



SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR

For Immediate Release:

CONTACT: James Pollack

Phone: (330) 604-2739

pollack@prosecutor.summitoh.net

Facebook: SummitCountyProsecutorOffice

Twitter: @ProsecutorWalsh

Wednesday, June 17, 2015

Two Men Sentenced in Overdose Death

AKRON, Ohio (Wednesday, June 17, 2015) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Richard Sandy, 23, of Arnold Avenue in Akron, and James Buell, 29, of Alaho Avenue in Akron, were both sentenced to three years in prison for the overdose death of Alicia Dice.

On May 18, 2015, Sandy pled guilty to the following charges:

- Involuntary Manslaughter – a felony of the first degree
- Aggravated Trafficking in Drugs – a felony of the fifth degree.

On April 30, 2015, Buell pled guilty to the following charges:

- Involuntary Manslaughter – a felony of the first degree
- Aggravated Trafficking in Drugs – a felony of the fifth degree.
- Possession of Cocaine – a felony of the fifth degree

Sandy gave Buell the drugs, who then sold them to Alicia Dice. Dice died from an overdose after using the drugs. Dice thought she was buying heroin not fentanyl, a powerful, synthetic narcotic, similar to, but much stronger than morphine. Dice was found dead by her grandfather.

“Heroin is a major concern for our community,” says Prosecutor Walsh. “What’s worse is the addict does not know if they are getting pure heroin, a combination of heroin and fentanyl, or just straight fentanyl. Three years is the minimum sentence and we requested the judge to impose a longer sentence for Sandy. We need to send a message that we will continue to aggressively prosecute drug dealers and they will be sent to prison.”