

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

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### **Man sentenced to life for raping two boys**

(Akron, August 21, 2009) ... Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Donald Beacham, 20, of Cuyahoga Falls, pled no contest today and was found guilty by Judge Judith Hunter after evidence was presented to the Court, of two counts of Rape, felonies of the first degree, and two counts of Gross Sexual Imposition, felonies of the third degree.

Beacham was sentenced to life in prison on the rapes because both children were under the age of 13. He was also sentenced to five years in prison for both GSI's, to run concurrent to life. He will be eligible for parole after 10 years.

From May 2003 to December 2004, when Beacham was ages 14 and 15, he repeatedly raped two young boys he was babysitting. The children were between the ages of 3 and 5, and 6 and 8. Beacham baby sat several times a week.

In 2008, when the older child was 12 years old, he was sitting in health class and heard something that triggered his memory that he had been sexually abused by Beacham. He told his mother and she took him to counseling; shortly thereafter, she called the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department.

Beacham was bound over from Juvenile Court to Common Pleas Court. After he was sentenced he was taken into custody to begin his prison term.