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PRESS RELEASE

January 2, 2009

State v. Olajuwon Howard
2008-CR-4904

The Montgomery County Grand Jury has indicted 22 year old Olajuwon M. Howard on eight felony counts and one misdemeanor count for the Christmas day vehicle crash that left four children severely injured.

The defendant failed to obey a stop sign and crashed into another vehicle at the intersection of Mia Avenue and Kammer Avenue in Dayton. The vehicle he struck was carrying five children and two adults. Immediately after the crash, the defendant fled the scene on foot.

The defendant has been indicted for:

- Four counts of Vehicular Assault – Driving While Under Suspension
- Four counts of Vehicular Assault – Failure to Stop at Scene of Accident
- One count of Failure to Stop After Accident

The counts of vehicular assault are all 3rd degree felonies, while the single count of failure to stop is a 1st degree misdemeanor. The defendant faces a possibility of being incarcerated for five years for each felony count and up to six additional months for the misdemeanor. He will be arraigned on January 6, 2009.

Prosecuting Attorney Mat Heck said, "This defendant was out driving around after his license has already been suspended, and crashed into another vehicle. The occupants were on their way to Christmas dinner, and instead suffered terrible injuries and spent Christmas at the hospital. This defendant needs to be held accountable for his reckless driving and cowardly actions of running away after the crash he caused."

For additional information, contact: Mr. Greg Flannagan, Administrative Assistant, 937-225-5610

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