

## MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

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### Man Sentenced to 14 Years on Drug Charges

(June 29, 2009 Akron) ... Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Dewitt Rucker, 32, of Akron was sentenced to 14 years in prison for **Possession of Cocaine**, a felony of the first degree, **Trafficking in Cocaine**, a felony of the first degree, **Possession of Cocaine**, a felony of the second degree, **Having Weapons While Under Disability**, a felony of the third degree, **Possession of Criminal Tools**, a felony of the fifth degree, and **Possession of Marijuana**, a minor misdemeanor.

On January 2, 2009, detectives executed a search warrant for the house of Everett Whitfield (co-defendant in this case) for being a suspected drug house. Four defendants were indicted with various drug charges and weapon under disability (two guns were found in the home). Rucker was found hiding in a closet next to 11 grams of cocaine.

On April 9, 2009, Everett C. Whitfield, 35, of Akron, pled guilty to Trafficking in Cocaine, a felony of the first degree, and Weapons Under Disability, a felony of the third degree. He received a sentence of five years in prison, consecutive to one year on a domestic violence charge, for a total of six years in prison, contingent upon testifying against his co-defendants.

On July 23, 2009, Dejanette Murry, 27, of Akron, pled guilty to Possession of Cocaine, a felony of the second degree, and was sentenced to two years in prison.

The fourth co-defendant is scheduled for trial on August 31, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. before Judge Lynne Callahan.