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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Prosecutor Offers *ArriveSafe* Program Over Christmas and New Year's Holiday Weekends

*"The life you save may be your own!"*

**DAYTON, OH** (December 22, 2016) - Montgomery County Prosecuting Attorney Mat Heck, Jr. is pleased to announce that with on-going support from AAA Miami Valley and Heidelberg Distributing Company, the *ArriveSafe* program will be providing free cab rides home for Montgomery County residents over the Christmas and New Year's holiday weekends.

Since Prosecutor Heck began *ArriveSafe* in 2007, nearly 5,400 free cabs rides have been provided to Montgomery County residents. Having just one less impaired driver on the streets may save a life.

Nationally, there are about 36 fatalities involving alcohol-impaired drivers every day. Combining increased holiday traffic, fewer hours of daylight, inclement weather and icy roadways only exacerbates the problem. Over Christmas holidays, the average rises to 45 fatalities per day, and New Year's holiday increases even further to an average of 54 fatalities per day. Every one of those and deaths, and countless injuries, were completely preventable – if the driver had simply chose to not get behind the wheel while impaired.

Montgomery County residents have an alternative to driving impaired – the *ArriveSafe* Program. *ArriveSafe* will be offering free cab rides home for Montgomery County residents from 6 p.m. Friday, December 23, 2016 through 6 a.m. Monday, December 26, 2016 and again from 6 p.m. Friday, December 30, 2016 through 6 a.m. Monday, January 2, 2017.

Prosecutor Heck continued, "Please celebrate the holidays responsibly. Arrange for safe transportation with a sober driver, ride sharing, or call *ArriveSafe* at 449-9999 and request a free cab ride home. We will pay the fare up to \$50."

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