

Contact: Bill R. Hedrick FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Phone: 614.645.8874

Email: <u>brhedrick@columbus.gov</u>

Exotic Dancer Wanted on 10 Charges

Suspect accused of driving drunk while holding infant, transporting three other minors after her shift

COLUMBUS, OH—Columbus City Attorney Richard C. Pfeiffer, Jr. announced that 23 year-old West side resident Ashley Graves is the latest target of his "Fugitive of the Week" program. Graves is wanted for failing to appear in court to answer 10 charges against her, including OVI, driving under suspension, operating a motor vehicle without a license, and four counts of child endangering.

"Perhaps some individuals mistakenly believe they can opt out of their day in court, but that's not the case," said City Attorney Richard C. Pfeiffer, Jr. "Hopefully the public will help us bring Ashley Graves to justice."

On January 20, 2011 Graves reportedly was found intoxicated in a minivan in an alley near S. Hague Ave. An infant was sitting on her lap while she talked on a cell phone. Three other children also were found in the vehicle, a six year-old boy in the passenger seat and a two year-old girl and another baby less than a year-old seated in the back of the van.

All four children were later determined to be her nieces and nephews, as Graves' sister allegedly asked her to pick up the children from daycare after Graves finished her afternoon shift as a dancer at Columbus Gold. Graves reportedly admitted that she was allowed up to four drinks during her shift and indicated that she went to a friend's house after picking up the children.

Graves was not supposed to be driving. Her license originally was suspended in 2008 and she had been charged previously with driving under suspension, on 5-8-2009 and 12-19-2010. Other prior charges against Graves include felony theft, felony unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, felony receiving stolen property, and obstructing official business.

"Ms. Graves can't dance around these charges," said Assistant City Prosecutor Bill R. Hedrick, who leads the fugitive apprehension program on Pfeiffer's behalf. "Hopefully we can bring her into custody before her poor judgment—which already includes skipping out on her court date, driving while impaired and under suspension, and endangering the lives of young children—leads to something more tragic."

Anyone with information on Ashley Graves, who is also known as Ashley Back and Ashley Hurst, should contact Bill Hedrick at 614.645.8874 or brhedrick@columbus.gov.

As always, the subjects of the City Attorney's "Fugitive of the Week" program are strongly encouraged to seek legal counsel and turn themselves in. The <u>Columbus Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service</u> can be reached at 614.221.0754 and the <u>Franklin County Public Defender's Office</u> can be reached at 614.525.3194.

WANTED



ASHLEY R. GRAVES

AKA: Ashley Back and Ashley Hurst

DOB: 10-20-88 (Age 23)

Height: 4'11" Weight: 112 Hair: Black Eyes: Blue

Last Known Address:

683 S. Wheatland Ave. Columbus, Ohio 43204

Case Number(s):

2012 TRC 102661 2012 CRB 000887

Charge(s):

2133.01(A)(1)(A) - OVI Impaired 2133.01(A)(1)(H) - OVI Per Se Breath "High Levels" 2141.11(A) - Driving Under Suspension (two counts) 2141.16(A) - Driving Under FRA Suspension 2141.12(A1) - No Operator License 2919.22(A) - Endangering Children (four counts)