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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: Eric Hoffman, Prosecuting Attorney
Subject: Press Release
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Investigation into the Timothy Way Double Murder Suicide is Concluded

Muncie Indiana – On Sunday April 28, 2019, Casey Ritchie and Denise Miles' oldest daughter came to Ritchie's residence located at 5012 N. Timothy Way, Muncie Indiana. When she entered the residence, she found Casey Ritchie, deceased, on a bedroom floor with a handgun in his hand. She left the residence and called 911. At approximately 4:04 p.m. the Delaware County 911 Dispatch Center received a call for service at the Timothy Way residence. Delaware County Sheriff's Deputies and Delaware County EMS responded. Upon arrival, three (3) deceased individuals were located in the residence. From a visual examination, it appeared that all three sustained gunshot wounds. The deceased individuals inside the residence were Casey Ritchie, 58, Denise Miles, 45, and Rylee Ritchie, 14. Casey and Denise are the father and mother of Rylee.

The Delaware County Sheriff's Department has completed a thorough investigation and has turned it over to the Delaware County Prosecutor's Office for review. That review is now finished.

At the outset, I want to stress that there are but two (2) victims in this case: Denise Miles and Rylee Ritchie.

The evidence in this case conclusively and without a doubt demonstrates that Casey Ritchie intentionally executed Denise Miles and Rylee Ritchie. There is no evidence to suggest otherwise. Casey Ritchie shot Denise twice in the back. A forensic pathologist determined that Denise's cause of death was multiple gunshot wounds and her death was a homicide. Casey Ritchie shot Rylee Ritchie, his own daughter, twice in the chest. A forensic pathologist determined that Rylee's cause of death was multiple gunshot wounds and her death was a homicide.

Sometime after he perpetrated the murders, Casey Ritchie turned his gun on himself in a cowardly attempt to escape being held accountable for the heinous crimes that he committed. Ritchie sustained one self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head and died as a result. His death was ruled a suicide.

The evidence tends to indicate that the murders and the suicide took place between Wednesday April 24, 2019 and Saturday April 27, 2019.

There has been much discussion and debate regarding Ritchie's motive to commit such heinous crimes. The investigation has uncovered some evidence as to Ritchie's motive. However, given the fact that there is pending civil litigation, I will not comment or speculate on Casey Ritchie's motive.

Casey Ritchie is the sole suspect in the investigation. Had Casey Ritchie not committed suicide, he would have faced numerous criminal charges including two (2) counts of murder. However, no charges will be filed in this matter, as the only suspect is deceased. This criminal investigation is now officially closed.

I want to remind the public that every person has an absolute duty to report suspected child abuse and neglect. If you have reason to believe that a child may be the victim of child abuse or neglect, you must report that to either DCS or a local law enforcement agency. Failure to do so is a crime. Additionally, if a family member or friend manifests symptoms of mental illness, it is crucial that you take action to ensure that the friend or family member obtains the mental health treatment that they may need.

I want to thank the Delaware County Sheriff's Department for conducting a very thorough investigation as well as the Muncie Police Department, the Indiana State Police Crime Scene Division, Indiana State Police Crime Laboratory, and Indiana State Police Cyber Crime Lab for assisting in the investigation.

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