

Carol O'Brien
DELAWARE COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JANUARY 4, 2018

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
JULIE DATKO (740) 833-2755

FACEBOOK POST

**Blacklick Woman Admits Guilt
After Fleeing Law Enforcement At Tanger Outlets**



A. Hissong

Alana M. Hissong was indicted after she fled from authorities at Tanger Outlets on August 8, 2017. The officers were responding to a report of theft.

“When officers requested Ms. Hissong stop, she ignored the order and drove out of the parking lot,” said Delaware County Prosecutor Carol O’Brien. “The vehicle’s front passenger tire was shot by a deputy while in the parking lot.”

The suspect fled along State Route 36/37, North Galena Road, and Berkshire Road, eventually running into a telephone pole at the intersection of Berkshire and 3 Bs and a K Roads.

Hissong entered a guilty plea today to failure to comply with an order or signal of police officer – a third-degree felony, and operating a vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs – a first-degree misdemeanor. She also entered a no contest plea to robbery – a third-degree felony.

A sentencing hearing has been set for February 12, 2018 at 10:15 a.m.

After the crash, a search of Ms. Hissong’s vehicle revealed clothing items with security devices attached, a large bag used to conceal merchandise, and another bag containing pipes and pills. At the time of her arrest, she was found to have an active felony warrant out for her arrest for possession of cocaine.

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N E W S

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JANUARY 8, 2018

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
JULIE DATKO (740) 833-2755

**FAIRFIELD COUNTY MAN SENTENCED FOR
UNLAWFUL SEXUAL CONDUCT WITH A MINOR**



L. Dickerson

Larry Dickerson was sentenced to five years community control after admitting to communicating with a juvenile online and meeting her in Delaware County for a sexual encounter.

“The world wide web can be a dangerous place,” said Delaware County Prosecutor Carol O’Brien. “In this case, the danger hit close to home with a predator travelling from Lancaster, Ohio to a hotel in Delaware where he sexually abused a 13-year-old girl.”

Dickerson, 53, was indicted in June 2017. He admitted guilt in October 2017, pleading guilty to three counts of unlawful sexual conduct with a minor – all third-degree felonies.

As part of his sentence Dickerson will be classified as a Tier II sex offender, requiring him to register with local law enforcement every 180 days for the next 25 years. He is also prohibited from using the internet for the duration of his community control sentence.

FACEBOOK POST: 1.12.18

**New Albany Man Admits Guilt In Crash
That Sent A Mother And Three Children To The Hospital**

Michael Vernon Lewis entered a guilty plea today for his role in a May 25, 2017 head-on crash in Delaware County.

“Mr. Lewis consumed alcohol and got behind the wheel,” said Delaware County Prosecutor Carol O’Brien. “The result was a head-on collision that sent a mother and her three young children to the hospital.”

Vernon, 26, pleaded guilty to aggravated vehicular assault - a third-degree felony, vehicular assault - a fourth-degree felony, and operating a vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs - a first-degree misdemeanor. This is Mr. Vernon’s second OVI in 10 years.

“If you suspect someone of driving under the influence, find a safe place to pull over and report it,” O’Brien said. “Your call may save a life.”

Lewis is scheduled for sentencing on February 27, 2018.





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N E W S

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JANUARY 16, 2018

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MICHIGAN MAN INDICTED FOR IDENTITY FRAUD

A Delaware County Grand Jury returned an eight-count indictment against 23-year-old Darrel K. Gitchuway of Michigan.

Gitchuway was charged after Tanger employees reported a suspicious person to law enforcement. Upon investigation it was found Gitchuway possessed several credit cards containing fraudulent credit card numbers.

"Anyone can be a target of identity fraud," said Delaware County Prosecutor Carol O'Brien. "It's important to monitor credit statements regularly and to sign up for fraud alerts from your credit card provider."

Gitchuway is charged with seven counts of identity fraud – all fifth-degree felonies and possessing criminal tools – also a fifth-degree felony. His arraignment is set for March 2.

"Consumers may not always be able to stop unauthorized charges, but regular monitoring can catch those charges early and stop additional charges," O'Brien said. "Plus, a criminal trying to use a cancelled credit card number at a checkout may just be the red flag to get law enforcement involved."



