

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

Contact: Laurie Cramer  
(330) 643-2800

### **Members of Bloodline gang found guilty**

(March 3, 2009, Akron) ... Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Darshawn McCraney, 20, of Akron and Adolph Owens, 20, of Akron, were found guilty today by a jury of criminal gang activity resulting from a joint University of Akron Police Department and Akron Police Department investigation.

McCraney was found guilty of one count of Robbery, as well as one count of Criminal Gang Activity, felonies of the second degree. Owens was found guilty of two counts of Robbery, and one count of Criminal Gang Activity, felonies of the second degree.

They will be sentenced by Judge Robert Gippin on April 13, 2009.

On October 2, 2008, the two defendants and three others were outside a Speedway gas station on the corner of Exchange and Brown Streets in Akron (co-defendant Jamayne Ruiz pled guilty to Robbery and was sentenced to two years of prison. The other two defendants were juveniles and their cases are pending in juvenile court).

Two Akron college students came out of the Speedway and were approached by the defendants. The group approached them, asking for money. When the victims refused, one of the juvenile defendants punched one of the victims. The victims then immediately ran from the defendants. Several minutes later, a second individual was leaving the same Speedway when he was approached by the same group. The second victim was carrying two cases of beer. Defendant Ruiz punched the second victim and he dropped the beer and ran. This time, an undercover police officer saw the defendants running from the scene. He called nearby units, who apprehended the defendants as they fled the scene.

Akron gang unit officers identified defendants as members of the Bloodline criminal gang. Officers uncovered numerous photographs of the defendant's gang activity. Both the Akron Police gang unit and the University of Akron police were involved in the apprehension and investigation into the criminal gang activity.