

## SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR

CONTACT: James Pollack Phone: (330) 604-2739 pollack@prosecutor.summitoh.net Twitter: @ProsecutorWalsh Tuesday, March 01, 2016

## Akron Man Found Guilty of Child Rape

AKRON, Ohio (Tuesday, March 01, 2016) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that a Summit County jury found Bruce Gordon, 32, of Ardella Avenue in Akron, guilty of Rape and Gross Sexual Imposition involving three victims all under the age of ten.

Jurors convicted Gordon of the following charges:

- 2 Counts of Rape of a Victim Under the Age of 13 felonies of the 1<sup>st</sup> degree
- 3 Counts of Gross Sexual Imposition felonies of the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree

In February of 2015, one of the victims notified her mother that Gordon was sexually assaulting her. The mother then questioned the other two who both said Gordon had assaulted them. The victims were five, seven, and eight at the time.

Avery II, the Summit County Prosecutor's Office facility dog, sat with all three victims when they testified at trial. The Summit County Prosecutor's Office received Avery II in August of 2013 from Canine Companions for Independence. Avery is a highly trained four-year-old Labrador/Retriever mix facility dog, whose primary job is providing emotional support to adults with developmental disabilities and children who are victims of crime. Since 2013, Avery II has been involved in over 80 cases in Summit County

Gordon faces Life in Prison when he is sentenced on March 8, 2016 at 10am.