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Press Release

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New .223 Caliber M-4 Carbine Rifles are now on Patrol with Deputies of the Tuscarawas County Sheriff's Office. Recently, Deputies underwent three phases of training to be able to qualify and carry 24 new rifles purchased by the Tuscarawas County Sheriff's Office.

The first phase of the training was for each Deputy to receive updated training in "Active Shooter" incidents. This type of training specialized in tactics used if an incident were to arise involving a shooting in places such as a mall, church, work place or school. These incidents have increased nationwide and have left even the smallest communities shocked by tragic incidents of mass killing.

The second Phase of the training was completed when the rifles were issued to each Deputy and took place in a classroom setting to teach the Deputy how the rifle functioned and how to care and operate the weapon.

The third and final phase of the training was completed last week with live fire training and state Qualifications. Each Deputy sighted in their issued rifle and went through numerous live fire exercises at various distances to work on all aspects of the use of the rifles. After drills were completed, each Deputy went through the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy's state qualification mandates to be able show that they are proficient and be permitted to carry the rifles. After qualifications were completed, duty ammunition was issued and the rifles are now in service ready to be able to respond to an emergency if needed. The Tuscarawas County Sheriff's Office patrol's all 555 square miles of the county and has jurisdiction in all villages and cities. The Sheriff's Office felt the need to be properly equipped to assist in an emergency anywhere in the county and wanted every full time Deputy equally equipped so that the closest Deputy could assist.

The Tuscarawas County Sheriff's Office offers sincere gratitude and Thanks to the Reeves Foundation for funding this project. The Sheriff's office commits to periodically refreshing all aspects of this training in the future. Although Tuscarawas County is a wonderful, safe place to live, we realize we are not exempt from this type of issue and felt obligated to become more prepared for the protection of our citizens.

Captain Orvis L. Campbell