



# SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

## SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR

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### **Florida Man Who Chewed Off Fingerprints Pleads Guilty**

#### **Kirk Kelly Immediately Sentenced to 18 Months in Prison**

AKRON, Ohio (Wednesday, March 30, 2016) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Kirk Kelly, 24, of Tampa, Florida, pled guilty to a series of charges related to his arrest in February of 2016. During the arrest, Kelly chewed off his fingerprints so officers could not identify him.

Visiting Judge Judith Hunter immediately sentenced Kelly to 18 months in prison.

Kelly pled guilty to the following charges:

- Escape – a felony of the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree
- Tampering with Evidence – a felony of the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree
- Obstructing Official Business – a felony of the 5<sup>th</sup> degree
- Resisting Arrest – a misdemeanor of the 1<sup>st</sup> degree

On February 21, 2016, Kelly was a rear passenger in a vehicle when it was stopped by Tallmadge Police. During the traffic stop, Kelly lied about his identity and then chewed off his fingerprints in an attempt to prevent officers from using a mobile fingerprint scanner. Before being transported to the police station, Kelly also attempted to escape and resisted arrest. Officers later determined Kelly had warrants out of Florida. After Kelly completes his 18 month prison sentence, he can then be extradited to Florida to face charges there.