



# SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

## SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR

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### **Akron Man Indicted for Crash which Injured Cuyahoga Falls Police Officer**

AKRON, Ohio (Monday, August 22, 2016) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that a Summit County Grand Jury has indicted Donald Watson, 46, of Cutler Parkway in Akron, for an incident which resulted in a Cuyahoga Falls police officer being severely injured.

Watson was indicted on the following charges:

- Attempted Murder – a felony of the 1<sup>st</sup> degree
- Two counts of Felonious Assault – felonies of the 1<sup>st</sup> degree
- Aggravated Arson – a felony of the 2<sup>nd</sup> degree
- Failure to Comply with Order of a Police Officer – a felony of the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree
- Vandalism – a felony of the 4<sup>th</sup> degree
- Criminal Damaging or Endangering – a misdemeanor of the 1<sup>st</sup> degree

Mr. Watson is accused of driving into several vehicles, as well as a number of Cuyahoga Falls police cruisers parked police department's parking lot in the early morning hours of Saturday, July 23, 2016. Cuyahoga Falls police officers pursued the suspect through city streets. The suspect vehicle, travelling at high speeds east on Broad Boulevard, crossed over into the westbound lanes and slammed into a Cuyahoga Falls police cruiser driven by Officer Theodore Davis. The driver of the suspect vehicle, Donald Watson, was arrested.

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Officer Davis was trapped inside his police cruiser and suffered significant injuries. The 11-year veteran of the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department also spent nearly a week in the hospital.

Watson is also accused of starting a fire at his Akron home.

Donald Watson is scheduled to be arraigned in Summit County Common Pleas Court on Wednesday, August 24, 2016 at 8am.