

MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

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Criminal Non-support Cases

(Akron, February 26, 2007) ... Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that on February 23, 2007, Judge Bond sentenced **Michael Walker**, 38, of Nome Avenue in Akron, to the balance of his previously suspended eleven month prison sentence. At the time of sentencing, the Defendant was on Judicial Release and owed \$35,398.80 in child support arrears for his twins and an additional \$14,828.90 in child support arrears for his two other children.

The Criminal Nonsupport case involves four children and two custodial parents. In the first case, the Custodial Parent, of Akron, and the Defendant were never married. The Summit County Juvenile Court ordered that the Defendant pay child support in the amount of \$13.33 per week; however, that amount was subsequently modified to \$242.42 per month for these two children. The Defendant failed to pay child support as ordered and in 2002, was found guilty of contempt. The Defendant failed to purge his contempt and, in 2003, was ordered to serve ten days in jail.

In the second case, the Custodial Parent, of Akron, and the Defendant were married. However, their marriage was terminated by a decree of dissolution in 2001. The Defendant was ordered to pay child support for his two children. The Defendant failed to pay child support as ordered and in 2003, was found guilty of contempt. After failing to purge his contempt, he was ordered to serve ten days in jail.

The Defendant continued to fail to meet his financial obligation to his children and was charged with criminal nonsupport. In 2004, the Defendant pled guilty and was placed on community control for a period of five years.

In August of 2004, the Defendant violated the terms and conditions of probation and was sent to prison for eleven months to run consecutively to a twelve month sentence imposed in CR 2002-01-016. The Defendant was granted Judicial Release in December of 2004, and placed on community control. After being returned to community control, the Defendant failed to make a single child support payment. On February 23, 2007, the Defendant pled guilty to violating the terms and conditions of probation and was sentenced to the remainder of the eleven months in prison.

Jerome Hargrove

On February 14, 2007, Judge Shapiro sentenced **Jerome Hargrove**, 28, of Thornton Street in Akron, to six months in prison for the crime of nonsupport of dependents. The Defendant reported to the Court on Tuesday, February 20, 2007, to

begin serving his sentence. At the time of sentencing, the Defendant owed \$14,323.12 in child support arrears for his child. This case involves one child.

The Defendant and the custodial parent, of Akron, were never married. The CSEA issued administrative orders establishing paternity and setting child support in the amount of \$127.52, per month.

The Defendant failed to pay child support and in 2004, was found guilty of contempt for failure to pay child support in the Summit County Court of Common Pleas, Domestic Relations Divisions. The Defendant failed to purge his contempt and failed to appear at a subsequent purge hearing. As a result, a capias was issued. The Defendant was later arrested and ordered to serve ten days. In May 2006, the Defendant was charged with one count of criminal nonsupport. The Defendant pled guilty and was placed on community control for five years.

On February 14, 2007, the Defendant pled guilty to violating the terms and conditions of probation. One of the Defendant's violations was his failure to make any child support payments while on probation.

Bryon Turner

On February 14, 2007, Judge Spicer sentenced **Bryon Turner**, 26, of Marietta, Georgia, to twelve months in prison for the crime of nonsupport of dependents. This sentence is to run concurrently to a nine-year sentence out of Cuyahoga County. At the time of sentencing, the Defendant owed \$14, 220.24 in child support arrears for his child. The Defendant still faces serious charges in Summit County's Common Pleas Court.

The Criminal Nonsupport case involves one child, of Cleveland. The Defendant and the custodial parent were never married. The Summit County CSEA established paternity and ordered child support in the amount of \$328.02.

The Defendant failed to pay child support and in 2003, was found guilty of contempt. While the Defendant subsequently purged his contempt, he later failed to pay child support as ordered. As a result, the Defendant was charged with criminal nonsupport. In 2006, the Defendant pled guilty to the crime of nonsupport and was placed on community control for a period of two years. After being placed on community control, the Defendant committed crimes in Cuyahoga, Medina, and Summit Counties.

On February 14, 2007, the Defendant pled guilty to violating the terms and conditions of probation and was sentenced to twelve months in prison to run concurrently to the sentence out of Cuyahoga County. He still has a pending case in Judge Cosgrove's Court.