

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

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### **Man found guilty of Felonious Assault**

(February 18, 2011...Akron) ... Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Dereck Richardson, 51, of Akron, was found guilty yesterday by visiting Judge Marvin Shapiro in a bench trial of Felonious Assault, a felony of the second degree (with a gun specification).

Richardson will be sentenced on March 21, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. On January 9, 2010 Richardson viciously beat a 48-year old male victim who was working on a drywall job at the South Street Express grocery store.

Store video shows Richardson entering the Express Grocery Store and standing behind the victim. As the victim spoke to the store owner across the counter Richardson was heard calling the victim by his nick name. The victim turned around and extended his hand to shake the defendant's hand when Richardson hit him in the face. Richardson continued to punch and kick the victim at least 18 times in the face and torso. Finally, Richardson pulled up his jacket and showed the victim that he had a gun on his belt. Richardson told the victim "don't come outside..."

The victim went to the hospital and remained for 13 days, three spent in ICU. He suffered from a ruptured spleen, broken ribs, knocked out front tooth, internal bleeding and extensive bruising.