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PRESS STATEMENT

September 16, 2009

Driver of SUV Sentenced State v. Charles Williams III 2009-CR-1118

On Wednesday, September 16, 2009 **Charles Williams III**, 22, was sentenced to 9 years in the penitentiary for crimes committed on April 1, 2009, in which three Dayton Police Officers were injured.

On April 1, 2009 Dayton Police Officers were investigating a homicide that had occurred on North Main Street. Patrol officers in the area noticed a suspicious Chevy Tahoe. When a uniformed officer who was on-foot attempted to detain the driver and talk to him, a struggle ensued. The officer used pepper spray and his Taser on the driver without success. The driver then proceeded to quickly accelerate down the street, dragging the officer. Eventually the officer freed himself from the defendant's vehicle. The defendant continued down the street, aiming directly towards a marked Dayton Police cruiser. The SUV crashed into the cruiser head-on, ending on top of the cruiser before sliding onto it's passenger side. The crash injured both officers inside the totaled cruiser.

The defendant was indicted by the Montgomery County Grand Jury for multiple counts and the defendant entered a plea of "no contest" to those charges, including:

- 3 counts of Felonious Assault on a Police Officer with a Deadly Weapon
- Failure to Comply With the Order of Signal of a Police Officer
- Vandalism to Government Property
- 2 counts of Criminal Damaging

Montgomery County Prosecuting Attorney Mat Heck, Jr. said, "This defendant had no regard for the safety or authority of the police officers he injured. His actions could have easily resulted in the death of himself or the officers. Anyone who chooses to risk the lives of those who serve and protect us every day will be held accountable."

For additional information, contact: Mr. Greg Flannagan, Public Information Officer, 937-225-5610

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