

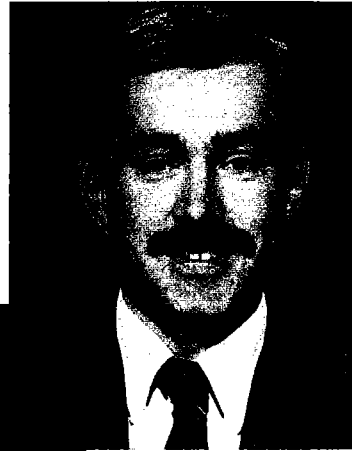
## ■ For Populations Greater Than 20,000

**T**he Cable Council in Ohio is a council of governments comprised of nine cities in Southwest Ohio. Eight of the cities (Darryl Kenning, city manager, Centerville; Robert Walker, city manager, Kettering; John Weithofer, city manager, Miamisburg; James Harville, city manager, Moraine; J. David Foell, city manager, Oakwood; William R. Covell, city manager, Springboro; David E. Hamilton, city manager, Bellbrook; and G. Tracy Williams, city manager, West Carrollton), formed a consortium of their respective city managers and police departments to combat crime on a cross-regional basis. The council's successful multi-jurisdictional Tactical Crime Suppression Unit (TCSU) operates on the proactive principle that individual police departments in contiguous jurisdictions should work cooperatively to enhance their capacity to fight crime. To this end, they share information and coordinate resources, including personnel, crime prevention, training, and equipment.

Since crime does not stop at the city limits, information-sharing allows the police departments to anticipate crimes based on patterns observed in neighboring cities. Before TCSU was organized, investigative activities of the seven police departments were hindered by a lack of coordination among jurisdictions. By pooling



*Darryl Kenning*



*John Weithofer*



*Robert Walker, center*

*William Covell, below*



*G. Tracy Williams*

*Not shown: James Harville, J. David Foell, David E. Hamilton*

available manpower and resources across cities, however, more intensive and cost-effective crime suppression is possible in ongoing investigations such as undercover operations, detective operations, and stakeouts. Monthly intelligence meetings of the seven chiefs of police are productive and essential for the development of additional areas of coordination.

In February 1990 the council purchased a computerized Firearms Training System (FATS), which allows police officers to train with lasers that assist them in making correct, split-second de-

isions in difficult situations. The officer armed with a weapon, retrofitted with a laser, must decide whether to shoot or to not shoot. If the officer does fire, the screen indicates the officer's judgment, accuracy, and reaction time. None of the communities in TCSU could have individually afforded the \$100,000 price tag on this state-of-the-art program.

Other joint purchases by TCSU include: surveillance equipment, tracking devices, photographic and radio equipment, and polygraph equipment.