



## PRESS RELEASE

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### ASHTABULA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ANNOUNCE VIRTUAL DISCUSSION ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE BALLOT INITIATIVE AND COMMUNITY CORRECTION & REHABILITATION FACILITY

**ASHTABULA COUNTY, OHIO, OCTOBER 1, 2021** – The Ashtabula County Board of Commissioners and the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Department will be conducting a virtual discussion on October 12<sup>th</sup> at 12pm on the Criminal Justice Ballot Initiative and Community Correction & Rehabilitation Facility (CCRF). Participants can register in advance on the Ashtabula County Community Corrections and Rehabilitation Facility website [www.ashtabulacounty.us/CCRF](http://www.ashtabulacounty.us/CCRF) and click on the Webinar Registration for October 12<sup>th</sup>. Participants will complete the webinar registration and receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Board President Kathryn Whittington remarked, "This is an opportunity for residents to hear first-hand about the CCRF project, which will allow needs to be met for those entering into the criminal justice system, helping to keep our community safe."

"This is both a public safety issue and an economic development issue. We want to have consequences, but we also want the opportunity for mental health and addiction issues to be addressed while people are at the jail so when they are released, they have more tools and are less likely to reoffend. This helps everyone." added Commissioner J. P. Ducro.

Commissioner Casey Kozlowski stated, " It's my hope that people take advantage of this additional opportunity to learn more about this project in Ashtabula County."

Sheriff William Niemi stated, "As your Sheriff I believe in being transparent and letting the public know the issues with our current jail and what is needed to combat the crime in our community and help solve our problems. We have to have immediate consequences for the actions of criminals and have a facility to put them to keep criminals off the streets thus keeping our community safe. I hope you stand with me and support issue 1 to make a difference."

We encourage you to be educated on this initiative and attend this discussion. For more detailed information, visit the website at [www.ashtabulacounty.us/CCRF](http://www.ashtabulacounty.us/CCRF) to learn more.

This November, Issue One will be on the ballot and will help generate funds necessary for the construction and staffing of the facility as well as provide 6 additional road deputies.