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Athens County Prosecuting Attorney

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Special Task Force Forms, Tip Line Established**
**(740) 541-1510**

The Athens County Prosecutor's Office, Athens County Sheriff's Office, Athens City Police Department, Ohio University Police Department, Bureau of Criminal Investigation and Identification, and Federal Bureau of Investigations have formed a special task force to investigate tips relating to defendant, Shawn J. Lawson, Jr. Lawson, Jr. is currently being held on a three (3) million dollar bond for three (3) counts of Kidnapping, felonies of the first degree; three (3) counts of Felonious Assault, felonies of the second degree; Attempted Rape, a felony of the second degree; two (2) counts of Rape, felonies of the first degree; and two counts of Aggravated Burglary, felonies of the first degree

Law enforcement has received multiples tips since Lawson's arrest and the task force is investigating all information obtained. In order to ensure that any and all information is received a tip line has been established. Anyone with any information or tips can call (740) 541-1510. Individuals that have made prior reports to law enforcement can utilize the tip line as well. Callers will be required to leave a message on the tip line and a victim advocate will return a call to each message received.

The primary concern of Athens County Prosecuting Attorney, Keller Blackburn and those assisting on the task force is to keep the people of Athens County safe and to ensure everyone can report information they feel is pertinent to Shawn Lawson Jr.'s case. Prosecutor Blackburn is thankful to those that have already come forward to provide leads and he hopes that people continue to come together to seek the truth.

**Task Force Tip Line (740) 541-1510**