

## **MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH**

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### **Man Sentenced to 48 Years to Life for Rape, Kidnapping and Robbery**

(Akron, May 24, 2011) ... Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Ricky Martin Veal, 50, of Akron, was sentenced to 48 years to Life for the rape, kidnapping and robbery of a young woman. A jury found Veal guilty of these charges on April 15.

Veal was sentenced to 10 years for Rape, 10 years for Kidnapping and eight years for Robbery. Prior to sentencing, a hearing was held where Judge Stormer found Veal guilty on all specifications attached to the charges, including that Veal was a Sexually Violent Predator and Repeat Violent Offender, which added an additional 10 years to his sentence.

On July 16, 2010 a 27-year-old female was walking from her house to meet her sister. The sister's shift ended at midnight. As she walked, Veal, started calling out to her from his car. She ignored him and kept walking. Veal got out of his car, grabbed her, and threw her into his car. He drove the victim to a wooded lot in Akron and repeatedly hit her and then raped her. Afterwards he threw her out of his car, completely naked, and drove off with her clothing and purse.

The victim ran to multiple houses for help and eventually the police were called. DNA was obtained and matched Veal's profile in the CODIS system. Veal has a prior Rape conviction (1982) and convictions for Gross Sexual Imposition, and Corruption of a Minor (1993).