

## MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

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### Judge Sends Non-Paying Father to Prison

(June 25, 2008, Akron) ... Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Ronald Sanson, 55, of Snowfall Spur in Akron, was sentenced by Judge Robert Gippin to twelve months in prison for **Criminal Non-Support**, a felony of the fourth degree. At the time of sentencing, Sanson owed \$26,161.25 in arrears.

“This case is yet another example of why we aggressively prosecute non-paying parents for Criminal Non-Support,” Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh said. “This man refuses to take care of his children, as evidenced by his debt of \$26,161.25. This is not a debt that accrued because he missed a payment here and there.”

Prosecutor Walsh continued, “This is a prime example of what the Child Support Enforcement Agency deals with on a regular basis; parents who refuse to do the right thing and take steps to meet their obligations. This sentence demonstrates that we – and Judge Gippin – take these matters very seriously, for the sake of Summit County children.”

When Sanson divorced the mother of his children in 1997, he was ordered to pay child support for four children. He was convicted of Criminal Non-Support in 2005, a felony of the fifth degree, and served six months in prison.

Sanson continued to fail to meet his obligation to the remaining child on the case, which was \$375.27 per month. In May 2007, Sanson was again charged with Criminal Non-Support. He pled guilty in August 2007 and was placed on Community Control for five years. On March 21, 2008, Sanson was found guilty by Judge Marvin Shapiro of violating his probation. The judge gave Sanson 90 days to pay \$2,500 toward his arrears. Sanson paid nothing.

*The Criminal Non-Support Program has collected more than \$14 million since 2001. Last year, Summit County CSEA's Criminal Non-Support unit indicted 355 individuals for Criminal Non-Support and collected almost \$3 million dollars.*