



# *The Prosecutor*

newsletter from  
**Mat Heck, Jr.**  
**Prosecuting Attorney**



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Winter 2016

## **2015—The Year In Review**

2015 was a very busy year for our office. During the year, assistant prosecutors reviewed 5,449 felony criminal cases from area law enforcement agencies.

Heroin continues to be a problem across the nation, including here in our community. However, in 2015 the number of felony cases indicted for heroin trafficking or possession dropped for the first time since 2010. Even with the decline in 2015, the number of felony cases involving heroin last year represents a 167% increase since 2010.

Indictments for felony domestic violence were up in 2015 - approximately 20% more than in 2014. This appears to be part of a national trend, and many think the rise is due to fewer cases being unreported by the victims.

On a better note, indictments for felony assaults continue to decline - 2015 saw a 10% drop from 2014. This drop is a continuing trend that started in 2009.

As we continue to partner with the various law enforcement agencies to make Montgomery County a safer community, we still need assistance from the public. It takes all of us, working together, to make a difference in our community. Successful prosecution of criminals requires the cooperation of witnesses, complainants, and others who are responsible and willing to be involved. With your help, we are making a difference!

### **Office Staff Helps Dayton Foodbank**



In December, the office staff participated in a competition between the various office divisions to see who could donate the most non-perishable food items. The Grand Jury/Intake Division was declared the winner with 275 pounds of food donated. However, the TRUE WINNERS are the folks in our community who rely on the Foodbank. In all, the staff donated over 650 pounds of food.

For more information about the Dayton Foodbank or to make a donation of your own, visit [www.thefoodbankdayton.org](http://www.thefoodbankdayton.org).

## 2015—The Year In Review

Below are the outcomes of some of the most significant, important, or tragic cases prosecuted to conviction by our office this past year:

January 7, 2015—**Frederick Wilson**, 47, convicted of grand theft over \$7,500, was sentenced to 30 days in the Montgomery County Jail and ordered to perform 180 hours of community service, as well as pay \$99,969.53 in restitution to the Oakwood Fraternal Order of Police. The defendant, an Oakwood Police Officer and Treasurer of the Oakwood FOP, stole the lodge's money. (Case# 2014-CR-3517)

January 20, 2015—**Chantell Spears**, 40, convicted of involuntary manslaughter and tampering with evidence, was sentenced to 8 1/2 years in prison. The victim, Delshaun Jones, died as a result of being stabbed in his chest on July 21, 2013. The defendant is incarcerated at Dayton Correctional, with an expected release date of January 12, 2022. (Case# 2013-CR-2195)

February 18, 2015—**Efrain Garcia**, 24, convicted of aggravated vehicular homicide and vehicular assault, was sentenced to 9 1/2 years in prison. The defendant caused a traffic crash on December 13, 2014 in Moraine that killed 67-year-old Rosa Stethem and seriously injured her son-in-law. The defendant's blood-alcohol was .152 at the time of the crash, nearly double the legal limit. The defendant is incarcerated at Lebanon Correctional, with an expected release date of August 9, 2022. (Case# 2015-CR-0020)

February 24, 2015—**Christen C. Turner**, 39, convicted of engaging in a pattern of corrupt activity, theft in office over \$7,500 and 143 counts of tampering with government records, was sentenced to five years in prison and was ordered to pay \$384,937.93 in restitution to the City of Dayton. Turner, who was employed in the office of the city law director, created false claims against the city in her friends' names, approved the fake claims, and gave the checks to her friends who would share the proceeds with Turner. The defendant is incarcerated at the Ohio Reformatory for Women, with an expected release date of September 16, 2019. (Case# 2014-CR-2852)

March 13, 2015—**Michael Stine**, 25, convicted of involuntary manslaughter and corrupting another with drugs, was sentenced to five years in prison. The defendant purchased heroin and, because the victim, Brian Bryant, had an injured arm, the defendant injected the victim with the heroin. The victim died of an overdose. The defendant is incarcerated at Madison Correctional, with an expected release date of February 25, 2018. (Case# 2013-CR-3345)

March 18, 2015—**Joshua P. Rawlins**, 26, convicted of abduction and sexual imposition, was sentenced to 5 years of community control (probation). The defendant was a firefighter and EMT for the City of Brookville and had inappropriate sexual relations with a 16-year-old female while on duty and at the Brookville Fire Department. As a Tier I sex offender, he will be required to register his address annually for 15 years. (Case# 2014-CR-0830)

