

## SHERRI BEVAN WALSH SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR

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## Volleyball Coach Sentenced to Nearly 5 Years for Having Sex with Player

AKRON, Ohio (Tuesday, June 23, 2015) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge Todd McKenney sentenced Michael Thompson, 30, of Vernon Lane in Macedonia, to four years and 11 months in prison, one month short of the maximum sentence.

Thompson coached a high-level travel volleyball team based out of Twinsburg. He admitted to having a sexual relationship with a then 16-year-old girl who was a member of his team.

Thompson was also designated a Tier III sex offender and will have to register with the local sheriff every 90 days for the rest of his life.

On May 12, 2015, Thompson pled guilty to the following charges:

- Sexual Battery, a felony of the third degree
- Gross Sexual Imposition, a felony of the fourth degree

"What happened to the victim will affect her for the rest of her life. Thompson used his position as coach to prey on and take advantage of young girls," said Prosecutor Walsh. "Thompson will spend significant time in prison for his actions."