

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

Contact: Laurie Cramer  
(330) 643-2800

### **Man Pleads to Telephone Harassment**

(February 25, 2008, Akron) ... Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that William Kirkman, 50, of Akron, pled today to nine counts of telephone harassment, felonies of the fifth degree.

On December 2, 2008, Kirkman called about 150 phone numbers from a phone book with his cell phone. The numbers were to homes all over Summit County, mainly Hudson, Richfield, Copley, Norton, and Bath. The calls that were answered by women he called by name, instructing them to go into the bathroom, and to perform sexual acts on themselves. He also told them not to tell anyone or he would hurt them or their family. In at least one case the defendant said he would slit her children's throats if she didn't comply.

Kirkman was previously declared a Tier III sex offender for prior crimes and was in violation of his parole. He will be sentenced on March 25 in Judge Stormer's courtroom. Six victims were in court today and gave statements to the judge about how terrifying the experience was and how it impacted their lives. Several of them changed their entire routines, including having their children watched constantly at school, until Kirkman was caught. They told the judge that they were surprised at how much Kirkman's words made them fear for their own lives, and the lives of their children.