

MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

Contact: April Wiesner
(330) 643-8386

Barberton Teen Sentenced for Raping, Killing Sister

(January 3, 2013... Akron) ... Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Judge Linda Teodosio sentenced D'Marques Jones, 17, of Barberton, to the custody of the Department of Youth Services (DYS) until he turns 21 for the death of his three-year-old half-sister Makayla. Jones was given a blended sentence of juvenile and adult sentences. If Jones gets in trouble while at DHS, he could serve the adult portion of his sentence, which is life in prison with parole eligibility after 25 years.

Jones was 15 when he raped Makayla on Father's Day weekend in 2011. Makayla was taken to the hospital after appearing to be in severe pain and being unable to keep down food and juice. Doctors discovered her colon was perforated and she was septic. She died a few days after her rape when she was taken off life support.

A jury found Jones guilty of Murder and Rape on December 13. This was the first jury trial in Summit County Juvenile Court.

Prior to the start of the trial, the State filed a motion to have Jones tried as an adult out of concern that a juvenile sentence would not be severe enough for a crime of this nature. According to Ohio law, a juvenile's sentence ends when they turn 21. A hearing was held to determine whether Jones should be tried as a juvenile or adult. The Court decided to keep Jones in Juvenile Court in the belief that he could be rehabilitated. Because of the seriousness of the crimes, Jones was given both juvenile and adult sentences. As long as Jones does not get into any trouble while serving his juvenile sentence, he will not have to serve his adult sentence.