March 24, 2015—**Ashley Warner**, 25, convicted of felonious assault on a police officer, possession of heroin, possession of cocaine and possession of drug abuse instruments, was sentenced to 67 days in jail and ordered to perform 100 hours of community service. A Vandalia Police Officer was conducting a pat-down and was pricked by a used drug needle hidden in the defendant's pants. This occurred after the defendant was repeatedly asked if the defendant had any weapons or needles on her person. (Case# 2014-CR-2256)

March 26, 2015—**Roemallo Taylor**, 20, convicted of involuntary manslaughter and having weapons while under disability, was sentenced to 10 years in prison. On April 30, 2014, the defendant and the victim, Gregory Alexander, argued over a \$30 gambling debt from a game of dice. The defendant and the victim got into a struggle that ended when the defendant fatally shot the victim. The defendant is incarcerated at Lebanon Correctional, with an expected release date of April 26, 2024. (Case# 2014-CR-1611)

April 1, 2015—**Charles L. Sanders, Jr.**, 29, convicted of murder, felonious assault and having weapons while under disability, was sentenced to 18 years to life in prison for the shooting death of Aaron Smith on April 1, 2014. An argument during a basketball game at College Hill Park ended when the defendant fatally shot the victim. The defendant is currently in federal custody on unrelated charges. (Case# 2014-CR-1334)

April 24, 2015—**Douglas Hughes**, 54, convicted of two counts of aggravated robbery and two counts of kidnapping, was sentenced to 6 years in prison. At Hollywood Gaming at Dayton Raceway, the defendant robbed an elderly couple at gunpoint and forced them to give him a ride. The defendant is incarcerated at London Correctional, with an expected release date of December 19, 2020. (Case# 2014-CR-4212)

April 29, 2015—**Aaron Johnson**, 21, convicted of aggravated vehicular homicide, vehicular assault, two counts of failure to comply with order or signal of a police officer and one count of having weapons while under disability, was sentenced to 16 years in prison. On July 24, 2014, police were in pursuit of the defendant's vehicle on Shiloh Springs Road in Trotwood when the defendant lost control of his vehicle and went off the roadway, striking and killing a pedestrian, Agyasi Ector. The defendant is incarcerated at Madison Correctional, with an expected release date of July 9, 2030. (Case# 2014-CR-2948)

May 14, 2015—**David Henderson**, 31, convicted of murder, felonious assault and discharge of a firearm on or near prohibited premises, was sentenced to 15 years to life in prison. The defendant fatally shot DeAngelo Dewberry on August 23, 2014 on Stratsburg Drive in Dayton. The defendant is incarcerated at the Correctional Reception Center, and will not be eligible for consideration of parole until July, 2040. (Case# 2014-CR-2931)

May 20, 2015—**Jason D. Connors**, 45, convicted of two counts of rape and three counts of gross sexual imposition of a child under 13 years of age, was sentenced to 25 years in prison. The defendant, a former doctor who was prosecuted for trafficking in drugs in 2004, sexually molested a child who was a family friend. The defendant is incarcerated at London Correctional, with an expected release date of October 9, 2039. (Case# 2014-CR-0030)

June 17, 2015—**Dylan C. Harrison**, 24, convicted of involuntary manslaughter and tampering with evidence, was sentenced to 9 years in prison. On December 3, 2012, the defendant was arguing with his grandmother, Regina Davis, inside her Trotwood home when he grabbed her in a chokehold, killing her. The defendant is incarcerated at London Correctional, with an expected release date of December 1, 2021. (Case# 2012-CR-3604)

July 9, 2015—**Epigmenio Miranda**, 47, convicted of voluntary manslaughter and tampering with evidence, was sentenced to 7 years in prison. On January 13, 2013, after a night of drinking, the defendant and the victim, Eligio Hernandez, got into an argument. The defendant stabbed the victim with a knife, and when the victim died, the defendant dumped the body at Triangle Park in Dayton, where it was discovered the next day by a woman out walking her dog. The defendant is incarcerated at Warren Correctional, with an expected release date of April 5, 2022. (Case# 2014-CR-1273)

July 14, 2015—**Matthew Short**, 24, convicted of felonious assault on a police officer, three counts of aggravated robbery, three counts of kidnapping and one count of aggravated burglary, was sentenced to 17 years in prison. The defendant entered a home in Huber Heights, tied up an elderly male and ordered, at gunpoint, two other occupants to the basement. The elderly male was able to call 911, and when an officer responded to the scene the defendant fired his gun at him. The defendant is incarcerated at Lebanon Correctional, with an expected release date of November 19, 2031. (Case# 2014-CR-4041)

