

MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

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Guilty Verdicts in Double DUI Crash

(April 17, 2012... Akron) ... Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that a jury returned guilty verdicts against Lynnette Hayward, 37, of Bellevue Avenue in Akron and Shauntae Marie Hill, 25, of Adrus Street Akron for a car crash in which both drivers were drunk that left an infant dead. Hayward was found guilty of Child Endangering, a felony of the third degree, and Operating Under the Influence, a misdemeanor of the first degree. Hill was found guilty of Aggravated Vehicular Homicide, a felony of the first degree; Involuntary Manslaughter, a felony of the third degree; and Operating Under the Influence, a misdemeanor of the first degree.

Early in the morning of August 29, 2010, Hayward picked up her five-month-old granddaughter from the home of a relative. Hayward was intoxicated after a night of drinking and failed to properly strap the baby into her car seat or secure the car seat in the car.

As Hayward drove home, her car was struck by a vehicle driven by Hill. Hill was also drunk at the time and traveling between 52 and 62 miles per hour. She ran from the scene of the accident and was found a few blocks away, bleeding from the face. Her blood was found on the driver-side airbag. The force of the impact threw the baby from the car seat and under the front passenger seat.

Judge Elinore Stormer will sentence Hayward and Hill on May 16 at 10:00 a.m.