



## **Warren County Prosecutor's Office Honored by Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections presented the Warren County Prosecutor's Office with the 2017 DRC Impact Award during a ceremony held today at Lebanon Correctional Institution. The award is in recognition of the office's efforts in two cases involving Warren Correctional Institution.

In 2016, Assistant Prosecutor John Arnold successfully prosecuted 11 inmates who participated in a riot occurring at Warren Correctional Institution on July 22, 2015. A group of inmates who were in the dayroom area of their cell block argued over the use of telephones. This escalated to a large scale riot involving a number of inmates, many of whom were affiliated with two prison gangs, the Aryan Brotherhood and Cincinnati Wild Boys. The 11 inmates were convicted of aggravated riot.

Also in 2016, Assistant Prosecutor Christopher Delnicki successfully prosecuted a former Warren Correctional Institution corrections officer, Robert Dunson, for bribery. Dunson accepted money in the form of Kroger gift cards from inmates' families, and in exchange, Dunson would bring tobacco into the prison and give it to the inmates. During the period of January 2016 through May 2016, Dunson received a total of \$30,386 for the tobacco.

"We have close to a thousand male and female prison employees who work at Warren Correctional Institution and Lebanon Correctional Institution. These facilities hold approximately 3,000 'Level 3' inmates, over 40% of which are gang members. It's a very demanding and dangerous environment," said Warren County Prosecutor David P. Fornshell.

"When inmates riot, or when corrections officers sneak tobacco, drugs, or other contraband into these facilities, it greatly affects the safety of the prison staff. Our goal is to make sure the men and women who work there are able to safely go home to their families every night, which is why we prosecute these types of cases as aggressively as possible.

This recognition that the state has given to Assistant Prosecutors John Arnold and Christopher Delnicki for the successful outcomes they achieved in these cases is well-deserved,” Fornshell said.



**Assistant Prosecutors John Arnold (left) and Christopher Delnicki (right) accept the 2017 DRC Impact Award**

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