



NEWS RELEASE

From Mayor Dean DePiero

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Parma Mayor and Cleveland Metroparks to Increase Police Patrols in West Creek Reservation Area

(Parma) – Parma Mayor Dean DePiero and Cleveland Metroparks are planning to increase police presence in the city's West Creek Preservation area following the weekend attack of a 52 year-old Strongsville woman near Camp Corde on W. Ridgewood Drive.

"From all indications, this was an isolated incident," says Mayor DePiero. "It appears the attacker took advantage of a woman walking alone in a park. The area has no history of serious crime. Nonetheless, this was a brutal crime. We plan to take a pro-active approach by increasing routine patrols in the area, trying to deter a random crime of this nature from happening again."

Chevonne Ecclestone remains in critical condition at MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland. Police say a 39-year old Parma resident, Todd A. Torok, has been charged with attempted murder, felonious assault and aggravated robbery. He was arrested following a high-speed chase in Ecclestone's stolen Pontiac Vibe.

"Parma police and Cleveland Metroparks Rangers are aggressively staying on top of this very serious issue," says Mayor DePiero. "We're also reminding our residents and visitors that we have a safe community, but we can take nothing for granted. The reality is our relatively low crime rate does not make Parma or any city immune to random violence of this nature."

Parma Police are asking anyone who may have been approached or may have information relative to this incident to call 440-885-1234.

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