

Updated April 21, 2016

Guilty Plea in High Speed Chase

On April 5, 2016, Martin Wenzler pleaded guilty to Failure to Comply with the Order or Signal of a Police Officer, a felony of the third degree, and Receiving Stolen Property as a felony of the fourth degree. On January 23, 2016 Officers located a stolen truck that had been reported earlier in the day. While Officers were approaching the vehicle, the vehicle fled and Officers ultimately pursued. Wenzler travelled through residential areas at a high rate of speed and drove through yards before ultimately crashing into a garage. At that time, Wenzler fled on foot and eventually was apprehended by Officers. Wenzler pleaded guilty to the Failure to Comply, and is scheduled for sentencing on April 26.

Stop The Violence Program

On April 20, 2014, Jeff Wellington was tragically murdered here in Springfield. In the next few days we will be releasing a video showing the devastating effect of violent crime on everyone it touches. The following video is a preview featuring Jeff's mom, Kisha Cole.

Watch the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kesjV3oVJss>

Docket Changes

Periodically, the Assistant Prosecutors switch dockets in an attempt to help prevent work-related burn out and stress. These changes have recently occurred in our office. Assistant Prosecutor Megan Farley, previously working the juvenile docket, has moved to felony traffic, appeals and the civil docket. Assistant Prosecutor Lisa Hoying, previously working on the general felony docket has switched to the violence against women docket, where she also prosecutes sexual assault cases. Assistant Prosecutor Andrew Picek previously prosecuted cases involving drugs possession and distribution, but has now switched to a general docket of first and second-degree felonies. Assistant Prosecutor Ryan Saunders previously responded on behalf of the State for criminal appeals and also prosecuted felony traffic cases. Saunders now is working the drug docket. Assistant Prosecutor William Merrell, who previously practiced general felony prosecution, is now working the juvenile delinquency and traffic docket. Assistant Prosecutor Elizabeth McCormick, previously in charge of crimes against women, is now working on the general felony docket. Assistant Prosecutors Amy Smith and Brian Driscoll will each continue to prosecute crimes against children and firearm cases.

Guilty Verdict in Trafficking Trial

On April 19, 2016, after a two-day jury trial in Clark County Common Pleas Court, Andre Terrell was convicted of trafficking in cocaine, possession of cocaine, and aggravated possession of drugs. He faces a mandatory sentence of between 3 and 12 years in prison and is to be sentenced on April 26, 2016.

The Springfield Police Division, with assistance from the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation, was responsible for the investigation. Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys Andrew Picek and Daniel Driscoll represented the State of Ohio at trial for the Clark County Prosecutor's Office.