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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

January 8, 2013

Re: *State of Ohio vs. William R. Laugherty*, Case #12-CR-0073

On Monday January 7, 2013 Judge Michael P. Kelbley sentenced William R. Laugherty to a term of imprisonment of six (6) months at the Ohio Department of Corrections. Mr. Laugherty, who had no prior criminal convictions, had faced a maximum sentence of twelve (12) months. Mr. Laugherty had been convicted on November 8, 2012 of Theft in Office, a felony of the 5th degree. The Defendant was convicted of committing thefts from the Village of Bloomville while employed as a police officer for the Village during 2011. The investigation was conducted by Chief Deputy Ron Green of the Seneca County Sheriff's Office.

The Village of Bloomville submitted a Victim of Crime claim in the amount of \$1,029.80. In addition to court costs, Mr. Laugherty was ordered to pay restitution as part of his sentence.

Seneca County Prosecutor Derek W. DeVine handled the prosecution of this matter from start to finish. He commented, "Mr. Laugherty abused his position of authority. It was our recommendation that the Court impose a term of prison incarceration to punish Mr. Laugherty and to deter others from committing this type of crime." Mr. Laugherty has requested that a notice of appeal be filed on his behalf.