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CUYAHOGA COUNTY PROSECUTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Ohio Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Announces Winning Entries of Ohio Media School Public Service Announcement Project

CLEVELAND, OH – Cuyahoga County Prosecutor Michael C. O'Malley announced that the Ohio Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) and the Ohio Media School have partnered to produce two Public Service Announcements designed to educate and inform the public about the dangers of the internet, online interactions, and sharing too much personal information.

In October 2017, students enrolled in the “Thirty Second Commercial” program met with members of the ICAC Task Force who provided guidelines to help them to develop, direct, and produce the PSAs.

Instructor Rafeeq Roberts guided the students throughout the semester. Five PSAs were produced, which were then narrowed down to three. A panel of ICAC representatives selected the top two PSAs based on the message, quality, relevance, creativity, and professionalism.

“Sharing Too Much” is a 36-second video produced by Ohio Media School students Barbara Canidate, Xavier Crocker, Demetrius Dodson, Matthew Hammad, Lana Lattimore, Audrey O'Bryon, and Jataya Wiley. The video illustrates the dangers of using mobile apps like Snapchat, which broadcasts the user's geographical location to friends, as well as strangers. The message is simple: oftentimes, today's youth and teenagers are so immersed in technology they do not see the dangers that are lurking behind them.

“Videogames” is a 37-second video produced by Ohio Media School students Kailand Hych, Cynthia Overton, Kevin Mar II, Josh Blair, Rashi Leak, Jaivon Thornton, and Theodor McQueen. The video serves as a reminder that while video games can be fun, they connect children with

random users, and in some cases, child predators who use these video games to groom children into illicit or dangerous situations.

Both PSAs will be shared with more than 350 law enforcement agencies affiliated with ICAC throughout the State. The PSAs will also be included in ICAC's Internet safety presentations, public events, and other community outreach initiatives that the task force participates in as part of its mission.

The task force hopes to continue this partnership with the Ohio Media School and produce additional internet safety content again this year.

Ohio ICAC is run under the direction of the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office and funded in part by a grant from the Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

The task force conducts proactive and reactive investigations dealing with the online exploitation of children and provides training and technical assistance to more than 350 local, state and federal criminal justice affiliated agencies throughout the state of Ohio.

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