

Updated May 12, 2016

#### **April 26, 2016: Jury Trial and Sentencing in Drug Trafficking Case**

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On April 19, 2016, after a two day jury trial, a Clark County jury convicted Andre Terrell of Trafficking in Cocaine in violation of 2925.03(A)(2), a felony of the first degree; Possession of Cocaine in violation of 2925.11(A), a felony of the first degree; and Aggravated Possession of Drugs in violation of 2925.11(A), a felony of the fifth degree. On April 26, 2016 Judge Douglas Rastatter sentenced Terrell to eleven (11) years on Count 1 and one (1) year on Count 3, to be served consecutive, for a total of twelve (12) years prison time, a \$10,000 fine, a three (3) year license suspension, five (5) years post release control and forfeiture of \$9,239.22 in contraband. Judge Rastatter stated that he has seen a lot of close cases in his career that could have gone either way, but that there was an overwhelming evidence of guilt in this case.

#### **April 26, 2016: Guilty Plea in Murder Case**

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On April 1, 2016, Deondre Wilgus entered a plea of guilty to an amended charge of Voluntary Manslaughter in violation of 2903.03(A), a felony of the first degree. At disposition, Wilgus was sentenced to eight (8) years for the Voluntary Manslaughter, and three (3) additional years for the added gun specification, for a total sentence of eleven (11) years. The charges stemmed from Wilgus' involvement in the death of Danyale Piersoll. Assistant Prosecutor Daniel Driscoll stated that this case was an example of the importance witnesses play in the criminal justice process. Because of the lack of cooperating witnesses in this case, the prosecution of the homicide became "extremely hard for the State to go forward with." Wilgus was originally charged with murder, however, as the case came closer to trial, key witnesses for the State became uncooperative, forcing the State to offer the lower charge to Wilgus.

#### **April 28, 2016: Guilty Plea and Sentencing in Burglary Case**

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On April 7, 2016, Robert Dawes Jr., entered a plea of guilty to Burglary in violation of 2911.12(A)(2), a felony of the second degree. On April 28, 2016, Dawes was sentenced to five (5) years in prison, to be served consecutive to a five (5) year sentence for a probation violation for a total of ten (10) years in prison. This charge stemmed from Dawes involvement in a burglary on North Belmont Ave., where Dawes entered the home through a kitchen window, intending to steal property from within the home. However, before he could successfully leave the premises, Dawes was confronted by the property owner who was present inside the residence at the time.

#### **April 28, 2016: Plea and Sentencing in Involuntary Manslaughter Case**

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On April 8, 2016 Nicholas Cochran entered a plea of guilty to one (1) count of Involuntary Manslaughter in violation of 2903.04(A), a felony of the first degree. On April 28, 2016, Cochran was sentenced to eleven (11) years. The charge stemmed from an automobile accident that occurred after Cochran fled from Springfield Police when Officers attempted to make a traffic stop. Cochran was driving under the influence and with multiple license suspensions at the time of the accident and fled at estimated speeds of 88-105 MPH in a 35 MPH zone. Officers stopped pursuing the vehicle for public and Officer safety reasons, and shortly thereafter located the vehicle, which had crashed into multiple parked cars. Cochran had a passenger in the car at the time of the incident, Clarissa Smith, who died as a result of Cochran's actions.