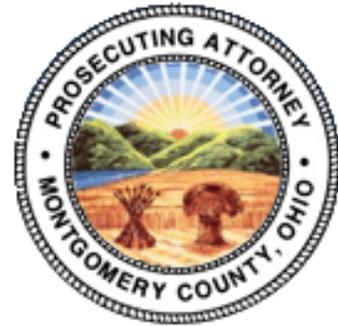


# The Prosecutor's Report

Monthly news & updates



May 2021 | Vol. 3, Issue 5

## April Sentences

**Child Abuse Prevention Month  
Recognized**

**A new Assistant Prosecuting  
Attorney**

**Oakwood Building Contractor  
Sentenced to Prison**



**Mat Heck, Jr.**

The Prosecutor's Report is the monthly newsletter to the community from the Montgomery County Prosecutor's Office.

If you would like additional information on any of the topics discussed, or have questions or comments, please feel free to contact us at 937-225-5757 or via email [info@mcpo.com](mailto:info@mcpo.com)

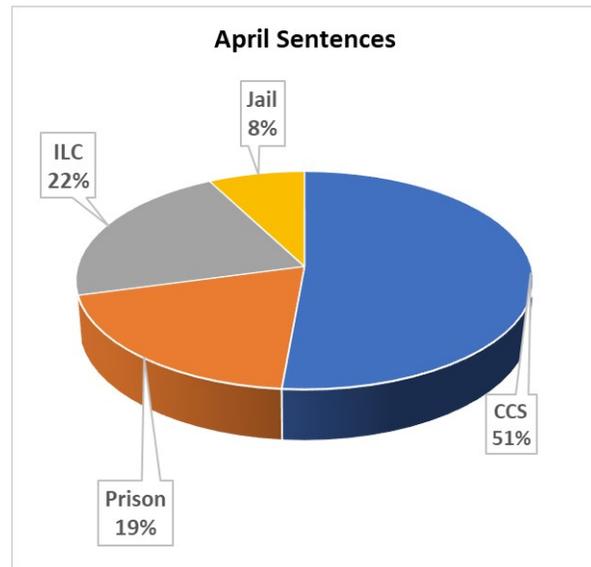
## April 2021 Sentences

### April Sentences

In April 2021, we disposed of 284 cases. The judges sentenced the

defendants in those cases as follows:

- 51.4% received Community Control Sanctions (probation)
- 19.4% were sentenced to the penitentiary
- 21.5% were granted Intervention in Lieu of Conviction (ILC)
- 7.7% received local jail time or local jail time plus probation



### Some Notable Sentences:

- 4/1/2021 - **Duane Edward Taylor, Jr.** was sentenced to a total of 19 years in prison after being convicted of Involuntary Manslaughter, Felonious Assault with a Deadly Weapon, and Retaliation. On December 28, 2018, the defendant was hiding in the back seat of a vehicle on Crew Circle in Miami Township. When two women got into the vehicle, he stabbed both of them. One of the victims, Ronda Neal, died on October 22, 2019 as a result of complications from injuries she received during the attack. Mr. Dan Brandt and Ms. Nicole Amrhein were the assistant prosecutors on the case.
- 4/15/2021 - **Robert J. Ruehle** was sentenced to 131 years to life in prison after being convicted of eight counts of Rape by force, three counts of Rape of a child less than 13 years of age, two counts of Gross Sexual Imposition by force, and two counts of Gross Sexual Imposition of a child less than 13 years of age. In April 2018, a victim reported that the defendant had been sexually assaulting her since she was 10 years old. In September 2019, a second victim came forward and reported the he was also being sexually assaulted. Ms. Dylan Smearcheck and Ms. Elizabeth Orlando were the assistant prosecutors on the case.
- 4/16/2021 - **James C. Miller** was sentenced to serve a minimum of 19 years in prison after being convicted of Murder and Felonious Assault. On July 8, 2020, the defendant and the victim, Terry Young, were "scrapping" and got into an argument. Witnesses reported that the men were arguing over \$10 that the defendant thought the victim had cheated him out of. The defendant stabbed the victim twice in the neck, then got into his vehicle and struck the victim with the vehicle before fleeing. The defendant was arrested in Haysi, Virginia. Ms. Erin Claypoole and Mr. Jacob Mosher were the assistant prosecutors on the case.
- 4/29/2021 - **Johnny Angelo Hansen** was sentenced to serve a minimum of 15 years in prison after being convicted of two counts of Felonious Assault with Sexual Motivation Specifications, two counts of Kidnapping, and one count of Tampering with Evidence. On September 24, 2020, the defendant attacked a 17 year old girl with a mallet as she was walking on the Iron Horse

Park trail, in Centerville. The defendant repeatedly struck the victim on her head, causing her to sustain severe injuries requiring nearly 100 stitches to close the wounds. A nearby resident heard the girl's screams and confronted the defendant. In addition to the prison sentence, the defendant was designated a Violent Offender and a Tier III Sexual Offender. Ms. Jennifer Weber and Ms. Ashley Adkinson were the assistant prosecutors on the case.



