

The Prosecutor's Report



September 2018

from Mat Heck, Jr., Prosecuting Attorney

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 Mr. Greg Flannagan, Public Information Officer, at 937-225-5610 or via email to info@mcpo.com.

Sentencings

In August, 2018, we disposed of 251 cases. The Judges sentenced the defendants in those cases as follows:

- 57.0% received Community Control Sanctions (probation)
- 29.1% were sentenced to the penitentiary
- 7.2% were granted Intervention in Lieu of Conviction (ILC)
- 6.8% received local jail time or local jail time plus probation

Some notable sentences:

- 8/1/2018 - Bruce E. Cameron was sentenced to 2 years in prison after being convicted of abduction. Huber Heights police were dispatched to a residence where the defendant was holding a woman at gunpoint while her children were present in the home. A police stand-off occurred, and after a number of hours, the hostage negotiation team was able to convince the defendant to release his hostage and surrender. He was taken into custody without further incident. Ms. Kimberly Melnick was the Assistant Prosecuting Attorney on the case.
- 8/6/2018 Wesley A.M. Gates was sentenced to a total of 12 years in prison after being convicted of kidnapping, aggravated burglary, and felonious assault. The defendant broke into a home in Kettering, armed with a BB gun that appeared to be a real handgun. He grabbed a minor child who was in the home and attempted to tape her hands behind her back. While he was doing this, a second minor child in the home grabbed a baseball bat and struck the defendant. During his attempt to flee the home, he smashed the first victim's head onto the ground, seriously injuring her. Kettering officers located the defendant a short time later and took him into custody. Ms. Kelly

Madzey and Ms. Meagan Woodall were the Assistant Prosecutors on the case.

- 8/16/2018 Raphael Ojezua was sentenced to a total of 11 years in prison after being convicted on drug offenses, including Major Drug Offender specifications. Harrison Township Deputies were dispatched to a residence on a report of shots fired. Once inside the the residence, they discovered that the defendant had been shot. While searching the crime scene, they discovered over 5,000 grams of heroin, along with methamphetamines and cocaine. The defendant was convicted on counts including possession of heroin, aggravated possession of drugs, and possession of cocaine. Ms. Erin Claypoole and Ms. Ann Gramza were the Assistant Prosecutors on the case.
- 8/29/2018 Shaun D. Hill was sentenced to a total of 14 years in prison for a shooting that occurred outside of a Harrison Township bar. An altercation occurred inside the nightclub which spilled outside into the parking lot, where a 26 year old male was shot. The defendant was sentenced to 8 years in prison for felonious assault, plus 3 additional years for using a firearm. Because the defendant had a prior drug conviction and was prohibited from possessing a firearm, he received an additional 3 year sentence for having weapons while under disability. All of the sentences were ordered to be served consecutively. Ms. Erin Claypoole and Mr. Trent Sulek were the Assistant Prosecutors on the case.

RECENT STAFF ADDITIONS

MS. SHARALIE E. ALBANESE

On July 30, 2018, Ms. Sharalie Albanese joined the staff of the prosecutor's office as a Legal Secretary assigned to the Criminal Case Management Section of the office.

Sharalie received her BA in History, with a minor in English, from the University of Maryland University College in Adelphi, Maryland, in 2011. In 2016, she received her Associates of Science in Paralegal Studies from Sinclair Community College.

Sharalie previously performed volunteer work as a paralegal for Advocates for Basic Legal Equality in Immigration Law.



MS. ASHLEY N. KOCHER

On August 27, 2018, Ms. Ashley Kocher joined the staff of the prosecutor's office as the Records and Evidence Manager.

Ashley previously worked for the office as a legal secretary, but left earlier this year to work at a private law firm.

Ashley is responsible for maintaining the criminal case files, as well as maintaining logs of all evidence brought to the office by area law enforcement agencies for pending criminal cases.



MS. CANDACE J. CREAR

On August 27, 2018, Ms. Candace Crear joined the staff as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, appointed to the Child Protection Unit of the office.

