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39 charges, \$5M bond follow eviction standoff

Shawn Dignty
Zanesville Times Recorder
USA TODAY NETWORK

DRESDEN – Thirty-nine charges and a \$5 million bond. That’s a 45-year-old Dresden woman faces after an eviction became a standoff and shootout with tear gas, a drone, a battering ram and an armored truck.

Rebecca Theresa Ann Besser has been detained in the Muskingum Coun-

ty Jail since the incident. She was indicted April 1 on 39 felonies: one count of attempted murder, a first-degree felony; three counts of attempted aggravated murder, first-degree felony; two counts of inducing panic, second-degree felony; one count of obstructing justice, fifth-degree felony; and 32 counts of felonious assault, all first- or second-degree felonies.

Besser had been a tenant in an apartment on Dresden’s West Ninth Street

and was facing eviction March 25. Early interactions between her and local law enforcement turned into a stalemate when she refused to leave.

Authorities contacted Besser multiple times through phone calls and PA announcements and deployed tear gas, but she remained inside.

Police eventually formed a perimeter and used a BearCat armored unit and its

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NASA astronaut Christina Koch, left, takes control of the Orion spacecraft during a manual piloting test of the Artemis II mission. To her right is CSA (Canadian Space Agency) astronaut Jeremy Hansen and NASA astronaut Victor Glover. PROVIDED BY NASA

Ohio’s NASA centers helped power Artemis II

Amani Bayo
Columbus Dispatch
USA TODAY NETWORK

Before NASA’s Artemis II mission journeyed to the far reaches of space, the Orion spacecraft underwent rigorous testing right here in Ohio.

Engineers spent nearly a decade put-

ting Orion through deep-space stress tests before Artemis II at NASA’s Neil Armstrong Test Facility in Sandusky, according to the NASA Glenn Research Center in Cleveland. And that’s not the only role Ohio has played in the first human lunar flyby since Apollo 17 in 1972.

Ohio researchers spent years developing, managing and testing key parts

of the Orion spacecraft now carrying four astronauts on their 10-day mission around the moon and back.

Aaron Weaver, chief of the Human Exploration and Space Operations Projects Office at NASA Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, said the

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Morgan County will receive share of settlement

Mariyam Muhammad
Columbus Dispatch
USA TODAY NETWORK

Morgan County’s share of a \$65 million settlement with DuPont will be used to support local drinking water infrastructure projects.

Governor Mike DeWine and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency Director John Logue recently announced the funding for six Ohio counties stemming from a 2023 settlement with DuPont.

While serving as Ohio’s attorney general in 2018, DeWine filed a lawsuit against DuPont, accusing the company of emitting perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) into the air and the Ohio River from its Washington Works facility in Parkersburg, West Virginia, near Belpre in Southeast Ohio, according to a press release from the governor’s website.

DuPont was aware of the risks the chemical posed to public health and the environment.

The settlement will be distributed to Morgan, Belmont, Gallia, Lawrence, Meigs and Washington counties.

The funding will be used to support local drinking water infrastructure projects for Ohio communities in the impacted counties, such as:

- Constructing new drinking water

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