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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

February 14, 2013

Re: *State of Ohio vs. Samuel J. Christian, 12-CR-0125*

Today the Seneca County Prosecuting Attorney filed a motion to dismiss the 30 count indictment against Samuel J. Christian. The State of Ohio Pharmacy Board had retained a physician to review the prescribing practice of Dr. Christian and that expert was an essential witness for the State at upcoming trial. This expert witness was recently diagnosed with liver cancer and due to this serious physical crisis will be unable to testify.

The Prosecutor has dismissed the indictment in order to allow additional time for the State Pharmacy Board to work with the Prosecutor's office on retaining a new physician to review the medical records and to serve as an expert witness in this matter.

METRICH Unit Coordinator Charles Boyer stated, "Law enforcement and the Prosecutor have to play the hand they are dealt. This matter is not concluded." Prosecuting Attorney Derek W. DeVine said, "I met recently with our expert witness about testifying. While he wanted to continue to help it was apparent that he would be unable to testify in this case due to his medical condition. Our prayers go out to the Doctor and his family as they deal with these tragic events."