

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

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### **Man Convicted of Assaulting Sheriff Deputy**

(January 14, 2010 Akron) ... Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Eric Leaver, 44, of East Sparta, Ohio, was found guilty by a jury of Assault, a felony of the fourth degree, for attacking Summit County Sheriff Deputy Michael Conley. The jury also found him guilty of Obstructing Official Business, a felony of the fifth degree, DUI, Possession of Marijuana, and Weaving, all misdemeanors.

Judge Alison McCarty sentenced Leaver to two years in prison.

On August 7, 2009, at 11:00 p.m. a concerned citizen called 911 to report a drunk driver on Massillon Road in Green. The caller described a man weaving all over the road almost hitting a mail box. Deputy Conley responded to the call and eventually stopped Leaver on I-77S.

After Leaver was arrested for DUI, he was taken to the Sheriff's satellite office in Green. While being booked, he repeatedly uttered profanity at Conley for arresting him. When Leaver was about to be released to a friend who was going to take him home, he punched Deputy Conley in the face. The two struggled and the altercation was broken up by other deputies. Conley was treated and released from the hospital after suffering facial, hand, and back injuries.

Leaver, who had three prior DUIs, had claimed the Deputy attacked him.