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Serial Thief Sought

Suspect with 36-year history of theft and violence currently wanted for stealing Oshkosh and onesies

COLUMBUS, OH—Columbus City Attorney Richard C. Pfeiffer, Jr. announced that 54 year-old East Side resident Judith Garrison is the latest target of his "Fugitive of the Week" program after she failed to appear in court to answer a theft charge. Garrison, who allegedly has operated under nearly a dozen aliases and two social security numbers, has been charged with some form of theft (larceny, grand theft, felony theft, petty theft, and robbery) at least 26 times since her first arrest as an adult in December 1975.

Her current charge arose out of a March 28, 2012 incident when she reportedly was caught stealing 22 articles of clothing from the boy's department of a Polaris Fashion Place retail store.

"Retailers often have a narrow profit margin and what some may consider petty theft can have a big impact on the bottom line of our local merchants," said City Attorney Richard C. Pfeiffer, Jr. "We hope that targeting alleged serial thieves such as Judith Garrison can help protect small business owners and consumers."

Garrison is accused of selecting multiple clothes items from various displays and placing them on the floor in the back corner of the display area. She then placed the clothes items in a large plastic bag, which she put into another bag, and attempted to walk out of the store. The boys' clothing she allegedly attempted to steal included three pairs of Oshkosh shorts, four Adidas shirts, 10 American Living polo shirts, and several sets of infant sleepwear. The total retail value of the items was \$261.

"I doubt this is a case of a down-on-her-luck grandmother who made a poor decision," said Assistant City Prosecutor Bill R. Hedrick, who leads the fugitive apprehension program on Pfeiffer's behalf. "For over 35 years, Ms. Garrison has been rampaging across Ohio like Bonnie and Clyde—but without Clyde."

Garrison has spent much of her adult life, starting when she was 18, committing crime. Previous charges against her include assault, larceny, grand theft, felony theft, possession of criminal tools, resisting arrest, criminal trespass, illegally carrying a concealed weapon, drug abuse, assault with a weapon, and robbery. During her decades-long criminal career she has been arrested throughout Ohio, including Alliance, Boardman, Clairsville, Franklin Township, Lancaster, London, Miamisburg, Newark, Springfield, Steubenville, and Columbus numerous times.

Anyone with information on Judith Garrison, whose 11 other aliases are listed below, should contact Bill Hedrick at 614.645.8874 or brhedrick@columbus.gov.

WANTED



JUDITH GARRISON

AKA: Janice Brown, Judith Brown, Jane Garrison, Judith May Garrison, Judy Mae Garrison, Judy May Garrison, Judy Holley, Judy Holly, Judy M. Garrison, Judy Garrison, Mary Brown

DOB: 7-2-57 (Age 54)

Height: 5'6" Weight: 200 Hair: Brown Eyes: Brown

Last Known Address:

86 N. 21st St. Columbus, Ohio 43203

Case Number(s): 2012 CRB 009830

Charge(s): 2913.02(A1) - Theft