Alumni Spotlight: Shawn Stewart

2011 MPA graduate Shawn Stewart began looking for employment ten months prior to graduating. Six months after graduation, he landed a job in the criminal justice field. Shawn now works as a Pretrial Services Office at the United States District Court in the Southern District of Ohio. He says, "Every day, I feel a real sense of importance in this career and I am often reminded of unique position my MPA degree has allowed me to achieve. In this position, your time management, communication, and organizational skills are very important to your success. The information presented must be researched, accurate as possible, and supported by facts." He adds, "The Voinovich School helped prepare me by enhancing my communication and research skills; The School really focused on time management and expressed the importance of meeting strict deadlines."

Shawn also works at the Southern Campus of Ohio University as an adjunct instructor in the Law Enforcement Technology (LET) program, a job that he truly enjoys in his spare time. He says, "Any opportunity that I may have in helping others to succeed is very rewarding to me."

"I would encourage all students of the GVS program to see your commitments through; although it appears to be quite a challenge now, I can say with a high degree of certainty you can endure." Shawn offers three principles to follow to do so: time management, commitment to the program, and be prepared. He explains, "The only difference between success and failure of your deliverable will be these key factors."