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N E W S

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JANUARY 19, 2018

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PATASKALA WOMAN INDICTED FOR IDENTITY FRAUD

A Delaware County Grand Jury has returned a six-count indictment against 34-year-old Misty Brown of Pataskala.

Charges come after credit cards stolen from a vehicle in the Lewis Center Highbanks Metro Park were used in the Polaris area.

“The best advice is simply to avoid taking valuables with you,” said Delaware County Prosecutor Carol O’Brien. “However, if you do have items of value, never leave them on display, instead, take the time to lock them out of sight in the trunk or at the very least, cover them with a coat or hide them under the seat.”

Brown is charged with one count of receiving stolen property - a fifth-degree felony, two counts of identity fraud – both fifth-degree felonies, two counts of misuse of credit cards – also fifth-degree felonies, and one count of forgery – a fifth-degree felony.

An arraignment date has not yet been set.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JANUARY 19, 2018

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FORMER OSP LIEUTENANT SENTENCED FOR THEFT



William P. Elschlager was sentenced to 30 days in the Delaware County Jail and three years community control.

Today's sentencing comes after the former Ohio State Highway Patrol Lieutenant was found guilty last December of three counts of theft – all third-degree felonies.

W. Elschlager

Elschlager was indicted in March 2016 after two guns were found in his Marietta home. The firearms were found in connection to a separate investigation. Elschlager, 48, was initially charged in Delaware County with the theft of both guns, but the charges connected to one of the firearms were dismissed.

"The theft charges Mr. Elschlager was found guilty of were affiliated with a gun that had been in evidence during the time he was a patrolman at the Delaware County Post of the Ohio State Highway Patrol," said Delaware County Prosecutor Carol O'Brien. "The gun was catalogued by Mr. Elschlager as having been returned to the owner."

Since working in Delaware, Elschlager moved to Marietta and served as Lieutenant for the Ohio State Highway Patrol, Marietta Post.

"No one is above the law," said First Assistant Prosecutor Kyle Rohrer. "Mr. Elschlager was a trusted law enforcement officer in Delaware County, and he manipulated that trust to steal a firearm from an evidence locker."

In addition to time in jail and community control sanctions, Elschlager was ordered to complete 200 hours of community service and pay a \$1,000 fine.

Carol O'Brien
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N E W S

FACEBOOK POST
JANUARY 22, 2018

KENTUCKY WOMAN SENTENCED FOR TANGER THEFT



S. Smith

Shandreika N. Smith was indicted in October 2017 for theft and receiving stolen property, both fifth-degree felonies.

She pleaded guilty in December 2017 and was sentenced today to 180 days in jail and four years community control.

Smith, 32, took merchandise from 16 stores in the Tanger Outlet Mall. In addition to jail and community control, Smith was ordered to complete 120 hours of community service.

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FACEBOOK POST: 1/23/18

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MICHIGAN MAN SENTENCED FOR FAKE TRAVELER CHECKS



Anthony Lynn Sanders, 37, was sentenced to one year in prison for using fake American Express traveler checks at various central Ohio Target stores.

He pleaded guilty to five counts of forgery – all fifth-degree felonies on January 16, 2018.

“Multiple transactions at multiple stores were completed in order to obtain general merchandise items, gift cards, and in some cases, even cash back,” said Delaware County Prosecutor Carol O’Brien. “Sanders is on parole in Michigan for similar crimes.”



FACEBOOK POST
JANUARY 24, 2018

COLUMBUS MAN SENTENCED FOR DRUNK DRIVING

Victor Diaz was sentenced to one year in prison, and his driver's license will be suspended for seven years.

Diaz was indicted in August 2017 after a witness flagged down law enforcement to report a suspected impaired driver who had hit several construction barrels.

In addition to time in prison and a suspended driver's license, Diaz was ordered to pay a \$5,000 fine and to participate in substance abuse treatment. Diaz has five previous OVI convictions.

The effects of driving under the influence can be devastating. Please make the responsible decision to never get behind the wheel if you're impaired, and if you see an impaired or distracted driver on the road, pull over to a safe place and report it by calling 1-800-GRAB-DUI or #677.

