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Summit County Jury Finds Akron Man Guilty of Murder

AKRON, Ohio (Tuesday, December 10, 2019) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that a Summit County jury found Christian Pittman, 24, of Norka Avenue in Akron, guilty in connection with the shooting death of 28-year-old Diamond Smith and the robbery of 29-year-old Michael-Ann Benton

Jurors found Pittman guilty of the following charges:

- Murder with a Firearm Specification – a Special Felony
- Aggravated Robbery with a Firearm Specification – a felony of the 1st degree
- Aggravated Burglary with a Firearm Specification – a felony of the 1st degree
- Tampering with Evidence – a felony of the 3rd degree

On June 5, 2018, Pittman and co-defendant Cenqunn Woods robbed Michael-Ann Benton at the Akron apartment Benton shared with Diamond Smith. As Pittman and Woods ran off, they were confronted by Mr. Smith, who had just returned home. Pittman fired multiple shots at Smith, killing him. Pittman and Woods then split up and ran from the scene.

Summit County Common Pleas court Judge Kelly McLaughlin is scheduled to sentence Pittman on January 16, 2020 at 1pm.

Woods' trial has yet to be scheduled.