



# SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

## SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR

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## Mansfield Man Sentenced to LIFE IN PRISON for Murder

AKRON, Ohio (Thursday, July 14, 2022) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge Kelly McLaughlin sentenced Joel Bowman, 27, of Flint Street in Mansfield, to LIFE IN PRISON for the 2018 murder of 21-year-old Christian Gibson outside of an Akron bar.

Bowman will be eligible for parole after serving 22 years of his sentence.

Prior to sentencing, Bowman pled to the following charges

- Murder with a Gun Specification – a Special Felony
- Aggravated Robbery – a Felony of the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree
- Three Counts of Felonious Assault – Felonies of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree

On October 26, 2018, Bowman encountered four others in a car outside the Brooklands Bar in Akron. Following an argument, Bowman began shooting. 21-year-old Christian Gibson was killed and three others were shot but survived. Investigators say Bowman grabbed items from the vehicle before running off.