July 15, 2015—**Jason Harrold**, 35, convicted of two counts of impersonating a police officer, one count of aggravated burglary, one count of aggravated robbery and one count of abduction, was sentenced to 4 years in prison. On two occasions the defendant dressed as a police officer and identified himself as a Dayton Police Officer in order to take items from victims. The defendant is incarcerated at Noble Correctional, with an expected release date of March 21, 2019. (Case# 2015-CR-0712)

July 24, 2015—**Leonard Manning**, 18, convicted of two counts of aggravated burglary and one count of kidnapping, was sentenced to 10 years in prison. The defendant, who was on probation just 17 days for committing a robbery at a Dollar General store in November of 2014, committed a home invasion on Burkhardt Avenue in Dayton and held the homeowner at knifepoint, demanding money. The defendant is incarcerated at the Correctional Reception Center, with an expected release date of February 4, 2025. (Case# 2015-CR-0688)

July 30, 2015—**Romero Battigaglia, Jr.**, 32, convicted of seven counts of robbery, two counts of aggravated robbery, two counts of receiving stolen property, one count of possession of criminal tools, one count of possession of heroin and one count of resisting arrest, was sentenced to 9 years in prison. The defendant, dubbed the “ghost robber” for his tendency to wear a hat and wrap his face in cloth was convicted in a number of cases out of Kettering, Moraine, Dayton, Vandalia, Centerville, West Carrollton and Riverside. The defendant is incarcerated at North Central Correctional, with an expected release date of November 23, 2023. (Cases 2014-CR-1603, 2014-CR-2209, 2014-CR-2374, 2014-CR-3350, 2014-CR-4054, 2015-CR-1694, 2015-CR-1696, 2015-CR-1697, 2015-CR-1946, 2015-CR-1966 & 2015-CR-2008)

August 6, 2015—**Tara Seidel**, 36, convicted of involuntary manslaughter and endangering children, was sentenced to 5 years in prison. The defendant’s 22-month-old daughter, Rylee, was found floating face-down in the swimming pool at Villa South Gardens Condominiums in West Carrollton on August 1, 2013. The defendant was passed out asleep at the pool at the time of the drowning and was found to have a mixture of illegal drugs in her system. The defendant is incarcerated at the Ohio Reformatory for Women, with an expected release date of November 23, 2018. (Case# 2013-CR-3574)

August 11, 2015—**Keyan Moore**, 17, tried as an adult and convicted of reckless homicide and grand theft, was sentenced to two years in prison. The defendant and 16 year old Jawaad Jabbar were at the Dayton Mall on December 20, 2014 when they attempted to commit an armed robbery. The victim, a valid CCW permit holder, fired a shot that killed Jabbar. The defendant is incarcerated at the Correctional Reception Center, with an expected release date of December 28, 2016. (Case# 2015-CR-0675)

August 12, 2015—**Brian Scales, Jr.**, 21, convicted of aggravated murder, two counts of murder and one count of endangering children, was sentenced to 20 years to life in prison. While babysitting his 8 and 3 year old siblings inside their Trotwood home on February 14, 2015, the defendant suffocated his three year old sister, Tristan Carlton. The defendant is incarcerated at Lebanon Correctional, and will not be eligible for consideration of parole until December, 2034. (Case# 2015-CR-0419)

August 19, 2015—**Travis Burke**, 26, convicted of aggravated murder, aggravated burglary, aggravated robbery, tampering with evidence and trespass in a habitation, was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole, plus an additional 14 years. The defendant brutally stabbed 81 year old Edith Kind inside her West Carrollton home. Her body was discovered on April 8, 2013. The defendant is incarcerated at the Correctional Reception Center. (Case# 2013-CR-2989)

August 25, 2015—**Jeremy Hawks**, 44, convicted of vehicular homicide and failure to stop after an accident, was sentenced to two years in prison. On August 16, 2014, the defendant turned left into the path of an oncoming motorcycle, causing a crash. The defendant left the scene of the crash, only to crash again a short time later. The driver and passenger of the motorcycle were both seriously injured, and the passenger, Rhonda Boyer, died a short time later at the hospital. The defendant is currently incarcerated at Lebanon Correctional, with an expected release date of March 26, 2017. (Case# 2015-CR-0951)

