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Theodore Priest earns cybersecurity specialist certificate

LOUISVILLE, Ky. – Theodore Priest, a Police Sergeant with City of Dayton, Department of Aviation, Dayton International Airport, has completed pilot cybersecurity specialist training at the University of Louisville.

“Cybersecurity is an area of national priority,” said UofL President Neeli Bendapudi. “Through the combined efforts of the J.B. Speed School of Engineering, the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Business, UofL is helping to provide the skills necessary for law enforcement agencies of all sizes to combat cyber crime.”

The training, funded by a research grant from the U.S. National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security, is part of UofL’s Cyber Security Initiative. It reflects the need for an expanded cyber security workforce as detailed in the recently announced DHS National Cyber Strategy and President Donald Trump’s Executive Order 13800, “Strengthening the Cybersecurity of Federal Networks and Critical Infrastructure.”

Priest has been with the Dayton International Airport since 2005. His training can be used for both community cyber protection and investigation as well as department cyber security.

Dayton International Airport, Police Division continues to work to anticipate the new and growing threats to the people of our community, especially children, the elderly and small businesses,” said Chief Mike Etter of the Dayton International Airport. “This new training will help us deal with those threats in the online cyber world.”

“Cybersecurity readiness is our first line of defense to maintain our world economic, political and military leadership,” said Adel Elmaghraby, UofL computer engineering and computer science professor. “Helping our workforce learn how to recognize and combat the dangers are first steps toward achieving this goal.”

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