



# News Release

Mansfield Department of Police  
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**Keith Porch, Chief of Police**

**For Immediate Release**

**Date: May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**No. # 36**

**Subject: K-9 Graduation**

The Mansfield Division of Police is proud to announce that Officer Jake Rietschlin and K-9 Mekel are scheduled to graduate from K-9 certification training on Friday May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019 @ 1100am. The ceremony will take place at the Mansfield Division of Police K-9 training grounds located at 2125 Lexington-Ontario Road. Officer Rietschlin and K-9 Mekel began their training at the Mansfield K-9 Training Academy on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and will take their Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA) state certification test on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Officer Rietschlin and K-9 Mekel will be certified in both Narcotics detection and Patrol work to include: Tracking, Apprehension, Article Search and Obedience. Upon graduation, the K-9 team will be assigned to day shift patrol. Officer Rietschlin has served the community as a Mansfield Police Officer for the past 13 years, with the majority of that time, spent working 3<sup>rd</sup> shift patrol. K-9 Mekel is a 2 year old male German shepherd from Czech Republic.

The public is encouraged to attend the graduation ceremony and help us in recognizing and congratulating Mansfield's newest police K-9 team.