Candace received her undergraduate degree from Boston University in 2003, majoring in Political Science with a minor in American History. She received her law degree in 2010 from the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law.

Previously, Candace was an Assistant Cuyahoga County Prosecuting Attorney. She is originally from Cincinnati.



MR. COLLIN B. SHOWE

On August 29, 2018, Mr. Collin B. Showe joined the staff as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, appointed to the Civil Division of the office.

Collin received his undergraduate degree from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio in 2011. In 2015, he received his law degree from the Case Western Reserve University School of Law in Cleveland, Ohio.

Previously, Collin practiced Real Estate Litigation. He is originally from Columbus, Ohio.



NOTEWORTHY NEWS

FORMER PHILLIPSBURG POLICE OFFICER FOUND GUILTY OF SEX OFFENSES WHILE ON DUTY

On August 29, 2018, Justin W. Sanderson was found guilty as charged by the court after a trial.

On June 28, 2017, the defendant, dressed in a police uniform and driving a Phillipsburg Police cruiser, met with two women at the Knights Inn on Poe Avenue in Vandalia. He had met these women via an ad on backpage.com. They had agreed to meet for sex. The defendant arrived at the motel and informed the desk clerk that he was conducting an investigation and needed the key to the room where the women were located.

The defendant then used that room key to gain entrance and once inside he informed the women that he was conducting an investigation into human trafficking and prostitution, and was going to give them a warning. He left the motel room, only to return minutes later and engaged in sexual activity with the women.

On July 3, 2017, the women reported the incident to the Vandalia Police Department, stating that they did not feel free to resist the defendant's sexual activity because he was a law enforcement officer.

Three days later, on July 6, 2017, a Vandalia officer on routine patrol spotted a Phillipsburg Police cruiser in the parking lot of the same Knights Inn. The officer met with the defendant in the parking lot and took him into custody.

When news of the defendant's arrest became public, two more victims came forward and reported separate incidents to the Vandalia Police.

The first incident occurred on May 20, 2017, when a female was stopped for an OVI investigation by the defendant while he was in uniform and on-duty. She was taken by the defendant to the Phillipsburg Police station where she was forced to have sex with the defendant.

The second incident occurred on June 3, 2017, when a different female was arrested by the defendant on an outstanding warrant. She, too, was taken to the

Phillipsburg Police station where the defendant forced her to submit to sexual conduct.

The defendant was indicted by the Montgomery County Grand Jury on August 28, 2017 for multiple felonies. The defendant waived his right to a jury trial, and a trial was held before Common Pleas Court Judge Steven K. Dankof the week of August 20th, 2018. The judge issued his verdict on August 29, 2018, finding the defendant guilty as charged on all counts and specifications, including:

- Three counts of Rape by force or threat of force
- Two counts of Kidnapping for Sexual Activity (with Sexual Motivation Specifications)
- One count of Aggravated Burglary
- Seven counts of Sexual Battery while in custody of law enforcement
- Two counts of Gross Sexual Imposition by force or threat of force
- Four counts of Interfering with Civil Rights

Prosecutor Heck said, "The actions of this defendant, using his authority as a law enforcement officer, have chilling implications. Under an implicit threat of arrest and being jailed, four women were forced or coerced into sexual activity with this defendant. The actions of this defendant are, quite frankly, disturbing and nauseating. This defendant used and abused his position as a police officer in order to satisfy his own sexual desires."

Prosecutor Heck added, "I am thankful that the original two victims had the courage to come forward and report what happened to them. It had to be quite frightening for them to report to police the illegal activity of another police officer. Thankfully, their bravery helped to stop this defendant before he could victimize even more women."

On September 12, 2018, Sanderson was sentenced to a total of 43 years in prison. He was also designated a Tier I, Tier II, and Tier III sex offender. When he is released from prison, he will be required to register his address with law enforcement every 90 days for the rest of his life.

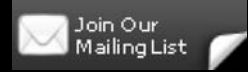
Prosecutor continued, "I want to express my appreciation to Assistant Prosecutors Kelly Madzey and Dylan Smearcheck for all of their hard work and dedication to insure justice for the victims and our community."

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