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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Man Indicted for Murder for Hire from Jail Cell

State v. John Friend, III, 2015-CR-343

DAYTON, OH (03/11/2015) – Prosecutor Mat Heck, Jr. announced today that 40 year-old **John P. Friend, III**, of Dayton has been indicted for conspiracy to commit murder which he attempted to carry out from his jail cell.

On October 21, 2014, the defendant was indicted in case 2014-CR-3505 on felony and misdemeanor charges including two counts of Rape of a Child under 10 years of age, Gross Sexual Imposition of a child under 13, Endangering Children and Aggravated Menacing. While the defendant was in custody, awaiting trial, he made contact with a hit man to have the child victim and the child's father killed.

Today, the defendant was indicted on four counts of Conspiracy to Commit Murder. All counts are first degree felonies, punishable by up to 11 years in prison.

Prosecutor Heck added, "This defendant's actions are an incredible assault on the criminal justice system. This defendant planned to eliminate the victim and witness to his earlier crimes, apparently believing the State would have dismissed the charges against him. Now he faces additional, serious charges."

The defendant was arraigned today, and is being held on a \$500,000 bond on this case, in addition to the \$1,000,000 bond previously set on the earlier case.

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