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NEWS
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Summit County Prosecutor Completes Schismenos Review

AKRON, OHIO – May 16, 2014 – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh today announced the conclusion of a review into the possible connection between felony and juvenile cases and the recordings found on former Akron Police Officer Donald Schismenos' work computer and in his home. After the 2011 review of these recordings was questioned, Prosecutor Walsh requested BCI provide a summary of its investigation.

BCI provided summaries of the 241 computer file folders and VHS tapes found on the City of Akron's server and in Schismenos' home. Of those summaries:

- 50 contained personal videos of Schismenos and his family
- 56 contained information pertaining to routine police work unrelated to a criminal prosecution
- 8 were related to Schismenos' personal legal matters
- 7 contained footage of news shows
- 2 contained nude/pornographic images not related to any case
- 3 were unplayable or empty
- 1 contained a video of a courtroom proceeding in the Federal Court Building in Akron, which has been referred to the US Attorneys' Office
- 114 identified individuals who might have been prosecuted. Our office conducted a further review to determine whether there was any connection to a felony case handled by our office.

After reviewing the 114 summaries potentially connected to criminal cases, the Summit County Prosecutor's Office identified 20 felony cases and one juvenile case connected to Schismenos' recordings. The office also identified connections to 18 possible misdemeanor cases, which were referred to the Akron Law Department for further review. The remaining 75 summaries involved uncharged individuals and other recordings that did not pertain to criminal cases.

After an extensive review, the Summit County Prosecutor's Office found that, in 11 of the cases, the recordings were either previously provided to defense counsel or were unrelated to the charges against the defendants. The office is sending copies of recordings to the defense counsel (or defendant because his attorney is deceased) for the remaining 10 cases.

"Assistant prosecutors in my office conducted a review of the information provided by BCI, the affected case files and the recordings potentially connected to those cases," said Prosecutor Walsh. "If there was any question whether relevant recordings were originally provided to defense counsel, we have mailed them copies. Ironically, many of those recordings would have been beneficial to the prosecution, and I wish my office had received them while the cases were pending."

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Note: The Summit County Prosecutor's Office [summary of review](#) and the [summaries of the files](#) connected to the identified 21 adult and juvenile cases are attached. Names of uncharged individuals and one juvenile have been redacted.