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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Owner of ‘Killer’ Canine Still on the Loose

Ex-con wanted for violating probation, failing to pay restitution to victims

COLUMBUS, OH—Columbus City Attorney Richard C. Pfeiffer, Jr. announced that a 34 year-old east side resident wanted for violating probation is the latest target of his “Fugitive of the Week” program. Andre Barker, whose extensive criminal record includes multiple charges of drug trafficking and corrupt activities, pleaded no contest for allowing his dogs to attack and kill several animals in 2006. As part of his sentence, Barker was ordered to pay restitution to the owners of the pets that were injured or killed.

Six years later, he still has not paid the victims nor has he paid his fines and court costs. He appeared at Fugitive Safe Surrender last year in an attempt to get his warrants waived. However, authorities believe he quickly left after realizing he owed six months in jail for not complying with the original terms and conditions of his probation.

“Probation violations are one of the primary reasons several thousand arrest warrants are issued in Franklin County each year,” said City Attorney Richard C. Pfeiffer, Jr.

On May 15, 2006 Barker’s pit bulls, one of which reportedly had a chain around its neck in place of a collar and appeared to have stitches that were “not done by a veterinarian,” entered a neighbor’s gated backyard and killed her dog, Shelby. Shelby’s bleeding body was dragged around the yard by the neck until Barker’s dogs ran off and started going house to house menacing children and other dogs in the neighborhood.

Two weeks later, one of Barker’s pit bulls killed another neighbor’s dog, a half-Maltese, half-Yorkshire Terrier the owner had inherited from his deceased mother. According to reports, Barker entered the victim’s backyard during the attack and yelled at the victim to get back into his house as the pit bull mangled the lifeless “morkie” in its mouth.

The next day Barker’s pit bull struck again, managing to enter the same neighbor’s house and attacked Bernie, a mixed breed, in the living room. Bernie survived the attack but required surgery.

“Mr. Barker’s dogs terrorized an entire neighborhood,” said Assistant City Prosecutor Bill R. Hedrick. “While the years have passed, the scars—both literally and figuratively—remain.”

Hedrick, who leads the fugitive apprehension program on Mr. Pfeiffer’s behalf, originally brought charges against Barker for the dog attacks and successfully prosecuted him in 2006. Barker’s past criminal record includes multiple counts of domestic violence, assault, felony drug possession, felony theft, criminal trespass, aggravated menacing, resisting arrest, receiving stolen property, obstructing official business, trafficking crack cocaine, and engaging in a pattern of corrupt activity.

Per state law, the City Attorney’s office can only prosecute misdemeanor crimes, not felonies. Anyone with information on Andre Barker is asked to contact Bill Hedrick at 614.645.8874 or brhedrick@columbus.gov.

WANTED



ANDRE LAMAR

BARKER

(AKA Terry Tywan Barker)

DOB: 4/18/1978 (Age 34)

Height: 5'10" **Weight:** 185

Hair: Black **Eyes:** Brown

Last Known Address:

1007 Rose Pl.
Columbus, Ohio 43227

Case Number(s):

2006 ERB 072391

2006 ERB 072543

Charge(s):

955.22(D) – Confine Vicious Dog (five counts)

2327.11 – Animal Running At Large (five counts)