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PRESS RELEASE

January 6, 2009

State v. Michael A. Perdue
2007-CR-3482/2

Montgomery County Prosecutor Mat Heck, Jr. reported today that Michael A. Perdue, 21, entered a plea of guilty as charged in the indictment issued by the Montgomery County Grand Jury on October 4, 2007. The defendant, along with another individual, is accused of the August 21, 2007 shooting deaths of Roger Covault and Robert Harris during an attempted robbery at Covault Grocery and Meat Market on Wayne Avenue in Dayton.

This defendant entered the market to commit a robbery armed with a handgun and wearing a mask and gloves. During the commission of the robbery, the victims were held at gunpoint. Both victims were gunned down, and the defendants fled before anything was stolen.

The defendant was arrested approximately an hour later.

The defendant has pled guilty as charged to:

- Two counts Murder
- Two counts of Aggravated Robbery
- Two counts of Kidnapping
- One count of Tampering With Evidence

There were no agreements on sentencing between the defendant and prosecutors. He faces the possibility of serving two consecutive life sentences plus an additional 48 years of incarceration. He will be sentenced on January 27, 2009.

Prosecuting Attorney Mat Heck said, "This defendant participated in an armed robbery of his neighborhood market. The owner of the market and his employee were both senselessly killed in the process. We will ask the court to sentence this defendant to the maximum possible sentence under the law."

The charges against co-defendant Brandon Phillips are scheduled for trial on February 2, 2009.

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

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