## **April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month**

On April 1, 2021, Prosecutor Heck announced the recognition of April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month as a way to bring to the public's attention the importance of giving every child a safe, stable, and nurturing place to live, learn, and grow.

Everyone can have an active role in helping to prevent child abuse and neglect. The assistance of the public in communicating and reporting incidents of suspected child abuse is crucial. Safety plans must be put into place and continuous follow-up needs to occur. Law enforcement and

the courts have a significant role in protecting victims, especially children, from future harm. As long as there is a single case of child abuse or neglect in our community, we need to do a better job. Every child deserves to be raised without fear of abuse or neglect.

Prosecutor Heck continued, "As we put the one-year anniversary of the pandemic behind us and head into National Child Abuse Prevention Month, people and families are still stressed more than usual. Many children are out of school and many parents are not back to work or are working from home. This greatly increases the chances of child abuse and domestic violence. Now, more than ever, it is important that if you see something, say something. Report suspected child abuse or neglect by calling your local law enforcement agency or the child protection agency. In an emergency, call 911."

The child protection agency number in Montgomery County is (937) 224-KIDS (5437).

Heck continued, "Later this year, we will announce the recipient of the 2021 Champion of Children Award. In the meantime, billboards will be shown throughout the county to remind citizens to be vigilant. We have also created a reminder about

this month in front of the Dayton-Montgomery County Courts Building, by displaying blue pinwheels. Working together, we can make a difference in the lives of abused or neglected children in Montgomery County.”

### **Ms. Cindi L. Westwood**

On April 30, 2021, Prosecutor Heck announced that Ms. Cindi L. Westwood joined the staff of the office as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, assigned as the District Court Attorney, to handle cases in the Montgomery County Municipal Court Western Division.

Ms. Westwood received her undergraduate degree from Wright State University in 2002, majoring in Political Science. In 2005, she received her law degree from the University of Dayton School of Law.

From 2006 to 2011, Cindi served as a Montgomery County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney and was assigned to the Child Protection Unit, the Juvenile Division, and the Grand Jury/Intake Section. From 2012 to the present, Cindi has practiced law in the private sector.



### **Oakwood Building Contractor Sentenced to Prison**

On April 14, 2021, William C. Lambert, 61, of Kettering, was sentenced to serve at least 4 years in prison after being convicted of Theft of over \$37,500 from an Elderly Person.

The defendant was doing business as Lambco General Contractor, located in Oakwood. On September 25, 2018, the defendant entered into a contract with a 72-year-old man and his wife to build them a new home in Miamisburg for \$408,500. The couple gave the defendant a deposit of \$102,125.00 as a down payment when they signed the contract.

In December 2018, the victim noticed that the only progress that had been made on the project was some trees had been cut down. The victim contacted the defendant who reported that he was in the process of getting permits, soil tests, HVAC equipment, electrical contracts, and an approved design for the septic system. The defendant assured the victim that everything was under control and on-track.

In January 2019, the victim again contacted the defendant because he was concerned about the lack of progress on the building site, as there still had not been any work done other than the removal of some trees. According to the signed contract, the home was to be completed no later than May 31, 2019.

The defendant kept making excuses for why the construction had not started, from delays due to the weather, due to subcontractors, due to permits taking longer than expected, even claiming that his internet service was out!

Nearly a year later, in January 2020, the victims met with an investigator in Prosecutor Heck's Consumer Fraud Unit. They explained that they had paid a large down payment to the defendant, but there was little work completed and the defendant kept the remaining money.

After a lengthy investigation, including obtaining bank records, correspondence between the defendant and the victims, as well as interviews with suppliers and subcontractors, a criminal filing was approved.

On October 21, 2020, the Montgomery County Grand Jury indicted the defendant for a second-degree felony count of Theft from an Elderly or Disabled Adult of greater than \$37,500 but less than \$150,000.

On March 3, 2021, the defendant was found guilty as charged.

On April 14, 2021, the defendant was sentenced to serve at least four years in prison and was ordered to pay the victim \$95,000 in restitution.

At the time of sentencing, Prosecutor Heck remarked, "This defendant has a history of theft convictions and has been previously sentenced to prison. Many of his prior convictions were for the same criminal conduct - taking a down payment to do construction work and then doing little to nothing towards completing the work. Many of his previous victims have also been elderly."

Prosecutor Heck continued, "The victims in this case were hoping to have their dream home built. Instead, all they received was one disappointment after another. It's important to thoroughly research and investigate any contractor before signing a contract or giving them any of your hard-earned money."

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