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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tonisha Harris Sentenced for Conviction on Charges Related to Missing Toddler/Deceased Mother

State v. Tonisha Harris, 2014-CR-3982

DAYTON, OH (11/19/2015) – Today, Prosecuting Attorney Mat Heck, Jr. announced that 31-year-old **Tonisha Harris**, of Dayton, was sentenced to 36 months in prison for her convictions on counts related to the disappearance and homicide of Nichelle McKnight and the disappearance of her son, Zaden.

On March 29, 2014, Nichelle and her 4-year-old son, Zaden, were reported missing to the police. The Dayton Police Department wanted to interview Antwan Anderson about the missing mother and son. On April 7, 2014, when the police attempted to contact Anderson, he fled from them, which resulted in a pursuit that ended when Anderson died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head. Anderson was believed to be the last person to be seen with the victims. On Friday, April 11, 2014, Nichelle's body was found in Harrison Township near the Stillwater River, in the area of Riverside Drive and Shoop Mill Road. At this time, Zaden's body has not been found.

On October 5, 2015, the defendant was found guilty of:

- One count of Gross Abuse of a Corpse
- One count of Tampering With Evidence
- One count of Failure to Report a Crime

Prosecutor Heck added, "This is just a heartbreaking and tragic case. Nichelle McKnight had a bright and promising future and cared deeply for her son, Zaden. Hopefully the body of Zaden will be located so that the family of the victims may have some closure."

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