

**MEDIA ALERT**

RE: Belmont County Secures Martins Ferry Location for Belmont Senior Services

Contact: Sue Douglass, Exec. Dir. Bel.Co. Dept. of Dev./CIC.....740-695-9678

Date: March 23, 2011

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

(St.Clairsville, OH ) The Belmont County Department of Development/ Community Improvement Corporation ( DOD/CIC) was present at the formal conclusion of the sale of the Martins Ferry South School building to the Belmont Senior Services, Inc. during the regular meeting of the Belmont County Commissioners. The city of Martins Ferry and the Belmont County Commission came to agreement on the purchase, with the DOD/CIC providing legal assistance for the sale. Attorney Dave Liberati acted on behalf of the county.

“Upon their request, the CIC represented the city of Martins Ferry to facilitate the sale of the former South School to the county for the Senior Services department”, explained Richard Myser, CIC legal counsel. “By definition, a CIC can provide legal assistance for local government in these kinds of transactions, if requested to do so”.

When the city of Martins Ferry asked for CIC assistance with this purchase, Mayor Phil Wallace presented the request to the CIC Board of Directors who composed and approved the resolution to provide the legal services.

“Usually we are the bridge between the private and the public sectors”, added Sue Douglass, DOD/CIC Executive Director. “This transaction, however, illustrates one more way the CIC provides professional services to execute and expedite development within the public sector. We are glad to be of service to Martins Ferry and extend our best wishes to the Senior Services program”.

The CIC is a private non-profit corporation established for the purposes of economic development within the county, serving the public and private sectors as defined by Ohio law. The Belmont County DOD/CIC was established in 1962 and provides business services to local governments and private business entities. The DOD/CIC facilitates economic development projects of any size and at any stage of operation, coordinating assistance from a large and diverse network of local, state, federal, and professional resources. Additional information can be found at [www.belmontcic.com](http://www.belmontcic.com), or by calling 740-695-9678. The office is located at 117 East Main Street, St.Clairsville, OH.

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