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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: Eric M. Hoffman, Prosecuting Attorney
Tony Skinner, Delaware County Sheriff
Nathan Sloan, Muncie Police Department Chief of Police
Date: March 24, 2021

FORMATION OF MUNCIE/DELAWARE COUNTY DRUG TASK FORCE

Muncie Indiana – The Indiana Supreme Court has said that “purveyors of cocaine and illegal narcotic drugs are a menace to society.” We could not agree more. Delaware County Prosecutor Eric Hoffman said that:

Drug Dealing is a crime against the public at large. It not only affects the immediate families of the perpetrator and the buyer, it also affects our entire community. It is a dangerous and oftentimes violent endeavor that has ruined countless lives. Drug dealing deteriorates the quality of life in this community. Everyone who works in law enforcement knows all too well that drug dealing and violent crime go hand in hand. The more drug dealers you lock up, the less violent crime you will have.

Therefore Prosecuting Attorney Eric Hoffman, Sheriff Tony Skinner, and Muncie Police Chief Nathan Sloan are pleased to announce that the Delaware County Sheriff's Office has joined forces with the Muncie Police Department to reunite the unit formerly known as the Muncie / Delaware County Drug Task Force. This unit had remarkable success in the identification, arrest, and prosecution of major drug dealers and drug traffickers. This will again be the focus of the new unit with the hopes of making Delaware County a safer place for everyone. The unit will be staffed with law enforcement officers and investigators from the Sheriff's Office as well as the Muncie Police Department. It is our combined vision that officers from

neighboring agencies will eventually join the task force. The more resources we have at our disposal, the more successful the outcome will be.

Delaware County Sheriff Tony Skinner said that:

the unit has been working together for several weeks and is actively pursuing drug dealers within Muncie and Delaware County. Reuniting the Drug Task Force was one my goals when I began campaigning for Sheriff four years ago. Police Chief Nathan Sloan, Prosecutor Eric Hoffman and I have the same vision for this unit: making the neighborhoods of Muncie and Delaware County a safer place for you and your families. Sending drug dealers to prison is a great start to obtaining this goal.

Muncie Police Chief Nathan Sloan said that:

drug crimes, critical incidents, and deaths associated with drugs and illegal substances are a problem in every community and Muncie/Delaware County is no exception. The Muncie Police Department will be allocating significant resources and manpower to support this vital initiative. Prosecutor Hoffman, Sheriff Skinner, and I are committed to aggressively pursuing the flow of illegal narcotics into our community and bringing offenders to justice.

We have one united message to send to drug dealers who want to sell deadly poison in our community: stop selling drugs or do it somewhere else. We are here to tell you that if you deal drugs in our community, you will be aggressively investigated and face arrest and vigorous prosecution.

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