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Tuesday, May 22, 2018

Tallmadge Man Sentenced to 54 Months in Prison for Sexually Assaulting Passenger While Working As Uber Driver

AKRON, Ohio (date) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge Jason Wells sentenced Brandon Franklin, 34, of Tallmadge, to four and a half years in prison for sexually assaulting a female passenger while he was working as an Uber driver. The maximum sentence for this offense is five years in prison.

Franklin was also designated a Tier III sex offender and will have to register with the Sheriff's Office every 90 days for the rest of his life.

On April 20, 2018, a Summit County jury found Franklin guilty of the following charge:

- Sexual Battery – a felony of the 3rd degree

"I am awed and inspired by the incredible strength the survivor of this assault showed by speaking out at today's hearing. My hope is that each day is better than yesterday for her," said Prosecutor Walsh. "The defendant lied and took advantage of the victim."

In March of 2017, the victim had been out drinking with family and friends. The group requested an Uber to take the victim home. Franklin arrived as the Uber driver and took the victim home. Once at the victim's home, Franklin sexually assaulted the woman.