

**RESOLUTION APPROVING MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN THE ASHTABULA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, ASHTABULA CITY POLICE AND CONNEAUT CITY POLICE DEPARTMENTS, SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

WHEREAS, Terry Moisiso, Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office, has presented a Memorandum of Understanding for the approval of the Board, to-wit:

- Parties:** Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office, 25 W. Jefferson St., Jefferson, OH 44047  
Ashtabula City Police Office, 110 W 44th St #1/2, Ashtabula, OH 44004  
Conneaut City Police Office, 294 Main St, Conneaut, OH 44030
- Purpose:** Conduct enforcement activities to enhance overall border security along Ohio's northern border.
- Grant/Term:** OPSG FY 19 Period of Performance 09/01/19-01/31/24 \$181,964.25 (\$160,398.77)  
OPSG FY 20 Period of Performance 09/01/20-07/31/24 \$140,683.00  
(\$95,683.00 de-obligated)  
OPSG FY 21 Period of Performance 09/01/21-08/31/24 \$125,000.00  
OPSG FY22 Period of Performance 09/01/22-08/31/25 \$125,000.00  
OPSG FY23 Period of Performance 09/01/23-08/31/26 \$100,000.00

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Ashtabula County, Ohio that the MOU noted above is approved in accordance with the copy now on file in this office.

**ASHTABULA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
CERTIFICATION PAGE**

Resolution No. 2023-543

October 31, 2023

**RESOLUTION APPROVING MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)  
BETWEEN THE ASHTABULA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, ASHTABULA CITY  
POLICE AND CONNEAUT CITY POLICE DEPARTMENTS, SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Upon the motion of J.P. Ducro IV, seconded by Kathryn L. Whittington.

**VOTE:**

Casey R. Kozlowski

Absent

Kathryn L. Whittington

Aye

J.P. Ducro IV

Aye

**CERTIFICATE OF CLERK**

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of a resolution acted upon and duly passed by the Board of County Commissioners of Ashtabula County, Ohio, on the date noted above.



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Crystal Sturgill, Clerk of the Board *Acting*  
Board of County Commissioners  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

# Memorandum of Understanding

## Operation Stonegarden

### (OPSG)

This agreement is entered into by and between the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office (sub-recipient), and law enforcement partner agencies, Ashtabula City Police Department, and Conneaut Police Department for the Operation Stonegarden, (Northern Border Initiative) Grant Program as follows:

<b>Operation Stonegarden Grant Program</b>	<b>Overtime/Maintenance/Fuel/Equipment</b>
OPSG FY 19 Period of Performance 09/01/19-01/31/24	\$181,964.25 (\$160,398.77)
OPSG FY 20 Period of Performance 09/01/20-07/31/24	\$140,683.00 (\$95,683.00 de-obligated)
OPSG FY 21 Period of Performance 09/01/21-08/31/24	\$125,000.00
OPSG FY22 Period of Performance 09/01/22-08/31/25	\$125,000.00
OPSG FY23 Period of Performance 09/01/23-08/31/26	\$100,000.00

OPSG patrols conducted by the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office and its partnering agencies contribute to the safety of Ohio through collaborative marine patrols and increased law enforcement presence over land. Through the provision of this common operating picture, OPSG patrols ensure better awareness of Lake Erie and the international border between the United States and Canada through increased visibility of vessels crossing the border and operating in border zones. This is a valuable resource for the USBP that is directly affected by the amount of time the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office is patrolling using OPSG funds. Also, located in the county and participating in the program are Ashtabula Police Department and the Conneaut Police Department.

The Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office and local law enforcement along Ohio's northern border are equipped in varying degrees with aircraft, boats and manpower, making them an asset able to provide consistent patrol of the area. With financial aid from OPSG and coordination assistance from Ohio Homeland Security, the Ohio Sheriffs and other local law enforcement agencies on the international border can maintain a solid presence on Lake Erie and within Ashtabula County. The department's involved are:

**Ashtabula County Sheriff Office**

**440-576-0055**

**Ashtabula City Police Office**

**440-992-7172**

**Conneaut City Police Office**

**440-593-7440**

During the stated periods of performance, Ashtabula County will support the USBP Field Commanders by operating in and around the border area to enhance overall border security efforts. Taking a collaborative approach to enforcement, Ashtabula County law enforcement agencies will work in coordination with USBP to serve as force multipliers in a combined effort to disrupt, dismantle, and interdict transnational threats while improving communication and intelligence sharing.

Essential tasks include high visibility road patrols, off-road and specialty vehicle patrols, and marine patrols. Patrols and interdiction actions will be conducted at or near the international boundary, shoreline marinas and points of potential ingress, as well as interior roads, transit nodes (bus stations, train stations), and transient quarters (hotel, motel). Methods of patrol will vary by season or reason and will be adjusted as operational necessity dictates.

**A. Management/Supervisor Intent:**

Purpose: Conduct enforcement activities to enhance overall border security.

Method: High visibility patrols at or near the international boundary, shoreline marinas and points of potential ingress, as well as interior roads, transit nodes, and transient quarters. Other methods may be utilized based upon the needs of the supported field commander (Station Patrol Agent in Charge (PAIC)). Robust and sustained border security within the local jurisdiction and regionally; enhanced communication and intelligence sharing amongst federal, state, local and tribal (where applicable) law enforcement agencies; collaborative approach to identify, disrupt and dismantle Transnational Criminal Organizations (TCO), smuggling organizations, and provide anti-terrorism and critical infrastructure patrol capabilities.

