



MICHAEL C. O'MALLEY
CUYAHOGA COUNTY PROSECUTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, September 9, 2019

**John Pugnea Indicted on Multiple Counts
for Attack on North Royalton Police Officer**

CLEVELAND – Cuyahoga County Prosecutor Michael C. O'Malley announced that a Grand Jury returned an indictment charging John Pugnea, 57, for attacking North Royalton Police Officer Alexandra Bell, 28.

“Pugnea viciously assaulted a Police Officer who was simply trying to do her job,” said Prosecutor O'Malley. “He will be held accountable for this violent, inexcusable attack.”

On August 18, 2019, Officer Bell responded to a residence near Lynn Dr and York Rd for a report of a male driving erratically and making threats to another driver earlier in the day. Upon arriving, the Officer exited her vehicle and began asking Pugnea questions related to the incident. He refused multiple commands and began fighting with the Officer. He pushed her to the ground and punched her multiple times in the face while stating that he was going to kill her. The victim was able to free herself from underneath Pugnea and another officer who responded to the scene arrested him. The victim had to be transported to a hospital for treatment.

Pugnea has been indicted on the following charges:

- 1 count of Attempted Murder
- 1 count of Felonious Assault
- 1 count of Assault
- 3 counts of Aggravated Menacing

Pugnea is scheduled to be arraigned on Thursday, September 12, at 8:30am at the Cuyahoga County Justice Center.

Contact: Ryan Miday, Director of Communications and Public Policy. Phone: 216.443.7488 or Email: rmiday@prosecutor.cuyahogacounty.us