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Link:

[Front Porch](#)



Message from the Prosecutor

As prosecutors, we often measure our victories by a defendant being given a long prison sentence because we see it as protecting the community from the possibility of additional crimes. It isn't often that we get to share in seeing some of those same individuals working hard to turn their lives around. I had that experience recently and have to say, I haven't felt that much happiness and job satisfaction in a long time. It was one of those moments you know you will remember for the rest of your life.

South Street Ministries, under the leadership of Pastor Duane Crabs, recently started a lunch café. Called *Front Porch*, it is a place where people are making a difference: those working are staying out of trouble and turning their lives around; those eating are supporting them and are getting some great food!



We recently had an intern lunch at *Front Porch*. While we initially were uncertain about how it would feel to be served by those we had prosecuted in the past, we actually found it to be delightful.

In fact, we found ourselves talking about their stories, talking about their struggles to “stay clean,” “stay out of trouble,” and to “move their lives in a positive direction.” We found ourselves just being people; not prosecutors, not those with convictions, but people. A special thanks to Jennifer, our outstanding waitress, and Donald, who cooked that day.

I was very proud of all of us and want to encourage our readers to go to *Front Porch*. You won't regret it!

GUILTY AT TRIAL

Congratulations Assistant Prosecutors!

Those who obtained a **GUILTY** verdict at trial in June include Jon Baumel, Mike Cody, Jay Cole (2), Steve Neumeyer, Greg Peacock, Dustin Roth, Dan Sallerson, Colleen Sims, and Angela Walls-Alexander.

Did you know? We have a great internship program!

We have a very popular internship program. Over the years, it has grown from what started out as a couple of students interning each semester, to a program that averages 10 to 20 students every semester. The largest number of interns we typically have is during the summer months. Most students have a light course load or are not enrolled in any classes and are able to spend a majority of the work day at our office. Interns come from a variety of disciplines including law students, graduate students, and students from the social work, political science, sociology, psychology, paralegal, and criminal justice programs.

We typically place interns in every division of our office to offer a variety of assignments. One of the more popular assignments given is listening to jail calls. The interns spend hours listening to numerous calls made by inmates at the Summit County Jail. They are listening for any admissions of guilt and evidence that can be used to convict the defendant. Many interns have said that it is amazing the amount of personal things inmates talk about even after they are warned that all their calls are recorded. These interns also help assistant prosecutors in the preparation of their cases and observe trials. Observing trials is also a favorite, especially if this is an intern's first contact with a criminal justice agency.

Every week, an intern brown bag lunch and lecture series is scheduled. Prosecutors and advocates meet with the interns during their lunch hour to discuss what they do and answer any questions they may have. Interns also go on tours of the Summit County Jail, Juvenile Court and Common Pleas Court.

The internships we offer are unpaid and the work days and hours vary. We appreciate the work interns do at our office and the professionalism they bring. If you know of anyone who might be interested in an internship with the prosecutor's office, please have them call Lisa Holdt at (330) 643-2800 or email at holdt@prosecutor.summitoh.net.

Goodbye Director of Communications Laurie Cramer

After five years of working for Prosecutor Walsh, I am leaving my position as Director of Communications for a part-time job that will allow me more time with my two children.



This is the last newsletter I will write. I thought it would be fitting to outline some of my experiences working at the prosecutor's office. As an "average Jane" who isn't an attorney, I have had quite an education.

Contact Us

For information about the Summit County Prosecutor's Office, go to our website at:

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Want to receive con-alerts and other information from the Prosecutor's Office?

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- Having Weapons Under Disability does not mean a person in a wheel chair with a gun.
- There are street terms I have learned that cops and prosecutors know that are not repeatable in a family newsletter.
- Crack is different than cocaine.
- A pervert is a pervert. Not much hope there.
- The first trial I observed was a death penalty case where the man had raped and murdered two little girls. I remember how shocked and disturbed I was that he didn't *look* like the monster he was.
- I haven't given money to people on the corner in a long time, no longer feel compelled to open the door to strangers, and lock my doors while pumping gas (Sherri scolded me on these for years).
- I still believe that parents should be prosecuted along with their children (adult child obviously) when they have neglected and abused them so much that they have become hardened criminals.
- I fear more for my brother's life, who is a police officer in Jacksonville, Florida.
- "The big house" now means prison and not the White House, like I referred to it when I lived in Washington, D.C.
- Most Memorable Case: Hmm...no competition for the Public Information Officer: Kelley Williams-Bolar. I can now say I have officially navigated a viral story. It was fascinating.
- Finally, I guess I can say that O.J. did it.

Best wishes everyone... I will miss you!

Top Cops



Top Cops: Sgt. Kris Beitzel, Officer Brian Armstead, and Joel Harrison, Akron Police Department

Nominated by: Prosecutor Walsh's Victim Services Division

Case: *State vs. Joey Cramer*

Testifying against the man who robbed you at gunpoint can be intimidating to say the least. The victim in this case, a store clerk, reported that these *Top Cops* made being the victim of a crime a little easier by helping him throughout the process. **Sgt. Kris Beitzel, Brian Armstead** and **Joel Harrison** did a thorough investigation and were "very nice" to work with, according to the victim. When the victim came to court for the trial, he had a long wait ahead of him. Officer Armstead took the victim to lunch, and later the two were joined by Officer Joel Harrison. The officers sat and talked to the victim about various things to help keep his mind off of testifying and stayed with him until it was time to testify. The victim told Victim Advocate Maureen Vos that he was "impressed by the treatment of the officers and their kindness," and that it made his wait "actually enjoyable."

Cramer was convicted by a jury of Aggravated Robbery and related counts and was sentenced to nine years in prison.

Way to go, Top Cops!

That's Outrageous!



Rachel Kirk, 59, of Brookpark, stole approximately \$90,000 from the Breast Cancer Fund of Ohio. Kirk used the money for trips to California, Florida, Texas and Minnesota; multiple grills; paying bills; and to pay for her criminal defense attorney. She pled guilty to daughter's Misuse of Credit Cards and will be sentenced by Judge Tom Parker on September 6, at 10:00 a.m.



Laura R. Snider, 41, of Tallmadge, sunk to a real low when she stole her sister-in-law's gift cards. The victim has cerebral palsy. The victim's health aide contacted the police after she realized that the victim had not received the usual gift cards for her birthday from her out of state siblings. After an investigation, Laura Snider was discovered to have taken the cards from the mail and spent the money; \$150. She pled guilty to Receiving Stolen Property, which is a felony because the victim is disabled.

Although Snider did not have a prior record, the judge did not feel that she was truly remorseful and sentenced her to seven 7 days in jail to give her time to think about what she did.

Now that is Outrageous!