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***For Immediate Release***

## **Mateen Cleaves Charged in Alleged Sexual Assault**

Prosecutor Kym Worthy has charged Mateen Cleaves, 39, of Grand Blanc, Michigan in connection with an alleged sexual assault of a 24-year-old Mount Morris, Michigan woman. On September 14, 2015, Cleaves was at a charity golf outing where he was introduced to the complainant, her boyfriend and several co-workers. After the outing, Cleaves and the group went to a local bar where they had drinks. On September 15, 2016, at approximately 1:00 a.m., they all left the bar. The complainant's boyfriend gave a friend a ride home. The victim, thinking they would return to the golf club, rode with Cleaves in his car. It is alleged that Cleaves took the complainant to a motel located in the 2400 block of West Grand Blanc, in Mundy Township, held her in a room against her will, and sexually assaulted her. The complainant was able to escape from the room and received assistance from a woman in a nearby room. The case was investigated by the Mundy Township Police Department. Further information about the case will be presented in court at the preliminary examination.

On October 23, 2015, the case was transferred to the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office by the Prosecuting Attorney's Coordinating Counsel. Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton requested the transfer due to a possible conflict of interest with a potential witness in the case. Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Lisa Lindsey will prosecute the case in Genesee County.

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Today Cleaves has been charged with Unlawful Imprisonment (15-year maximum penalty), Assault with Intent to Commit Criminal Sexual Penetration (10 year maximum penalty), Criminal Sexual Conduct Second Degree (15-year maximum penalty) and two counts of Criminal Sexual Conduct Third Degree (15-years maximum penalty).

Prosecutor Worthy said, "The evidence in this case will show that the alleged actions of this defendant were not only criminal, but arose out of a sense of entitlement sometimes found in prominent people."

The arraignment on the warrant will not take place today. Arrangements are being made for Cleaves to turn himself for processing and arraigned in 67<sup>th</sup> District Court in Genesee County on March 17, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

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