

## SHERRI BEVAN WALSH SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR

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## Prosecutor Walsh Reminds People to "Arrive Alive" During St. Patrick's Day Holiday

Summit County Prosecutor Urges People Not to Rely on the "Luck of the Irish" to Get Home Safely During the holiday

AKRON, Ohio (Thursday, March 16, 2023) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh, alongside Summit County Sheriff Kandy Fatheree, announced today the return of the "Arrive Alive" campaign for the St. Patrick's Day holiday. The anti-drunk driving campaign will help keep Summit County roads safe during St. Patrick's Day by providing FREE or reduced fare rides home, anywhere in Summit County.

WHAT: FREE Rides HOME for Summit County Residents for the St. Patrick's Day Holiday

WHEN: From 6am Friday March 17, 2023 to noon Saturday March 18, 2023

**HOW:** 600 one-time use LYFT Codes for FREE or Reduced Fare Ride home (up to \$20) –

USE CODE **SUMMITGREEN23** 

"St. Patrick's Day is a joyous and fun holiday as many people like to head out and celebrate. Don't have that celebration turn into a tragedy by getting behind the wheel impaired. Use Arrive Alive. Simply download the LYFT app and enter the code for a \$20 credit and a FREE ride home," said Prosecutor Walsh. "Thank you to Summit County Sheriff Kandy Fatheree for her support of Arrive Alive and helping keep our community a better and safer place to live."

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"The decision to drive intoxicated is often made in the moment, but the ramifications of that decision can last a lifetime," said Sheriff Fatheree. "If you've had too much to drink this St. Patrick's weekend, please utilize the Arrive Alive program and arrange a free or reduced ride for yourself. Don't let an evening of fun turn into years of heartache."

Joining Prosecutor Walsh and Sheriff Fatheree at today's news conference was Amanda Wood. The 32-year-old continues to live with the effects of being a victim of a crash involving an impaired driver. Wood and her 66-year-old father were driving on Easton Road in Norton just before 2pm on September 14, 2021 when they were struck by a car driven by 48-year-old Todd Zenner. At the time, Zenner's blood alcohol content was .135, one-and-a-half times the legal limit. At the news conference Wood said "an entire family has been affected by one man's choice. I encourage you as you go out this weekend to make a smart decision and take advantage of Arrive Alive. You don't want to impact someone's family or your own in just a few seconds."

Wood continues to deal with severe pain and nerve damage from the crash.

Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge Alison McCarty is scheduled to sentence Todd Zenner on Wednesday March 22, 2023 at 2pm.

Summit County residents who need a ride home because they decide to drink alcohol during the St. Patrick's Day holiday can use a LYFT code for a FREE or reduced fare ride home (up to \$20). The codes are only good for the specific period-of-time outlined in the flyer and this news release.

The LYFT code for riders to use is **SUMMITGREEN23**.

Arrive Alive was launched in Summit County during the July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018, holiday weekend. Since then, over 3,000 people have used the service. The Summit County Prosecutor's Office offers Arrive Alive during St. Patrick's Day, July 4, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Eve.