

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FEBRUARY 1, 2019 For Further Information Contact: Julie Datko (740) 833-2755

## GRAND JURY RETURNS THREE RAPE INDICTMENTS

A Delaware County Grand Jury has returned a 10-count indictment against 34-year-old Eric Bellamy of Huron, Ohio.

Charges come after a November 23, 2018 call to law enforcement about a possible sex offense involving a minor.

Bellamy is charged with six counts of rape – all first-degree felonies, three counts of gross sexual imposition – each a third-degree felony, and one count of menacing by stalking – a fourth-degree felony. The indictment alleges the crimes as occurring from February 1, 2008 through April 15, 2010.

Another indictment follows a call placed to Delaware Police on January 18, 2019.

"Police responded to the area of Clancey's Pub for a female in distress," said Delaware County Prosecutor Carol O'Brien. "After investigation, Thomas Bennett of Delaware was charged in connection to the call."

Bennett, 41, was indicted on two counts of rape – both first-degree felonies, and one count of kidnapping – a first-degree felony carrying a sexual motivation specification.

The third indictment outlines 11 felony counts against 51-year-old David Nunley of Sunbury.

Charges come after a minor stepped forward to report abuse to a school counselor.

Nunley is charged with seven counts of rape – first-degree felonies, two counts of gross sexual imposition – both third-degree felonies, gross sexual imposition – a fourth-degree felony, and endangering children – a first-degree misdemeanor. The indictment against Nunley outlines the crimes as occurring from December 1, 2009 through March 7, 2013, and as involving three victims, specifically two minor females and one minor male.

Arraignment dates for Bellamy and Bennett are not yet set. The arraignment hearing for Nunley will be Friday, February 8, 2019 at 9:45 a.m.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FEBRUARY 8, 2019 For Further Information Contact: Julie Datko (740) 833-2755

### DELAWARE MAN INDICTED AFTER OWU BURGLARY



A Delaware County Grand Jury has returned an indictment against 26year-old Chaz Allen Holland, of Delaware.

Charges come after police responded to eight reports of missing property from buildings on the OWU campus between the dates of July 12, 2018 and November 25, 2018.

C. Holland

"Electronic items such as laptops, projectors, a microphone mixer, flat panel televisions and their wall mounts were taken from the Hamilton

Williams Campus Center, the Mowry Alumni Building, and the RW Corns Building," said Delaware County Prosecutor Carol O'Brien. "It is estimated that the value of all items taken totaled more than twelve thousand dollars."

Holland is charged with burglary – a second-degree felony, and receiving stolen property – a fourth-degree felony.

An arraignment hearing is not yet set.



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#### PRIVATE CONTRACTOR INDICTED FOR VANDALISM

A Delaware County Grand Jury has returned an indictment against 32-year-old Adam Jacob Hanyak, of Columbus.

Charges come after a suspicious video surfaced of Hanyak inspecting a roof.

"Mr. Hanyak offered the homeowner a complimentary roof inspection to check for wind damage," said Delaware County Prosecutor Carol O'Brien. "The inspection was done while the homeowner was at work, but a neighbor saw and videotaped Hanyak, who appeared to be pulling back and creasing shingles."

Hanyak is charged with one count of vandalism – a fifth-degree felony.

An arraignment date for Hanyak is not yet set.

When considering a roof inspection or new roof, homeowners can double check licensing and insurance, ask to see proof or pictures of past jobs and/or customer endorsements, ask if the contractor is an authorized installer, and consider how long the contractor has been in business. The Better Business Bureau also has a list of accredited roofing contractors in Ohio that is accessible by the general public via bbb.org.



FACEBOOK FEBRUARY 11, 2019 For Further Information Contact: Julie Datko (740) 833-2755

# TEEN SENTENCED FOR SCHOOL SHOOTING THREAT



Troy Ferguson was sentenced to 180 days in the Delaware County Jail and three years community control for threatening to carry out a school shooting. The judge granted 32 days of jail time credit for time already served.

T. Ferguson

Ferguson was taken into custody on November 7, 2018 after two Delaware Hayes students came forward to report he had made a threat to "shoot up" the school the following day.

Classes at Hayes were cancelled on November 8, 2018 as law enforcement investigated. School resumed session on November 9, 2018 after it was determined that no other persons or school facility was involved in the threat.

