



SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR

For Immediate Release:
CONTACT: James Pollack
Phone: (330) 604-2739
pollack@prosecutor.summitoh.net
Twitter: @ProsecutorWalsh
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Akron Man Sentenced to LIFE IN PRISON for Two Murders

AKRON, Ohio (Monday, April 18, 2022) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge Christine Croce sentenced Jason Shockley, 32, to LIFE IN PRISON for the murders of two elderly neighbors in 2020.

Shockley will be eligible for parole after serving a minimum of 25 years of his prison sentence.

On March 2, 2022, Shockley pled guilty to the following charges:

- Two Counts of Murder – Special Felonies
- Two Counts of Aggravated Robbery – Felonies of the 1st Degree

On April 8, 2020, 69-year-old Ben King was found stabbed to death in his Akron home. Just over a month later, on May 21, 2020, 68-year-old Garry Ballis was found stabbed to death in his Akron home. Following the murder of Mr. Ballis, investigators found Shockley in possession of Mr. Ballis' stolen vehicle, as well as knives, and credit cards belonging to Mr. Ballis. Police determined Shockley knew both Mr. King and Mr. Ballis as Shockley's mother was their caretaker. At the time, Shockley lived in an abandoned house a few houses down from Mr. King and less than a mile from Mr. Ballis.