

MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

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Man pleads guilty to running down two girls with his truck

(December 31, 2009 Akron) ... Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Phillip Morris, 35, of Warrensville Center Road in N. Randall, pled guilty to two counts of Felonious Assault, 2nd degree felonies, and to Impersonating a Police Officer, a 3rd degree felony.

Morris was in his truck after leaving a downtown Akron bar. He unsuccessfully tried to befriend two girls walking down State Street near the Barley House. He told them he was a police officer and showed them a badge. When they didn't talk to him and ignored him, he got angry and hit the gas on this truck, striking them both and running them over. One girl was run over and left in the street. The second girl was run over and became stuck under his truck. He dragged her up State Street. A police officer saw Morris run the light at State Street and heard the victim yelling from under the truck. A traffic stop was made and other officers responded to help the victim under the truck as well as the other victim left lying in the street. The girls were both injured and taken to area hospitals.

Morris will be sentenced on January 27, 2010 by Judge Brenda Unruh.