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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City Attorney Partnering with Homeless Coalition

COLUMBUS, OH—Columbus City Attorney Richard C. Pfeiffer, Jr. announced a joint effort between his office and *Street Speech*, a monthly newspaper published by the Columbus Coalition for the Homeless. The City Attorney's office will provide content for a regularly occurring column dedicated to criminal justice issues in Columbus.

“We are pleased to be entering into this partnership with the Columbus Coalition for the Homeless,” said City Attorney Richard C. Pfeiffer, Jr. “We hope larger segments of the Columbus community become more aware of *Street Speech* and help support the vendors.”

According to their mission statement, *Street Speech* is intended to:

- act as a voice for the most vulnerable members of the community while advocating for issues of social and economic justice;
- foster self-sufficiency by providing a source of income to people living in poverty;
- create awareness of the issues of poverty and homelessness through newspaper content and positive interaction between vendors and community members.

“The goal of *Street Speech* and the Columbus Coalition for the Homeless is to educate and serve the community at large,” said Jess Peacock, Editor of *Street Speech*. “To this end, our new partnership with the City Attorney will serve an important function of drawing more attention to the social and socio-economic issues that drive not only poverty and homelessness, but crime as well.”

The City Attorney's proposed content includes information that will educate the public about the criminal justice system, help bring offenders to justice, and help reduce the amount of active warrants on the books.

With over 100,000 arrest warrants currently outstanding in Franklin County—and thousands more being added each year—City Attorney Chief of Staff Bill R. Hedrick will work with *Street Speech* to highlight the Fugitive Warrant Program he developed on behalf of City Attorney Pfeiffer.

The warrant program is a multi-media venture promoted through the City Attorney's website, press releases, social media accounts, and television program on CTV.

“I am excited to work with *Street Speech*, which helps the homeless and now will help us bring wanted offenders to justice,” said Chief of Staff Bill R. Hedrick.

Vendors buy *Street Speech* from the Columbus Coalition for the Homeless for \$0.25 per newspaper. Vendors offer the newspapers in exchange for a donation of an amount chosen by the donor, which is typically one dollar.

Vendors must adhere to a code of conduct and can be identified by their badges.

Street Speech is a member of the North American Street Newspaper Association (NASNA) and the International Network of Street Papers.

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