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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Dayton Man Indicted for Shooting Woman in Ear**  
*State v. Michael Auster, Jr., 2022-CR-3014*

**DAYTON, OH (10/28/2022)** – Prosecuting Attorney Mat Heck, Jr. announced today that **MICHAEL ANTWAN AUSTER, JR.**, 31, of Dayton, has been indicted on counts related to the assault and shooting of a woman in Vandalia on October 21, 2022.

During the evening of Friday, October 21, 2022, Vandalia police were dispatched to the area of the Knights Inn on Poe Avenue on a report of shots fired and a woman screaming. Upon arrival, inside the lobby of the Knights Inn, they located an adult female victim who had been shot in her ear. At about the same time, officers located the defendant who fled from the officers. The defendant ran across I-75 and was eventually taken into custody by Butler Township officers in the area of Miller Lane.

Further investigation found that the victim and defendant had met online and had agreed to meet in person. When the victim refused the sexual advances of the defendant, he became angry and started striking the victim with his fists and kicking her. The victim escaped and ran from the defendant, but he chased her and fired two shots at the victim from a firearm, striking her in the ear before fleeing.

Today, the Montgomery County Grand Jury indicted the defendant for:

- One count of Felonious Assault – deadly weapon
- One count of Felonious Assault – serious physical harm
- One count Having Weapons While Under Disability
- One count Obstructing Official Business

The counts of felonious assault also include 3-year firearm specifications. The defendant was on probation at the time of the shooting, having been convicted of attempting to commit felonious assault in January 2021 in an unrelated incident.

The defendant is currently being held in the Montgomery County Jail on a \$150,000 bond. He is scheduled to be arraigned on Tuesday, November 1, 2022, at 8:30 a.m.