Delaware County Commissioners

Ken O'Brien
Dennis Stapleton
Tommy Thompson

County Administrator
Tim Hansley

Clerk to the Commissioners
Jennifer Walraven

Contact: Teri Morgan, Communications Manager
740/833-2109, 614/323-3219
May 24, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Delaware County—Purple Heart County

At their session today, the Delaware County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution declaring Delaware County as a "Purple Heart County." The designation "Purple Heart" pays tribute to the 1.7 million veterans who have received the Purple Heart medal, our nation's highest military medal in recognition of their wounds received in combat.

"I believe the designation of "Purple Heart," and this year's Memorial Day ceremonies, can help county officials honor the 11,051 veterans living in our county. The "Purple Heart" pays tribute to the 1.7 million veterans who have received the Purple Heart medal, our nation's highest military medal in recognition of their wounds received in combat and we are proud to be a part of this important ceremony. It is also Delaware County's hope that this declaration will inspire other wounded veterans to come forward to receive Purple Heart recognition," said Dennis Stapleton, President.

On hand to accept this honor and present the flag were Robert W. Burr, Chapter 148 Commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart Department of Ohio, as well as three members of the Purple Heart Chapter 148, Paul Jumper, David Monska, and John Van Bibber. A current employee of Delaware County Facilities Department, Dave Maggard, was honored by participating in the raising of the flag. Joining in the flag raising was Delaware County EMA Director LT. Brian Galligher, Navy Reservist, representing our active military. Also on hand was Katherine Lee Colburn, Armed Forces Council, presenting the Rainbow Wishes declaration.

Delaware County joins three other Purple Heart Counties, Licking County in Ohio, and Shasta and Kern Counties in California in the United States.

--30--