**B. General Concept:**

Ashtabula County will utilize OPSG funds to conduct operational law enforcement activities on an overtime basis. OPSG funding will not be utilized to pay regular wages. Additionally, funds will be used for vehicle and vessel fuel during OPSG activities, vehicle, and vessel maintenance to address wear and tear as a result of OPSG activities, and purchase of equipment to be used for OPSG activities. Ashtabula County will not use OPSG funds to supplant what would otherwise be funded by traditional means.

**C. Specific Responsibilities:**

**OPSG Sector Coordinator:**

Liaison between USBP Headquarters, the Michigan and Ohio State Grant Administrators, Detroit Sector Command Staff and Supported Field Commanders (PAICs) and their designated OPSG station coordinators. Enable successful OPSG activities through policy guidance and coordination assistance.

**Supported USBP Field Commander (or Station Coordinator):**

Responsible for OPSG core processes to include OPORD/FRAGO planning, generation, and execution. Determine when, where and how OPSG recipients can best support lines of effort within AOR; communicate needs with OPSG partners through frequent integrated planning meetings; establish and enhance intelligence sharing capabilities with OPSG partners; review and approve/reject daily activity reports germane to AOR; and complete After-Action Reports at the end of specific performance periods. Periodically verify that OPSG recipient activity is supportive of station commander priorities

**OPSG Sub-Recipient Ashtabula County:**

Direct all law enforcement operational activities in support of USBP Field Commander priorities and in accordance with the OPSG FEMA grant guidelines. Participate in frequent integrated planning meetings with USBP Field Commander (or station coordinator) and clearly communicate operational intent. Coordinate with friendly forces to achieve mission objectives; maintain communication with and seek reimbursement from State Grant Administrator; operate within the parameters of the published OPORD and limit FRAGO requests to operational necessity. Limit all equipment requests to that which is necessary to conduct OPSG operations.

Sub-recipients and associated friendly forces will not enforce Title 8 (U.S. Immigration Law) nor will they be granted any additional authorities or powers. Sub-recipients and associated friendly forces will enforce state law and local municipality codes against violators in target areas to help reduce criminal activity associated with transnational criminal activity to increase border security.

**Federal Uniform Guidance Standards:**

The sub-recipient in accordance with 2CFR Part 200, including provisions of the Ashtabula County Procurement Policy (Federal Uniform Guidance Standards Appendix B of the Ashtabula Procurement Policy) with the most stringent standard should be followed.

Invoices for vendors should have authorization that they are okay to pay and approved by management prior to submitting for payment. Funds will be dispersed within 10 days of receipt, or at maximum two weeks of receipt.

**Coordination:**

Ashtabula County will coordinate with USBP Field Commander prior to conducting law enforcement operations. A summary of daily operational activity will be reported in accordance with OPSG policy guidance. SLTTs will submit a DAR within 48hrs. Sector Coordinators/Station POCs will approve DARs within a timely manner.

A field intelligence report (FIR) may be submitted to the Sandusky Bay Intelligence Unit for follow up on field encounters.

**Public/Open Records Request:**

In order to accomplish the OPSG mission, law enforcement sensitive information is shared between federal, state, and local friendly forces. This information includes: intelligence sharing, CONOPS/Applications, Operation Orders, Fragmentary Orders, Daily Activity Reports, After Action Reports, and more. OPSG records and documents are Law Enforcement Sensitive and are to be secured by all parties involved in OPSG operations from release of data or information to individuals or entities without a legally sufficient need to know.

OPSG documents, data, and information will be protected from inadvertent or improper distribution.

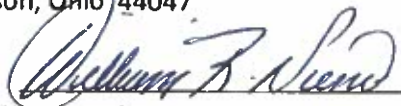
State Administrative Agencies, Sub-Recipients, and Friendly Forces should while maintaining state and local policy also notify their local USBP Sectors Staff when a public disclosure request is received. USBP Sector Staff will notify the appropriate USBP Headquarters (HQ) Staff about the request for awareness.

USBP HQ will provide applicable assistance to ensure the appropriate handling of the request to insure maximum protection of Personally Identifiable Information (PII) and Operations Security (OPSEC) of OPSG documents, data, and information.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, authorized representatives of each Party to this Agreement,  
indicating their Party's approval of the terms herein, have signed as of the dates set forth below.

COUNTY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO  
25 W. Jefferson Street  
Jefferson, Ohio 44047

Approved as to legal form:

By:   
William Niemi  
Sheriff

\_\_\_\_\_  
Colleen O'Toole  
Ashtabula County Prosecuting Attorney

By:   
J.P. Ducro IV  
County Commissioner

By:   
Casey Kozlowski,  
County Commissioner

By:   
Kathryn Whittington  
County Commissioner

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY OF CONNEAUT, OHIO  
294 Main Street  
Conneaut, Ohio 440030

Approved as to legal form:

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Michael Colby  
Chief

\_\_\_\_\_

John Lewis  
City Law Director

By: \_\_\_\_\_

James Hockaday  
City Manager

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY OF ASHTABULA, OHIO  
4717 Main Ave.  
Ashtabula, Ohio 44004

Approved as to legal form:

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Robert Stell  
Chief

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Cecilia Cooper  
City Solicitor

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

James Timonere  
City Manager

Date: \_\_\_\_\_