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**NEWS**  
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**Parole Denied for 62 year old Rose Yusko**

(Akron) ... The Ohio Parole Board agreed with the request of the Summit County Prosecutor's Office to deny parole for Rose Yusko, 62, currently in prison for the 1983 Attempted Murder of her boyfriend's 12-year-old daughter.

Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh said, "This case was the worst instance of child abuse Summit County has ever seen. The amount of suffering this woman inflicted on the victim, Tara Cook, is appalling. This was not a case of child abuse; it was a case of gross human torture. In 2004, my office testified to the Board, along with Tara, to continue Yusko's sentence due to the severity of her crimes. We also opposed her parole this time and are pleased with the Board's decision to deny her parole request.

"Yusko was the girlfriend of Peter Cook, Tara's father. Together, this Stow couple abused the victim to the point of being one breath away from death. Tara was admitted to Marymount hospital on June 17, 1983 weighing only 40 pounds at 12 years. She had been tortured and deprived of nourishment to the point where she was unconscious, totally unresponsive to verbal or painful stimuli, and hypothermic with labored breathing and no eye reflex. Her eyes were open and the cornea dry. There were burns and open sores over 15 percent of her body from cigars and cigarettes.

"Details during the trial revealed that Cook had been restrained with handcuffs to a chair or naked in the bathtub, forced into a locked closet or handcuffed to the handrail in the basement. In addition to being abused, she was deprived of her basic needs of food and clothing."

Walsh concluded, "I am pleased to report that while this case stands out for many of us as one of the worst we've seen, Tara is doing well and miraculously survived the terror she endured. We will oppose Yusko's parole again in 2012, which is when she is again eligible for a parole review."

In addition to Attempted Murder, Yusko was found guilty of Felonious Assault, Kidnapping, and Endangering Children, and was sentenced on December 19, 1983 to 18 ½ to 55 years in prison; she has served 25 years. Peter Cook, Tara's father, was sentenced to 12-45 years in prison for Felonious Assault, Kidnapping and Endangering

Children for his part in the torture inflicted on Tara. He was released from prison in 2003 after serving nearly 20 years.