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NEWS

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Victim of Contracting Scam To Receive Free Roof

(April 15, 2009, Akron) ... Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that a concerned citizen, who wishes to remain anonymous, has arranged for a roof to be installed on the home of Rosetta Blanton. Blanton, 84, was one of six victims recently scammed by contractor Joel M Crouch, 40, of Wadsworth.

Crouch pled guilty on February 17, 2009 to Grand Theft and Passing Bad Checks, felonies of the fourth degree, and two counts of Theft from the Elderly, one a felony of the fourth degree and one a felony of the third degree. At sentencing on April 14, Summit County Common Pleas Judge Judy Hunter ordered Crouch to pay back \$41,000 to his victims in addition to serving one year in prison.

Sherri Bevan Walsh said, "It is always a pleasure to see when a victim of a crime is helped and supported by our community. I want to thank the anonymous person who is arranging to have Ms. Blanton's roof fixed. He called our office today and said he wanted to pull together all of the logistics and to help this woman. Ms. Blanton was very appreciative and happy when we called her, as she still needs the new roof and was afraid to hire someone again. Thanks to this wonderful donor, she will not be conned again."