



Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association

Legislative Newsletter

October 9, 2017

IN THE NEWS

[Judges: New Felony Sentencing Law Puts Stark at Risk](#)

[Man Charged in Tokes Murder Faces Two Trials](#)

[County Prosecutor Dies of Apparent Medical Complications](#)

OPAA NEWS

The OPAA is presenting training for juvenile prosecutors on October 12 at the Sheraton Columbus on Capitol Square.

Recently Introduced Legislation*

[House Bill 365](#) was introduced in response to the murder of college student Reagan Tokes in Franklin County. Among other things, the bill provides for indefinite sentencing for first, second, and specified third degree felonies. It also requires that GPS monitoring used for offenders released from prison specify restrictions and requires ODRC to establish system requirements for GPS monitoring. Senate Bills [201](#) and [202](#) were introduced as companion bills in the Senate.

[House Bill 355](#) would enact R.C. 2907.324 to prohibit “sexting” by a person under 21 years of age. It would authorize the court to allow any person charged with a violation of the new section to be placed in a diversion program and to dismiss the charges upon successful completion. A conviction or adjudication under the section is an M1.

[House Bill 348](#) generally provides that the penalty for trafficking in, possession of, or funding of trafficking in fentanyl or carfentanil is the same as the penalty for those crimes involving heroin.

[Senate Bill 195](#) revises enforcement of the law regarding nuisance, dangerous, and vicious dogs. The bill establishes affirmative defenses for death or injury caused by a dog and expands the penalties for death or injury caused by a dog. [House Bill 352](#) is a companion bill in the House.

[Senate Bill 207](#) clarifies that an individual may be charged with felonious assault for causing or attempting to cause physical harm to another by means of strangulation or suffocation.

[House Bill 349](#) increases the penalty for assaulting a police dog or horse and includes search and rescue dogs and horses in the prohibition against assaulting or harassing a police animal.

*For a complete list of bills that the OPAA is tracking and OPAA positions on legislation, please visit www.ohiopa.org.