



# SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

## SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR

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### **Akron Man Found Guilty of Sexually Assaulting Teen**

AKRON, Ohio (Tuesday, March 16, 2021) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge Tammy O'Brien found Craig McClellan, 50 of Falls Avenue in Akron, guilty of several charges involving the sexual assault of a developmentally delayed teen he knew.

During the bench trial, Judge O'Brien found McClellan guilty of the following charges:

- Two Counts of Rape – felonies of the 1<sup>st</sup> degree
- Five Counts of Illegal Use of a Minor in Nudity Oriented Material or Performance – felonies of the 2<sup>nd</sup> degree
- Three Counts of Gross Sexual Imposition – felonies of the 4<sup>th</sup> degree

In 2019, the teen disclosed McClellan touched her private areas on several occasions. Police later discovered McClellan raped the teen after finding several pictures and videos on his phone.

"I am so proud of the survivor for testifying against the person who did these horrific things to her. Despite her age and disability, she showed incredible strength and courage," said Prosecutor Walsh.

Avery, the Summit County Prosecutor's Office facility dog, sat with the survivor as the teen testified at trial. Avery was also with the teen every time she came to the Prosecutor's Office.

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The Summit County Prosecutor's Office received Avery II in August of 2013 from Canine Companions for Independence. Avery is a highly trained nine-and-a-half-year-old Labrador/Retriever mix facility dog, whose primary job is to provide emotional support to adults with developmental disabilities and children who are victims of crime. Since 2013, Avery II has been involved in 196 cases in Summit County.

Judge O'Brien is scheduled to sentence McClellan April 15, 2021.