

## **MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH**

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### **Guilty verdict for man on hit-skip accident**

(Akron, October 27, 2010) ... Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Joseph Barriault, 22, of Akron, was found guilty by a jury of Failure to Stop after an Accident, a felony of the fifth degree, and Right of Way When Turning Left, a Misdemeanor.

Barriault will be sentenced on November 30, 2010 by Judge Alison McCarty.

On May 14, 2010, a 42-year old male motorcycle rider from Akron was traveling northbound on SR 91 (Canton Road). Barriault made an improper left turn in front of the motorcycle, into a parking lot, and caused the rider to slam on his brakes. The motorcycle skid and hit another car in the oncoming lane. The victim was thrown from his bike and rolled approximately 30 feet.

Barriault initially stopped in the parking lot. His girlfriend got out of the car and ran toward the victim before Barriault called her back to the car. They drove off, went to a drive-thru, and left without notifying law enforcement or leaving contact information.

Two witnesses took Barriault's plate number and witnessed the accident and the girlfriend's actions. After the accident, the victim was transported to Akron City Hospital for extensive injuries. After a four day hospital stay, he was released.