

SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR

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Parole Denied for Akron Parking Garage Attack

AKRON, Ohio (September 19, 2018) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that on Tuesday, September 18, 2018, the Ohio Parole Board denied a request by inmate Anthony Smith of Detroit for parole to be granted.

In 1990, Smith attacked a 43-year-old Akron woman in the parking deck attached to the O'Neill's building in downtown Akron. While Smith attempted to steal the victim's car, her keys and her purse, he punched her in the face several times causing permanent injury. He also stabbed her in the bicep with a screw driver. Two men chased him down and held him until law enforcement could arrive.

In November of 1990, he pled guilty to Aggravated Robbery and Felonious Assault and was sentenced to eight to 25 years in prison for the robbery concurrently with eight to 15 years in prison for the assault. In 1996, the prosecutor's office unsuccessfully opposed his parole and he was released, only to be returned to prison for a new assault committed in Warren County.

In July, the parole board made a preliminary determination to release Smith pending a hearing conducted by the full Ohio Parole Board. Prosecutor Walsh opposed his release advising the Board that the victim was adamantly opposed to his parole. Following the hearing, the Parole Board denied his release and continued his prison commitment to the maximum extent of his sentence. The Board found him to be unsuitable for release. His sentence expires December 28, 2022.