

MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

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Man sentenced in murder

(September 20, 2010, Akron) ...Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced that DeAnthony Smith, 19, of Reed Avenue in Akron, was sentenced today to 21 years to life in prison for his role in the murder of Abdulmahdi Al-garawi.

On September 17, 2010, Smith was found guilty by a jury of Murder with a gun specification, a special felony, Aggravated Robbery with a gun specification, a first degree felony, Tampering with Evidence, a third degree felony, and Obstructing Justice, a third degree felony.

On April 22, 2010, the victim, Abdulmahdi Al-Garawi, was lured to Buckingham Street in Akron by someone wanting to buy shoes. The victim was robbed, shot and his van was stolen. The victim's burning van was located several hours later.

Smith was arrested when phone records indicated he had contacted the victim prior to the shooting, and had involvement with the shooter before and after the robbery.

Co-defendant, Xzavier Penwell is scheduled for trial on September 29, 2010.