

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

Contact: Laurie Cramer  
(330) 643-2800

### **Guilty verdict on CODIS robbery case**

(Akron, July 15, 2009) ... Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Heath Crabtree, 38, of Akron, was found guilty by a jury yesterday of Aggravated Burglary, a felony of the first degree, and Robbery, a felony of the second degree. The jury deliberated only one hour before giving its verdict.

Crabtree will be sentenced by Judge Lynne Callahan on July 29, 2009, at 9:00 a.m.

On April 23, 2005, Crabtree broke into an Akron man's home at approximately 10:00 p.m. The victim was in bed and reached for his gun on the nightstand. The two struggled and the man hit Crabtree in the head with his gun, causing him to bleed. Crabtree ran out of the house and escaped police attempts to track him by following the blood.

In July 2007, a DNA match with the defendant was found in the prison DNA system, CODIS. Once Crabtree got out of prison, he was once again unable to be found. The law eventually caught up to him in a facility where he was arrested. The DNA retrieved from the blood on the gun confirmed that the defendant was the assailant from four years ago with a statistical probability of 1 in 169,600,000,000,000,000.