

# The Prosecutor's Report



April 2018

from Mat Heck, Jr., Prosecuting Attorney

The Prosecutor's Report is the monthly newsletter to the community from the Montgomery County Prosecutor's Office.

If you would like additional information on any of the topics discussed, or have questions or comments, please feel free to contact us at 937-225-5757 or via email to [info@mcpo.com](mailto:info@mcpo.com).

## Sentencings

In March, 2018, we disposed of 273 cases. The Judges sentenced the defendants in those cases as follows:

- 47.3% received Community Control Sanctions (probation)
- 22.3% were sentenced to the penitentiary
- 17.6% were granted Intervention in Lieu of Conviction (ILC)
- 12.8% received local time or local time plus probation

Some notable sentences:

- 3/1/2018 William Gibson was sentenced to 14 years in prison for shooting at Trotwood Police Officers during a stand-off. On October 13, 2017, police and paramedics responded to a home on Wolf Creek Pike on a report of a woman suffering from a gunshot wound. While the officers were talking to woman on the home's porch (she was, in fact, uninjured) the defendant threatened to shoot the officers if they didn't leave. The defendant then fired a number of shots at the officers as they took cover. Thankfully, none of the officers were injured before the defendant was arrested.
- 3/8/2018 Brandon Carr was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole, plus an additional, consecutive, 34 years in prison for the shooting death of Brittany Russell. On February 10, 2016, the deceased body of the victim was found inside her car in an apartment complex parking lot in Dayton. Her 6-month old daughter, who was alive, was also found inside the car. The baby had been left in the car in below freezing temperatures for approximately 12 hours before she was discovered.

- 3/20/2018 Benny Jewett, IV was sentenced to 8 years in prison for a traffic crash that killed Tyler Cross. On May 7, 2016, Dayton Police Officers arrived at the West Side Market on Germantown Street to investigate complaints of illegal drug activity. When the officers arrived, the defendant fled the area at a high-rate of speed in a residential area. The defendant ran a stop sign at the intersection of Jerome and Ruth Avenue and struck another vehicle, killing his passenger.
- 3/21/2018 Muhammad Ali, aka Robert Woodrow Ford, Jr., was sentenced to 3 consecutive terms of life in prison without the possibility of parole, plus an additional, consecutive, 20 years for the shooting deaths of three victims. On August 10, 2016, the defendant went to the home of his former girlfriend, Tammy Cox, and fatally shot her, her son, Michael Cox, and another man who was present, Jasper Taylor.
- 3/27/2018 Taevian Harris was sentenced to 20 years in prison for the shooting death of Deandre Thomas. On September 13, 2017, Dayton Police Officers were in the Hilltop Neighborhood of Dayton when they heard multiple shots being fired in the area. They then located the deceased body of the victim. Further investigation lead detectives to the defendant as the shooter. A search warrant of the defendant's residence revealed several firearms in his possession, including an AK-47, a handgun, and a shotgun. The defendant has prior convictions which prevent him from legally possessing any firearms.

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## RECENT STAFF ADDITION

### MS. MONICA TURZYNSKI-PERRY

On March 30, 2018, Ms. Monica Turzynski-Perry joined the staff of the prosecutor's office as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, assigned to the Child Protection Unit of the prosecutor's office.

Monica received her undergraduate degree from the University of Dayton in 2008, majoring in Criminal Justice. In 2011, she received her law degree from the University of Dayton School of Law.

Prior to joining our staff, Monica was an attorney representing Country Music Television (CMT) in Nashville.



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## NOTEWORTHY NEWS

## April is National Child Abuse Awareness Month



Since 1983, April has been designated as National Child Abuse Awareness Month. Every year, Prosecutor Heck recognizes Child Abuse Awareness Month with an event at CARE House, Montgomery County's Children's Advocacy Center. This year, the event was held on Tuesday, April 3rd.

After acknowledging the other partners in CARE House, Montgomery County Sheriff Phil Plummer, Dayton Police Department Chief Richard Biehl, Montgomery County Jobs and Family Services Director Jewell Good, and Dayton Children's Hospital President and CEO, Deb Feldman, Prosecutor Heck gave some sobering statistics on child abuse and neglect. Every year in Ohio, nearly 180,000 referrals are made to child protection agencies for abused and neglected children. About half of those referrals are forwarded on to law enforcement for the investigation of criminal charges. Ohio's 26 Accredited Child Advocacy Centers served nearly 9,000 children in 2017. At CARE House, there were 771 children who received services due to abuse, and 640 forensic interviews were conducted. Shockingly, 40% of the children seen at CARE House were 6 years of age or younger, and 2 out of 3 of those children were females.

Prosecutor Heck noted that the purpose of Child Abuse Awareness Month is to call attention to the problem of child abuse and to remind the public of the signs to look for to help the criminal justice system combat child abuse and neglect.

**"The assistance and cooperation of the public in reporting suspected child abuse is critical."**

"The assistance and cooperation of the public in reporting suspected child abuse is critical. I want to challenge every citizen in Montgomery County to get involved in helping us to protect the children in our community. If you know, or even suspect,

someone is abusing or neglecting a child, report it! We can't do this alone! If you see something, then say something," Heck added.

## 2018 Champion of Children Award



On April 3, 2018, Prosecutor Heck presented the 2018 Champion of Children Award to Lucie Gaye Gerren. The award is a way to recognize the outstanding work of a local citizen who helps safeguard the well-being of children in our community.

Gaye has been a guidance counselor at the Miami Valley Career Technology Center for the past 20 years. She takes great pleasure in motivating students to prepare for their future by starting early on researching scholarship opportunities, taking the ACT, and researching and visiting the best colleges that fit them. She assists students with properly filling out applications for college, and meets with educational opportunities representatives and parents throughout the students' senior year to efficiently complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. And, for those students whose plans do not include any formal education beyond the CTC, Gaye encourages them to find rewarding employment in fields that interest them, and assists in connecting those students to local companies that are seeking applicants. In general, Gaye actively supports the well-being of students.

Gaye's support also includes giving students support when they have been a victim of abuse or sexual assault. She has encouraged students to contact our Victim/Witness Division's 24-hour crisis line from her office when they do not feel safe at home to do so. She has been a liaison for students who need a safe place to make a difficult phone call.

Gaye has often reached out to our office whenever a student has been a victim of sexual assault or domestic violence. She has called our office looking for advice or for referral information.

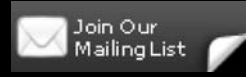
Prosecutor Heck noted, "Importantly, Gaye is always willing to report any criminal behavior to law enforcement or Children Services. Gaye recognizes the importance of protecting children from the dangers of abuse. For these reasons and more,

Gaye Gerren is deserving of this year's Champion of Children Award," Heck added.

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