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Mathias H. Heck, Jr.
Montgomery County Prosecuting Attorney

PRESS RELEASE

January 2, 2009

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
MAT HECK, JR.
SWORN IN FOR FIFTH TERM**

Montgomery County Prosecuting Attorney Mathias H. Heck, Jr. was sworn in for his fifth term of office on January 2, 2009. The Honorable Daniel G. Gehres, Judge of the Dayton Municipal Court, administered the Oath of Office. Prosecutor Heck, who was first elected to office in 1992 and was re-elected in 1996, 2000 and 2004 was uncontested in his race for re-election this past November. Following his swearing in, Mr. Heck administered the Oath of Office to his staff.

During the past four years, Prosecutor Heck has instituted many initiatives and made improvements in the Prosecutor's Office. His Adult Protection Unit focuses particular attention on prosecuting persons charged with abuse and neglect of the elderly and cases of domestic violence. In 2008, he announced his W.I.S.E. (Webbie's Internet Safety Education) Program to educate students, parents and educators about the dangers of the internet. In 2007, Prosecutor Heck announced the *ArriveSafe* Program. *ArriveSafe* provides a free cab ride home for any Montgomery County resident if their holiday party included alcohol and therefore they should not drink and drive. In the first year *ArriveSafe* was offered, over 500 impaired drivers took advantage of the program.

The Montgomery County Prosecutor's Office disposed of over 18,500 cases during the past four years, with a successful 98% conviction rate. The Juvenile Division prosecuted over 10,000 cases during the past four years. In addition, the Diversion Program collected nearly \$1,300,000 in restitution from non-violent first-time offenders and returned it to the victims of crime. Another \$935,000 in child support was collected from delinquent non-custodial parents for the support and maintenance of their children.

Prosecutor Heck recognizes the success of the office is owed to the dedication and professionalism of his staff. "Working together, I know we can make a difference. We face exciting and challenging times but I believe we stand ready to face those challenges. Today we rededicate ourselves to serving as the voice of victims of crime," Heck said.