MEDIA RELEASE
Department of Public Safety
Ohio Department of Public Safety • Thomas P. Charles, Director
www.publicsafety.ohio.gov

EDUCATION · SERVICE · PROTECTION
John Kasich, Governor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 20, 2012
Contact: Joe Andrews, ODPS Communications Director, (614) 752-4325

Ohio Department of Public Safety Presents
MARCS Radios to Local Law Enforcement Agencies

COLUMBUS – In an effort to increase and provide statewide interoperability, the Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS) presented the Logan Police Department and the Marion County Sheriff's Office with Multi-Agency Radio Communication System (MARCS) radios today.

MARCS helps first responders communicate clearly anytime from anywhere, increasing their capacity in normal and emergency operations and decreasing response times.

"We are pleased to be able to provide this equipment to these agencies in their efforts to improve command, control and communication," said Thomas P. Charles, ODPS Director. "MARCS improves the availability, accessibility and quality of first responders in the state."

Earlier this year, the Marion County Sheriff's Office had a levy on the ballot for the purchase of communications equipment, but the levy failed. The Sheriff's Office received six mobiles, 20 portables and 20 chargers. The Logan Police Department, who endured a lightning strike that knocked out its radio system, received 12 mobiles, 20 portables and 20 chargers.

The MARCS radios were purchased with a U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security grant, which are made available to states and are designed to enhance the capacity of state and local jurisdictions to prevent and respond to incidents. The Ohio Emergency Management Agency (EMA) serves as the state administering agency for homeland security funds.

MARCS is an 800 MHz radio and data network that utilizes state-of-the-art trunked technology to provide statewide interoperability. The MARCS Program Office is housed within the Ohio Department of Administrative Services.

###