MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

Contact: Laurie Cramer (330) 643-2800

Robber of Eight Auto Parts Stores Sentenced to 15 Years in Prison

(January 13, 2010 Akron) ... Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Cornelius Seals, 40, of Fairhill St. in Waynesburg, Ohio pled guilty to nine counts of **Robbery**, felonies of the second degree, with each count containing a **Repeat Violent Offender Specification** (RVO).

From June 2009 to September 2009, Seals went on a spree robbing Auto Zone and Advanced Auto Parts stores in eight different counties. Each time, Seals waited in the store until there were only a few customers left. He then approached the register, showed the clerk a gun in his waistband and demanded money. The gun turned out to be a BB gun.

When Seals walked into Auto Zone in Macedonia, an employee recognized him from a flier with his photo on it. Another employee went outside to look at the vehicle that also fit the description of his getaway car. Police were called and caught Seals as he was walking out of the store, after having just robbed it.

Seals' was sentenced by Judge Lynne Callahan to 15 years in prison, eight years on the robberies and seven years on the RVO specification, to run consecutive.