

MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

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Man Sentenced to 12 Years in Prison on Drug Charges

(December 14, 2010, Akron) ... Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Peter Nitzsche, 35, of Stull Ave. in Akron, was sentenced to 12 years in prison.

On November 14, 2010, a jury convicted Nitzsche of two counts of Illegal Manufacture of Methamphetamine, second degree felonies, two counts of Illegal Assembly, third degree felonies, two counts of Possession of Methamphetamine, fifth degree felonies, Domestic Violence, first degree misdemeanor, and Drug Paraphernalia, fourth degree misdemeanor.

On April 20, 2010, patrol officers responded to drug complaints at a home belonging to the mother of Joseph Johnston, co-defendant in this case. Nitzsche and Johnston came out of the house when police arrived. Upon searching the house, a meth lab was found in the basement.

While Nitzsche was out on bond on the drug charges, he and his girlfriend started fighting because she found methamphetamine and parts of a lab in his mother's basement. A physical altercation ensued and she called the police. When police arrived, they found the makings of a lab in his mother's basement.

On November 23, 2010, co-defendant, Joseph Johnston, pled guilty to Manufacture of Methamphetamine, a second degree felony and Possession of Chemicals, a third degree felony. He will be sentenced by Judge Judith Hunter on December 21, 2010. He faces eight years in prison.