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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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August 25, 2016

**ATHENS, Ohio** – Ernie Lee Bridgeman III, 25, of Nelsonville, Ohio, appeared before Judge Patrick J. Lang on August 24, 2016, and entered a change of plea to guilty to two (2) indictments. In case number 16CR0089, to Illegal Manufacture of Drugs, Illegal Assembly or Possession of Chemicals for the Manufacture of Drugs and Aggravated Possession of Drugs and in case number 16CR0193, to Vandalism.

Judge Lang sentenced Bridgeman to a two (2) year mandatory prison term. Upon his release from incarceration, Bridgeman will be subject to five years of community control as well as three years of mandatory post-release control.

Bridgeman's co-defendant in case 16CR0089, Jessica Nicole Frost, is scheduled to appear in Court on September 13, 2016.

The 16CR0089 case was investigated by the Major Crimes Unit and the 16CR0193 case was investigated by the Nelsonville Police Department.