



UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
PUB 10-02

APRIL 8, 2002

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE DIRECTOR HONORED BY OHIO FOUNDATION OF INDEPENDENT COLLEGES

WASHINGTON, D.C. – On Wednesday, April 10, 2002, United States Secret Service Director Brian L. Stafford will be inducted into the Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges' "Hall of Excellence." Established in 1987, the "Hall of Excellence" honors alumni of Ohio's independent colleges whose lifetime achievements exemplify the traditions, ideals, strengths and values of private higher education.

"It is a privilege to be honored by an organization that deserves recognition of their own for its unwavering commitment to the young people of Ohio," Director Stafford said. "The foundation of my values and work ethic come from here. It started with my parents and continued at Mount Union College."

Director Stafford earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics/business from Mount Union College in Alliance, Ohio. He was a four-year letterman on the Mount Union football team, and still holds one of the college's receiving records.

Stafford was appointed the 20th Director of the United States Secret Service on March 4, 1999. His appointment continues the tradition of selecting the agency's lead executive from the ranks of its career special agents.

Prior to joining the Secret Service in 1971, Stafford served in the United States Army, completing a one-year tour of duty in Vietnam and receiving the Bronze Star and the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm.

Stafford's career with the Secret Service began as a special agent assigned to the Cleveland Field Office. He rose rapidly to the managerial level while serving in a variety of assignments reflecting the Service's missions and responsibilities.

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Within the organization's supervisory ranks, Director Stafford has served in a number of field office management assignments, to include the Miami Field Office, and as the Special Agent in Charge of the Presidential Protective Division. He also held the key position of Assistant Director of the Office of Protective Operations where he managed the security operations for all Secret Service protectees including the President and First Family.

Throughout his tenure with the Secret Service, Director Stafford has been the recipient of numerous awards, including 1999 Presidential Rank Award, the 2001 "Most Distinguished American" Award from the Marine Corps Law Enforcement Foundation, and the 2002 National Center for Missing and Exploited Children Adam Walsh Rainbow Award.

The primary corporate and foundation solicitation entity for 35 independent Ohio colleges and universities, the Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges (OFIC) is celebrating the beginning of its second half-century of service. Since 1950 OFIC has worked to highlight the leadership, value and excellence of independent higher education.

Today, OFIC member colleges collectively enroll more than 87,000 students and award one-third of all bachelors' degrees in the state.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: For questions concerning this release, please contact the United States Secret Service Office of Government and Public Affairs at 202-406-5708. Media wishing to cover this event should contact the Ohio Foundation for Independent Colleges at 614-469-1950 for additional information.