

KELLER J. BLACKBURN Athens County Prosecuting Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: Keller J. Blackburn, Athens County Prosecuting Attorney Phone #: 740-592-3208 <u>www.athenscountyprosecutor.org</u> October 11, 2017

ATHENS, Ohio – The Athens County Prosecutor's Office gathered volunteers to provide assistance at the Trimble Township Fall Cleanup Event held on Saturday October 7, 2017.

Sixteen (16) participants from the Athens County Empowerment (ACE) Program came together to make the fall cleanup day a success—helping Trimble Township folks bring in items that traditionally are difficult to dispose of such as unwanted tires from their home. The ACE program is comprised of individuals from not only the Athens County area, but some hail from Cleveland, Columbus, or beyond. Hosting events like the Trimble Township Cleanup Day allows those that live out of town give back to the county where they found themselves on the wrong side of the law.

Chief Investigator Jay Barrett attended the cleanup and offered supervision to ensure everything went smoothly, "we had a lot of participants show up today and put in an honest day's work, we even had a few community members stick around and volunteer their time." Prosecutor Keller Blackburn added, "we order community service as part of my program because it is important to see these individuals give their time and prove responsibility and commitment to moving their lives in a more positive direction."

Blackburn looks forward to more cleanup events around the county for those in his ACE program. "Area events that allow for community service hours to be filled is a win-win situation, as I mentioned, we want our ACE participants to help improve Athens County; we are always looking to partner with townships and non-profits for these opportunities."

Pictures included with email.