September 4, 2015—**Emanuel Belton**, 32, convicted of involuntary manslaughter and aggravated robbery in two unrelated cases, was sentenced to 18 years in prison. On January 28, 2013 the defendant shot and killed Terence Williams, the on-again/off-again boyfriend of the defendant's sister, in Miami Township. Then, on April 20, 2013 the defendant robbed the Clark Oil station on Old Troy Pike in Huber Heights. The defendant is incarcerated at London Correctional, with an expected release date of December 12, 2032. (Cases 2013-CR-1318 & 2013-CR-1639)

September 24, 2015—**Robert Gibson**, 51, convicted of theft over \$150,000 from an elderly or disabled adult, was sentenced to four years in prison. The defendant had power of attorney over his mother, who had dementia. Over the years, the defendant stole approximately \$230,000 from his mother. The defendant is currently incarcerated at Pickaway Correctional, with an expected release date of December 11, 2018. (Case# 2014-CR-4218)

October 1, 2015—**Tamara Beasley**, 21, convicted of voluntary manslaughter, was sentenced to six years in prison. On March 11, 2015, the defendant and the victim were in an argument inside their apartment at Summit Square Apartments in Dayton. The defendant grabbed a kitchen knife and fatally stabbed the victim, Keith M. Jones. The defendant is currently incarcerated at the Ohio Reformatory for Women, with an expected release date of September 29, 2021. (Case# 2015-CR-1301)

October 2, 2015—**Bradley Harmon**, 23, convicted of two counts of aggravated burglary, two counts of felonious assault, one count of robbery, one count of tampering with evidence and one count of grand theft of a firearm, was sentenced to 25 years and nine months in prison. The defendant entered a residence on Larcomb Drive in Huber Heights on September 7, 2013 and shot a 12-year-old girl in the face at pointblank range, using a stolen handgun. The defendant is incarcerated at Lebanon Correctional, with an expected release date of June 1, 2039. (Case# 2013-CR-2844)

October 6, 2015—**John Friend, III**, 41, convicted of two counts each of conspiracy to commit murder, rape of a child under 10, and gross sexual imposition of a child under 13, was sentenced to 31 years to life in prison. The defendant was indicted on rape of a child and was in custody awaiting trial when he contacted who he believed to be a hitman to have the child victim and the child's father killed. The defendant is incarcerated at Chillicothe Correctional, with an expected release date of March 9, 2045. (Cases 2014-CR-3505 & 2015-CR-0343)

October 6, 2015—**Ryan Mitchell**, 30, convicted of murder, felonious assault, grand theft of a motor vehicle, assault on a police officer, having weapons while under disability, failure to stop after an accident and failure to comply with the order or signal of a police officer, was sentenced to 22 and a half years to life in prison. On February 21, 2014, the defendant fatally shot Melissa Nilson in the front yard of her Huber Heights home on Cree Avenue, and then fled the scene in the victim's car. After crashing the car on Rip Rap Road, he fled to a local bar, broke in, and after a brief struggle with police was taken into custody. The defendant is incarcerated at Warren Correctional, and will not be eligible for consideration of parole until July, 2036. (Case# 2014-CR-0672)

October 29, 2015—**Todd England**, 33, convicted of aggravated vehicular homicide, was sentenced to two years in prison. On August 17, 2014, the defendant was driving on West Third Street in Dayton when he lost control of his vehicle and struck a tree, killing his passenger, Tonya Boyd-DeMorest. The defendant was found in possession of a drug needle, heroin and fentanyl at the time of the crash. The defendant is incarcerated at the Corrections Reception Center, with an expected release date of June 1, 2017. (Case# 2015-CR-0493)

November 18, 2015—**Curtis Moody**, 33, convicted of murder, felonious assault and having weapons while under disability, was sentenced to 24 years to life in prison. On July 17, 2014, the defendant fatally shot the victim, Jeffrey Farr, Sr., outside a house on Germantown Street in Dayton. The defendant is incarcerated at Lebanon Correctional, and will not be eligible for consideration of parole until April, 2038. (Case# 2014-CR-3237)

November 19, 2015—**Tonisha Harris**, 31, convicted of gross abuse of a corpse, tampering with evidence and failure to report a crime, was sentenced to three years in prison. The defendant was convicted on charges related to the disappearance and homicide of Nichelle McKnight and her son, Zaden, who were reported missing on March 29, 2014. The defendant is incarcerated at the Ohio Reformatory for Women, with an expected release date of April 4, 2018. (Case# 2014-CR-3982)

