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Commissioners

Steven A. Davis

Jeffrey M. Fix

David L. Levacy

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, February 4, 2020

County Administrator

Carri L. Brown

Fairfield County Commissioners and Sheriff Announce Decision to Hire a Special Victims Detective

Clerk

Rachel A. Elsea

Lancaster, Ohio - The Fairfield County Commissioners and Sheriff Dave Phalen announced today they will be hiring a Special Victims Detective. The detective will specialize in investigations of sex crimes and child abuse.

There has been a steady increase in special victims cases for the Detective Bureau, increasing about 83% in workload over the past 10 years with child abuse referrals increasing 61% during the same timeframe. The special victims detective will assess crime scenes, interview witnesses, work with crime scene investigators, and pursue leads to identify suspects. The detective will also testify in criminal trials, explain to juries how investigations developed, and present an overview of evidence.

“The new position will be a key part of the Fairfield County Sheriff’s concerted efforts to increase the reporting of crime and improve the experience of survivors,” stated Steve Davis, Commission President.

The recruitment and training of the special victims detective will begin in the first quarter of 2020. Chief Deputy Alex Lape will lead that effort. “Special victims cases involve traumatized victims who have suffered horrific torments. We will be seeking a candidate with the ability to show sympathy and support for the victims while retaining objectivity and an ability to focus clearly on facts.”

In February, the job posting for the special victims detective position will be posted internally within the Fairfield County Sheriff’s Office.

For more information please contact Carri Brown, County Administrator, at carri.brown@fairfieldcountyohio.gov at (740) 652-7096.

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