

Prosecuting Attorney County of Summit

NEWS For Immediate Release: Thursday, March 15, 2013 CONTACT: Lisa Holdt Phone: (330) 643-2796 wiesner@prosecutor.summitoh.net

Jessica Thomas Sentenced to Three Years in Prison For Her Role in the Death of Her Fiancé

AKRON, OHIO – March 15, 2013– Summit County Prosecuting Attorney Sherri Bevan Walsh today announced that Jessica Thomas, 26, of Greenbay Drive in Barberton, was sentenced to three years in prison, a lifetime driver's license suspension and a \$1,000 fine, for her role in the car crash that led to the death of her fiancé.

On February 22, 2013, a jury found Jessica Thomas guilty of Aggravated Vehicular Homicide, a second degree felony, and three counts of Operating a Vehicle While Impaired, misdemeanors of the first degree.

On March 31, 2012 around 2:30 a.m., Thomas was driving south on State Route 241 when her car veered off the road, struck a traffic sign and fire hydrant before going airborne and striking a tree. Jeffrey Spencer, Jessica's fiancé and a passenger in the car, was partially ejected from the car. He died four days later.

Thomas had an alcohol level of .16 and marijuana in her system. Although Thomas had to be cut from the driver's side of the car after being pinned by the steering wheel, she claimed she was not the driver.

-30-