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# CITY OF ATHENS POLICE DEPARTMENT

**THOMAS D. PYLE II, CLEE, CHIEF OF POLICE**

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

January 14, 2016

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Athens Chief of Police:

Tom Pyle (740)592-3315

Athens Investigative Lieutenant:

Jeff McCall (740)592-3315

## **SEXUAL ASSAULT INVESTIGATION**

The Athens, Ohio Police Department is actively investigating two separate but related violent assaults which took place in Athens between 2006 and 2015.

On June 20, 2015, at approximately 2:00 AM, a female was walking home from the uptown area. As she walked through the parking lot at the rear of 19 E. Carpenter St, an unknown suspect approached her from behind and attempted to sexually assault her but was scared away by others walking in the area.

DNA evidence obtained as a result of the investigation was submitted to the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation for analysis. The results of the analysis showed the suspect from the 2015 assault was the same suspect that had been identified by DNA in a sexual assault reported in 2006. The details of the 2006 sexual assault are very similar to the 2015.

In the 2006 incident, the female victim was also walking home from the uptown area when she noticed an unknown white male following her. After arriving home, the suspect illegally entered the victim's home and forcibly raped the victim and then fled the scene. The victim described the suspect as being 5'08" to 5'10" tall, weighing 130 to 150 pounds, with short light-colored hair. This description is very similar to the description provided by the victim of the 2015 incident.

We are seeking information on the suspect who is described as a white male in his late twenties to early thirties, 5'8" to 5'9" tall, and weighing approximately 160 pounds. The attached composite was developed by the victim of the 2015 incident. If you have any information related to these two incidents or know the identity of the suspect, please provide it to the Athens Police Department in one of the following methods: Call (740)566-4208 to provide your information to an officer (8:00 AM to 4:00 PM); Visit <http://www.ci.athens.oh.us/FormCenter/Athens-Police-Department-4/Crime-Tip-44> and complete a Crime Tip; or Call (740)592-3313. If you believe you were a victim of this subject, in addition to



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the previously mentioned methods for providing your information, you are also encouraged to visit <http://www.ci.athens.oh.us/FormCenter/Athens-Police-Department-4/Have-You-Been-a-Victim-45> and complete the form. Crime tips can also be provided to Athens County Crime Solvers Anonymous by calling (740)594-3331.

