

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

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### **Men sentenced to prison for Robbery**

(December 3, 2009, Akron) ... Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that men who conned their way into someone's home by claiming that they had to use the phone and then robbing them, were sentenced to prison.

Darshawn Hood, 24, of Akron, was sentenced to seven years in prison by Judge Brenda Burnham Unruh. He pled guilty on October 30 to Aggravated Robbery, a felony of the first degree with a mandatory three year firearm specification.

Ernest Shropshire, 23, Akron, was sentenced to nine years in prison by Judge Brenda Burnham Unruh. He pled guilty on November 2 to Aggravated Robbery, a felony of the first degree with a mandatory three year firearm specification, as well as to one count of Possession of Cocaine, a felony of the fifth degree.

Walsh said, "Conning people to open their door to rob them is classic. While one robber gets you to open your door, in this case claiming he needed to use the phone, the other robbers are waiting to rush in once the door is open. Sure enough, Ernest Shropshire was the robber who left after using the phone when two masked gunmen, Hood and Antony Shropshire, immediately entered the residence. The female victim was able to run out the back door to call 911, but the male victim was held at gunpoint while the gunmen demanded money and threatened to kill him.

"Fortunately, these robbers were caught and the victims were not physically hurt, but everyone must be cautious of opening their door to strangers. In fact, I always say the rule should be never to open your door to strangers, no matter how desperate they may appear. Too often we see this type of outcome."

The third co-defendant, Antony Shropshire, 30, of Akron will be sentenced on December 10, 2009 for his role in the Aggravated Robbery. He also pled guilty November 2 with a mandatory three year firearm specification.