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PRESS RELEASE

March 15, 2012

Re: State of Ohio vs. Geoffrey M. Banks

On March 14, 2012, after a three day trial, a Seneca County jury convicted Geoffrey M. Banks of three (3) counts of aggravated trafficking in drugs with school zone specifications, felonies of the 2nd degree. Mr. Banks had been charged with three separate counts for trafficking in illegal oxycodone pills in an amount greater than bulk amount and within 1,000 feet of St. Joseph's School. The case was investigated by the Seneca County METRICH Task Force. Sgt. Donald Joseph was the lead investigator.

At his sentencing hearing today, Assistant Prosecutor Rhonda Best remarked that Mr. Banks was part of a group of drug traffickers who "have flooded our communities with illegal prescription drugs." Persons who become addicted to these illegal prescription drugs often commit theft offenses and burglaries to fund their addiction. Based on the nature of the charges and Mr. Banks' prior criminal history, Ms. Best advocated that "our community needs this offender and those like him incapacitated".

Judge Steve C. Shuff sentenced Mr. Banks to a term of imprisonment of 15 years of mandatory incarceration.

Mr. Banks was represented by Tiffin attorney Charles R. Hall, Jr.