



## Press Release

On March 15, 2010 at 2159 Hrs Ptlm. James A Kerstetter a 15-year veteran of the Elyria Police Department was fatally shot and killed while responding to a Neighbor Disturbance at 328 18<sup>th</sup> St in Elyria. Ptlm. Kerstetter made contact with the suspect Ronald W. Palmer at 326 18<sup>th</sup> St. Ptlm. Kerstetter entered Mr. Palmer's residence at 326 18<sup>th</sup> St. While inside the residence Ptlm. Kerstetter was fired upon by Palmer. Ptlm. Kerstetter at this time radioed for back up and that he had been shot. Ronald W. Palmer then exited his residence and was confronted by back-up officers who arrived on scene a short time later to assist Ptlm. Kerstetter. Mr. Palmer was then shot and killed by back-up officers.

Assisting Officers located Ptlm. Kerstetter inside 326 18<sup>th</sup> St. Ptlm. Kerstetter was transported to Elyria Memorial Hospital where he was pronounced dead upon arrival. The suspect Ronald W. Palmer who resided at 326 18<sup>th</sup> pronounced dead at the scene

Ptlm. James A. Kerstetter was employed with the Lorain County Sheriff's Office prior to being employed by the City Of Elyria. Ptlm. James A. Kerstetter was hired by the Elyria Police Department on September 6, 1994. Ptlm. Kerstetter served the Department as an Accident Investigator, Field Training Officer, and member of the Department's Special Response Team.

Ptlm. James A Kerstetter is survived by his wife Tammy and three daughters Misty 17, Shelby 14, and Bailey 8 years old. A fund has been set up at First Merit Bank in the name of James A. Kerstetter. The account number is 901830009971, and donations can be made at any First Merit Bank.

Funeral arrangements are pending.