



## Franklin County Court of Common Pleas General Division

### PRESS RELEASE

February 26, 2016

**From:** Office of the Administrative Judge

**Contact:** Lori Francescon, 614.525.7367

### Probation Officer Recognized

Today the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, General Division, recognized Brent Willoughby for his outstanding performance and contribution to the Franklin County Adult Probation Department.

On February 11, 2016, Brent Willoughby, Probation Officer, spent almost 45 minutes on the phone “talking down” an armed probationer in the Easton Town Center who was making a number of incoherent and situation inappropriate statements. While talking to the probationer, Mr. Willoughby was also able to alert his supervisor concerning the probationer’s mental health issues, erratic behavior, and reported possession of two guns.

Mr. Willoughby kept the probationer on the line, and learned his exact location in the Easton Town Center. This information was passed along to the Columbus Police Department, who apprehended the probationer without incident. He had a loaded gun and \$9,000 cash on his person, as well as two pounds of marijuana in his car.

The probationer’s erratic behavior was minimized by the efforts of Mr. Willoughby. His actions resulted in preserving public safety and furthering the Court’s mission to effectively supervise offenders.

Lori Francescon, Chief Probation Officer, said, “Officer Willoughby is a true representative of the exceptional employees in our department that do incredible work each and every day. I commend Officer Willoughby for his outstanding service and commitment to the safety of our community.”

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