"We live in a time where we simply cannot ignore threatening statements," said Delaware County Prosecutor Carol O'Brien. "We've seen over and over the tragedy that can happen, and I commend the students who came forward to report to the school resource officer what they heard."

In addition to jail and community control, 18-year-old Ferguson was ordered to pay restitution to the Delaware Police Department and Delaware City Schools in the respective amounts of \$5,960 and \$98,314. He must also complete 100 hours community service, submit to random drug testing, participate in counseling and treatment, possess no firearms, stay Delaware City Schools' property, and submit a letter of apology to the schools as well.

Ferguson pleaded guilty in December 2018 to obstructing justice - a third-degree felony.

"In this day and age, when you have someone threaten to carry out a school shooting, it cannot be taken lightly, even if it's later said to be a joke," said O'Brien.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FEBRUARY 15, 2019 For Further Information Contact: Julie Datko (740) 833-2755

#### CALLS FROM CONCERNED RESIDENTS LEAD TO TWO INDICTMENTS

A Delaware County Grand Jury has returned an indictment against 41-year-old Anthony Matheson, of Columbus.

Matheson was pulled over on Interstate 71 after another driver called law enforcement to report a Jeep driving erratically on the afternoon of May 26, 2018.

"Once the vehicle was pulled over, troopers observed two young children in the back seat without booster seats or even a secured seat belt," said Delaware County Prosecutor O'Brien. "The children were otherwise okay, and released to their mother."

Matheson is charged with two counts of operating a vehicle under the influence of drugs or alcohol – both fourth-degree felonies, possession of drugs – a fifth-degree felony, and endangering children – a first-degree misdemeanor.

A second indictment was returned against two males after a Delaware resident called police to report two men stealing from parked cars on Richards Drive in the early morning hours of June 6, 2018.

"The caller was able to provide a description of the suspects' vehicle, and that information led to their apprehension and the retrieval of stolen items such as a wallet, prescription medication, and a bank card," O'Brien said. "While no one plans on their vehicle becoming a target, it's a good idea to take all valuables and medications inside the home, especially if your vehicle is parked out in the open."

The men, 25-year-old Lance Stockdale and 26-year-old Anthony Martin, both of Delaware, are charged with two counts of theft – both fourth-degree felonies, two counts of theft – both fifth-degree felonies, and one count of possession of drugs – a fifth-degree felony.

"In each of these instances people chose to say something when they noticed something wasn't quite right," O'Brien said. "In the case of the erratic driver, the call to law enforcement may very well have even saved young lives."

Arraignment dates for Matheson, Stockdale, and Martin are not yet set.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FEBRUARY 15, 2019 For Further Information Contact: Julie Datko (740) 833-2755

#### POSTAL CARRIER INDICTED FOR PUBLIC INDECENCY

A Delaware County Grand Jury has returned an indictment against 53-year-old Joseph Rice, of Westerville.

Charges come after Rice was observed to be masturbating in his mail truck in a Genoa Township subdivision on December 4, 2017.

"A mother and her young daughter were out for an afternoon walk in their neighborhood when they came upon the mail truck that delivers to their area," said Delaware County Prosecutor Carol O'Brien. "The mother reports that the door of the vehicle was open and she could see Mr. Rice inside, holding a cell phone with one hand and appearing to masturbate with the other."

Rice is charged with public indecency – a fifth-degree felony. The indictment against Rice states that he has previously been convicted or pleaded guilty to two similar violations, one in 2002 and the other in 2006.

An arraignment date for Rice is not yet set.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FEBRUARY 19, 2019 For Further Information Contact: Julie Datko (740) 833-2755

#### DELAWARE MAN SENTENCED FOR THE RAPE AND GROSS SEXUAL IMPOSITION OF HIS STEPDAUGHTERS



David R. Morris was sentenced to 25 years to life in prison for sexually abusing his stepchildren, ages 11 and 12.

Morris was indicted in August 2018 after the girls' mother contacted law enforcement to report the sexual abuse of her two young children. Listed on the indictment as Jane and Mary Doe, the girls were Morris' stepdaughters at the time the offenses occurred.

D. Morris

"Mr. Morris used his position of trust as a parental figure to manipulate and abuse his stepdaughters," said Delaware County

Prosecutor Carol O'Brien. "After his arrest, he went so far as to tell detectives that the youngest victim was the aggressor."

Morris, 42, pleaded guilty to three counts of rape with force – all first-degree felonies, and two counts of gross sexual imposition – both third-degree felonies.

