



# SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

## SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR

For Immediate Release:  
CONTACT: James Pollack  
Phone: (330) 604-2739  
[pollack@prosecutor.summitoh.net](mailto:pollack@prosecutor.summitoh.net)  
Twitter: @ProsecutorWalsh  
Monday, February 24, 2020

## Akron Man Sentenced to LIFE IN PRISON for Murder

AKRON, Ohio (Monday, February 24, 2020) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge Kelly McLaughlin sentenced Christian Pittman, 24, of Norka Avenue in Akron, to LIFE IN PRISON for the shooting death of 28-year-old Diamond Smith and the robbery of 29-year-old Michael-Ann Benton.

Pittman will be eligible for parole after serving 24 years in prison.

On December 10, 2019, a Summit County jury 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 1<sup>st</sup> degree
- Aggravated Burglary with a Firearm Specification – a felony of the 1<sup>st</sup> degree
- Tampering with Evidence – a felony of the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree

On June 5, 2018, Pittman and co-defendant Cenquinn 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.

--more--

On December 16, 2019, Cenquinn Woods pled guilty to the following charges:

- Murder – a special felony
- Aggravated Robbery – a felony of the 1<sup>st</sup> degree

Immediately following his guilty plea, Judge McLaughlin sentenced Woods to LIFE IN PRISON. Woods will be eligible for parole after serving 15 years of his sentence.