

# CITY OF TOLEDO



## DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OPERATIONS

### NEWS RELEASE

March 3, 2020

Contact:

Lt. Kellie Lenhardt - Public Information Officer

419-245-3217 (Office), 419-277-8662 (Cell)

[Kellie.Lenhardt@toledo.oh.gov](mailto:Kellie.Lenhardt@toledo.oh.gov)

### **Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwestern Ohio Partner with Toledo Police**

Toledo, OH (March 3, 2020): Toledo Police have partnered with the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwestern Ohio “Bigs with Badges” program in an ongoing effort to build strong, trusting, and lasting relationships between local police and the communities they serve. Bigs with Badges is a one-to-one mentoring program that connects youth and those with badges in communities throughout Lucas and Wood counties.

The main goal of the program is to connect public safety professionals with youth in a positive way. In doing so, the program aims to reduce crime and youth/community violence, enhance the quality of children's lives, and emphasize the importance of education.

Bigs with Badges is a volunteer opportunity for Toledo Police officers. Mentees are matched with volunteer “Bigs.” The “Bigs” must be willing to make a minimum one-year commitment to mentoring and also commits to spending at least four hours per month with their mentee.

Current and retired first responders can volunteer by going online at <http://www.bbbsnwo.org> and completing the online volunteer form.

###