"The young girls in this case have been brave and forthcoming," O'Brien said. "In their victim impact statements to the court, they stated their stepfather has 'hurt us for the last time' and said 'goodbye forever.'"

If Morris is ever released from prison, he will be classified as a Tier III sexual offender and serve an additional five years post release control.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FEBRUARY 22, 2019 For Further Information Contact: Julie Datko (740) 833-2755

#### MULTIPLE PURSE THEFTS LEAD TO INDICTMENT

A Delaware County Grand Jury has returned a four-count indictment against 23-year-old Brianna M. Sparks, of Columbus.

Charges come after law enforcement responded multiple times to retail locations in both Tanger Outlets and Easton Town Center.

"In each instance a female was reported to have entered the store, grabbed some purses, and fled on foot without paying," said Delaware County Prosecutor Carol O'Brien. "Store surveillance video, social media tips, and an investigation led police to Brittany Sparks."

Sparks is charged with four counts of theft – all fifth-degree felonies. The indictment against her specifies the four instances of theft as beginning on April 12, 2018 when eight purses were taken from the Michael Kors store at Tanger. The next instance is listed as May 11, 2018 when an additional eight purses were stolen from the Kate Spade store at Easton. On May 14, 2018 four more purses were taken from that same location, and on May 24, 2018 five purses were taken from the Kate Spade store, Tanger Outlet location.

"It was determined the purses were being sold through Poshmark, an app used to sell high-end items," said O'Brien. "In total, the stolen purses were valued at more than \$6,000."

An arraignment date for Sparks has not yet been set.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FEBRUARY 22, 2019 For Further Information Contact: Julie Datko (740) 833-2755

#### **REYNOLDSBURG WOMAN INDICTED FOR OVI**



K. Betton

A Delaware County Grand Jury has returned an indictment against 29-year-old Kashaunda Akua Betton.

The indictment comes after a call to law enforcement on October 19, 2018. The caller suspected an impaired driver in the area of Viola Drive and Sunbury Meadows.

"A motorist called Sunbury Police to report he'd nearly been struck head-on by a suspected impaired driver who swerved to safety just before impact," said Delaware County Prosecutor Carol O'Brien. "The motorist then observed the vehicle to travel

down a dead end road at a high rate of speed, back up onto a curb and partially into a residential yard before coming to a rest."

Police located and approached the vehicle. They observed the driver to be outside the vehicle, which still had its motor running.

"The driver presented with slurred speech and glassy eyes," O'Brien said. "She stated she was in Columbus and police found alcohol inside the vehicle."

Betton is charged with two counts of operating a vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs - a fourth-degree felony, and driving under OVI suspension – a first-degree misdemeanor. The indictment against Betton states that within ten years of this offense, she was previously convicted of or pleaded guilty to three or four similar violations.

An arraignment date for these latest charges has not yet been set.



For Immediate Release February 27, 2019 For Further Information Contact: Julie Datko (740) 833-2755

### WESTERVILLE DETECTIVES ASKING FOR INFORMATION ON GARY "MICHAEL OR MIKE" HILL



Westerville Police Detectives are asking the community for information regarding the investigation of an ongoing sexual abuse case involving at least five minors.

A Delaware County Grand Jury returned a 14-count indictment against Gary Michael Hill in January 2019 that alleges his criminal misconduct as happening from June 1, 2001 through December 30, 2017.

"There are five juvenile females that we know of who are included in the current indictment," said Delaware County Prosecutor Carol O'Brien. "Since the alleged sexual abuse spans 17 years, there is a possibility of additional victims."

G. Michael or "Mike" Hill

Gary Michael Hill, most commonly known as "Michael or Mike," is currently charged with four counts of rape – first-degree felonies each carrying a sexually violent predator specification, kidnapping – a first-degree felony, seven counts of gross sexual imposition – all fourth-degree felonies, menacing by stalking – a fourth-degree felony, and public indecency – a first-degree misdemeanor.

Hill, of Plain City, is out of jail on a \$300,000 bond. Some of his alleged sex crimes occurred in Delaware County, but others included in the indictment are listed as occurring in Franklin and Fairfield Counties.

"The victims that we are aware of were all known to Hill, but there is a possibility there could be more victims in the central Ohio area," O'Brien said. "Anyone with information about Michael "Mike" Hill, is asked to call Westerville Police at (614) 901-6866."