



# SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

## SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR

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## Barberton Man Sentenced to LIFE IN PRISON for Cold Case Murder

AKRON, Ohio (Friday, July 28, 2023) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherrri Bevan Walsh announced today that Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge Susan Baker Ross sentenced Daniel Rees, 60, to LIFE IN PRISON for the 1991 murder of 23-year-old Rachael Johnson.

Rees will be eligible for parole after serving 30 years of his sentence.

Prior to sentencing Rees pled guilty to the following charges:

- Aggravated Murder – a Special Felony

“Over 30 years ago Rachael searched for help and found tragedy at the hands of Daniel Rees. Even though this happened decades ago, Rachael’s family and friends have had to live through it every day since 1991,” said Prosecutor Walsh. “I’m pleased to know our community is safer with Daniel Rees locked up for the rest of his life. I want to thank everyone involved in this case for tirelessly working to bring justice to Rachael and her family.”

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On March 30, 1991, Rachael Johnson went out with a friend. Later that night the two had car trouble in the area of Dan Street in Akron. Rachael walked away from the vehicle. Her body was discovered a few hours later, partially burned and naked from the waist down. The medical examiner discovered Rachael had been stabbed multiple times.

The case had gone cold for nearly 30 years. As part of the investigation, Akron Police used the help of genealogy DNA which led them to arrest Daniel Rees in March of 2020.