November 24, 2015—**Keith Johnson**, 46, convicted of felonious assault, aggravated burglary and kidnapping, was sentenced to 22 years in prison. On August 2, 2015, the defendant broke into a home where the mother of his children lived on Blackshear Drive in Huber Heights. He held the woman at gunpoint and when the victim's brother tried to intervene, the defendant shot him twice. The defendant is incarcerated at the Corrections Reception Center, with an expected release date of July 27, 2037. (Case# 2015-CR-2353)

November 30, 2015—**Glassco Fairrow**, 48, convicted of kidnapping, attempt to commit felonious assault, resisting arrest and numerous counts of assault, was sentenced to 8 years in prison. The defendant kidnapped and assaulted a woman out jogging on Randler Avenue in Vandalia on August 5, 2014. Residents in the area came to the victim's aid and restrained the defendant until police could arrive. The defendant is incarcerated at the Corrections Reception Center, with an expected release date of August 2, 2022. (Case# 2014-CR-2741)

December 15, 2015—**Harinder Matharu**, 41, convicted of aggravated vehicular homicide, was sentenced to seven years in prison. On October 22, 2014, the defendant, while under the influence and without a driver's license, was driving on S.R. 235 in Huber Heights, when he crossed the double-yellow line and struck the victim's vehicle head-on. The victim, Amanda Looman, died from the injuries she sustained in the crash. The defendant is incarcerated at the Corrections Reception Center, with an expected release date of December 26, 2019. (Case# 2014-CR-1117)

December 29, 2015—**Michael Felton**, 44, convicted of murder, felonious assault, tampering with evidence and having weapons while under disability, was sentenced to 15 years to life in prison. On June 16, 2015, the defendant fatally shot the victim, John Turner, Jr., during an altercation on Norris Drive in Dayton. The defendant is incarcerated at the Corrections Reception Center, and will not be eligible for consideration of parole until April, 2030. (Case# 2015-CR-1818)

December 30, 2015—**Brian Hawk**, 26, convicted of involuntary manslaughter and trafficking in drugs, was sentenced to four and a half years in prison. The defendant failed to seek any medical assistance for the victim, Jeffrey Clark, after the defendant provided the victim with a fatal overdose of heroin. The defendant is incarcerated at Allen Correctional, with an expected release date of January 2, 2020. (Case# 2015-CR-1031)

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## ArriveSafe Update

In December 2007, Prosecutor Heck announced a new program to address the high incidences of drunk driver related traffic crashes. The ArriveSafe Program was created to operate on major holidays. The program pays up to \$50.00 towards the cab fare to drive impaired drivers home, and is open to any Montgomery County resident. The program is paid for with assets seized from drug dealers and donations from corporate sponsors like AAA Miami Valley and Heidelberg Distributing.

Since December 2007, the program has provided over 5,000 free cab rides. Clearly, removing some 5,000 impaired drivers from our roads can only improve everyone's safety. ArriveSafe is offered over the St. Patrick's Day, 4th of July, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's holidays.



Over the upcoming St. Patrick's Day holiday, ArriveSafe will be offering free cab rides from 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 16th to 6:00 a.m. Friday, March 18th. To request a ride, just call ArriveSafe at 449-9999. Program the number into your phone!

Prosecutor Heck says, "Remember - the life you save may be your own!"

## Office Staff Updates

The following are staff additions since our last newsletter.

<b>DATE</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>POSITION AND ASSIGNMENT</b>
8/26/15	Robert Nemeth III	Legal Secretary, Case Management
8/31/15	Colleen Egan	Assistant Prosecutor, Criminal Division
8/31/15	Anne Jagielski	Assistant Prosecutor, Civil Division
9/1/15	Ann Graber	Assistant Prosecutor, Appellate Division
9/8/15	Emily Anderson	Legal Secretary, Case Management
10/21/15	Kelly Ewing	Advocate, Victim/Witness Division
10/26/15	Katrina Merkle	Assistant Prosecutor, Child Protection Unit
10/30/15	Tyler Sears	Advocate, Victim/Witness Division
11/17/15	Jacob Mosher	Assistant Prosecutor, Child Protection Unit
11/30/15	Kelsey Mangan	Administrative Secretary
12/1/15	Meagan Woodall	Assistant Prosecutor, Appellate Division
12/9/15	Thomas Hale	Paralegal, Civil Division
12/14/15	Brandon Myers	Assistant Prosecutor, Child Protection Unit
12/14/15	Emily Smith	Legal Secretary, Case Management
12/21/15	Justin Pickle	Records Manager
12/28/15	Marva Williams	Legal Secretary, Case Management
1/4/16	Holly Creekmore	Legal Secretary, Case Management

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