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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dayton Man Sentenced for Throwing Rocks at Police

State v. Russell Harris, 2020-CR-1613

DAYTON, OH (10/28/2020) – Prosecuting Attorney Mat Heck, Jr. announced today that **RUSSELL S. HARRIS**, 36, of Dayton, has been sentenced to Community Control Sanctions (probation) for throwing rocks at police officers during the downtown Dayton protests that occurred on May 30, 2020.

On Saturday, May 30, 2020, as protests and demonstrations occurred in downtown Dayton, officers from multiple jurisdictions responded. Two Moraine police officers were part of a line of officers in the area of Wayne Avenue and Bainbridge Street. The defendant threw two rocks at the Moraine officers.

After other officers witnessed the assault, they approached the defendant and ordered him to leave the area. When he refused to comply with their orders, he was arrested by Dayton Police officers.

On September 23, 2020, the defendant entered a plea by way of Bill of Information to two counts of Assault and one count of Obstructing Official Business.

Today, the defendant was sentenced to up to 5 years of Community Control Sanctions. If the defendant violates the terms of his probation, he could be sentenced to consecutive terms of 180 in jail on each assault count and 90 days on the obstructing official business count.

Prosecutor Heck added, “Citizens have the right to peacefully protest and express their opinions. However, attempting to cause physical injury to police officers or damaging property is not acceptable.”

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For more information, contact Mr. Greg Flannagan, Public Information Officer, at 937.225.5610 or info@mcpo.com