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Akron Man Pleads Guilty to Killing Wife

AKRON, Ohio (Wednesday, February 01, 2017) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Phillip Battle, 52, of Johnland Avenue in Akron, pled guilty in connection with the death of his wife, Anita Heard.

Battle pled guilty to the following charges:

- Involuntary Manslaughter with a Gun Specification – a felony of the 1st degree
- Tampering with Evidence – a felony of the 3rd degree
- Failure to Comply – a felony of the 3rd degree
- Domestic Violence – a felony of the 4th degree

On October 11, 2016, Akron Police responded to the Johnland Avenue home for reports of a disturbance. Officers spoke with both Phillip Battle and Anita Heard who reported hearing voices in the house. Officers searched the home but found nothing out of the ordinary. The next day, Mr. Battle called 9-1-1 saying he had shot his wife. Officers arrived to find Anita Heard on the floor with a gunshot wound to her head. Officers arrested Mr. Battle a short time later. Heard died about a month after the incident.

Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge Paul Gallagher is scheduled to sentence Battle on February 22, 2017 at 9am.