

## SHERRI BEVAN WALSH SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR

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## Former Akron Fire Department Union Treasurer Pleads Guilty to Stealing From Fund

AKRON, Ohio (Tuesday, January 30, 2018) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Joseph Ruhlin, 41, of Leeman Drive in Akron, pled guilty to stealing nearly half-a-million dollars from the Department's Union.

Ruhlin pled guilty to the following charges:

- Theft in Office a felony of the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree
- Tampering with Records a felony of the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree

Ruhlin was the Akron Fire Department's Union Local 330 treasurer from January of 2011 to March of 2017. During that time, Ruhlin stole around \$500,000 dollars from the union's fund. Ruhlin fled to North Carolina where he was eventually arrested.

A restitution hearing is scheduled for March 13, 2018 at 1pm. Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge Alison Breaux is scheduled to sentence Ruhlin immediately following the restitution hearing.