

MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

Contact: Laurie Cramer
(330) 643-2800

Woman given five more years of prison for raping daughter

(July 21, 2010 ... Akron) ... Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Stephanie Dye, 42, was given five more years of prison after the Ohio Parole Board heard testimony from her office and a retired Akron detective on the horrendous nature of Dye's crime.

Walsh said, "In 1992, Ms. Dye pled guilty to raping her three-year-old daughter. She also knew that her husband was sexually abusing their five year old son by making him perform sex acts on him, and did nothing to stop the abuse. She is a sexual predator and should not be allowed out of prison. I am glad the parole board agreed."

The Ohio Parole Board heard testimony late yesterday afternoon from Assistant Prosecutor Greg Peacock and retired Akron Police Detective Ed Matthews, who worked on the case at the time. In 1992 Ms. Dye was sentenced to eight to 25 years in prison. She has served 18 of those years. Her husband, Dennis Dye, was given Life for two counts of Rape. The couple lived in Akron at the time of the abuse.

In testimony presented yesterday to the Ohio Parole Board, Assistant Prosecutor Greg Peacock told the board, "As a mother, you have one primary role and that is to protect your children. The role of protector may take on many different forms from providing food and shelter to imposing appropriate discipline to ensuring your kids get to school safely. And at times, many mothers fall short in this role because of lack of self-esteem, lack of financial resources, or because of an abusive spouse or her own abusive upbringing. HOWEVER, there can be NO excuse for Ms. Dye's behavior. She completely and totally abdicated her role as a mother and protector to her children. Her children were removed from her custody and care and were adopted into a new family."

Walsh concluded, "I want to thank retired Akron Police Detective Ed Mathews. He took the time to drive to Columbus to testify alongside Prosecutor Peacock about the importance of keeping Ms. Dye in prison. His testimony was very powerful and his continued dedication to this case and his life in law enforcement is commendable."

On May 4, 2010 the Ohio Parole Board reviewed Dye's case for release consideration and proposed her release. On May 20, 2010, Prosecutor Walsh submitted a petition for a Full Board Hearing. A "full board hearing," is when the entire Ohio Parole Board hears testimony from both sides regarding an offender's proposed release. Ms. Dye will now be eligible for parole again in 2015. Dennis Dye was also up for parole this year and was continued until 2015 (not part of this hearing).

Ms. Dye was also convicted in 1988 of having sex and taking photos of the act with a 14-year-old boy prior to moving to Akron from Indiana. At the time of the abuse of her children, she solicited sex from her 16-year-old niece, who refused and told her grandmother about the request, which started the investigation into the Dye's sexual behaviors.