuring every member of the Wright State community is equipped with the knowledge and tools needed to respond confidently and effectively in emergency situations.

Resident Advisor (RA) Training

In addition to our Campus Safety Series, we also conduct Resident Advisor (RA) Training annually. This specialized training equips student leaders in residence halls with the skills and knowledge they need to respond effectively to emergencies, recognize and report safety concerns, and support their peers. WSU DPS also offers these courses by request and can provide additional safety programming tailored to the needs of specific groups or events.



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Impact and Dedication

Our department is more than just a safety presence. We are educators, mentors, and advocates. Through our initiatives, we empower the Wright State community with the tools, knowledge, and confidence to stay safe and informed. We believe that consistent visibility, compassionate service, and proactive training are essential in building a resilient and well-protected campus.

In recognition of our commitment to excellence, we are proud to have been selected as one of the next 20 Ohio agencies to participate in the Ohio Collaborative Law Enforcement Accreditation Program (OCLEAP). This opportunity highlights our ongoing dedication to professional standards, transparency, and community trust.