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Tiffany Powell Sentenced to Life in Prison for Having Ex-Boyfriend Killed

AKRON, Ohio (Thursday, February 25, 2016) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge Thomas Teodosio sentenced Tiffany Powell, 34, of Minota Avenue in Akron, to Life in Prison for the murder of James Harris. Powell will be eligible for parole after serving 32 and a half years.

On January 29, 2016, jurors found Powell guilty of the following charges:

- Aggravated Murder – a special felony
- Obstructing Justice – a felony of the 3rd degree

“Tiffany Powell has shown no remorse and has refused to take responsibility for her actions. She lured James Harris to his death,” said Prosecutor Walsh. “She left behind tremendous pain which will be felt by James Harris’ family for the rest of their lives. James Harris was a man who cared deeply about his family and his community and will be sorely missed.”

Judge Teodosio also sentenced Powell to 30 months in prison for obstructing justice and ordered the sentences be served consecutively.

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Powell and the victim, James Harris, have five children together. On April 26, 2014, while in the middle of an on-going custody battle, Powell and her boyfriend, Paul Reed, lured the 69-year-old Harris to Powell's home. At the home, Reed attacked Harris, knocked him to the floor, and slammed Harris' head into the ground at least 15 times. Harris died of blunt force trauma.

Paul Reed was found guilty of murder in February of 2015 and is currently serving a life sentence.