



# Elliot Kolkovich

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## Summit County Prosecutor

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## Prosecutor Kolkovich Launches Fentanyl Awareness Campaign

*“A Note From Nick” Highlights Dangers With Drugs – One Pill Can Kill*

AKRON, Ohio (Monday, March 18, 2024) – Summit County Prosecutor Elliot Kolkovich announced today that the Summit County Prosecutor’s Office has launched a month-long fentanyl awareness campaign. The campaign focuses on the concern that one pill can kill, where people may not realize a pill they get at a party or from a friend is laced with a deadly drug.

The campaign involves billboards placed throughout Summit County as well as information on the Prosecutor’s Office social media outlets and website, and will highlight the story of Nickolas Sieferth, the son of a Prosecutor’s Office employee who died as a result of taking a pill unknowingly laced with fentanyl. The billboards will show a picture of Nick with the hashtag “A Note From Nick” as well as the words “Don’t Risk It – Fentanyl Kills”. The billboard will also include an image of a poster Nick’s sister Amelia created for the Prosecutor Office’s 2024 Safety Kids Calendar contest. The poster says “All It Takes Is One Mistake” and urges people not to take these pills.

Information will also be on a specially dedicated page on the Prosecutor’s Office website which will provide information on drug addiction services as well as how someone can get doses of potentially life-saving Narcan. The Prosecutors Office will also provide Narcan at events throughout Summit County.

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“My hope is that this campaign will save lives. We all know about the drug epidemic which has spread across our county. Thousands of families, including in this office, have been impacted and devastated by addiction. This campaign also highlights how one pill can kill, where a person unknowingly takes a pill laced with fentanyl. This is just one step in protecting our community and making Summit County a better and safer place to live,” said Prosecutor Kolkovich.

Nick’s mom Jennifer Watson, who works in the Prosecutor’s Office Child Support Agency, says “my family and I are devastated. We will never be the same. If my son’s story can help save one life, then he leaves a lasting legacy.”

According to the Ohio Department of Health, 81-percent of overdose deaths in 2022 involved fentanyl. Fentanyl is 50-times stronger than heroin and 100-times stronger than morphine.

The Prosecutor’s Office also installed “Nox Boxes” at its offices throughout Summit County. These boxes have two doses of Naloxone, which can help save the life of a person in the middle of an overdose or drug reaction. These boxes also have other life-saving equipment and are easily accessible to office employees.

Here is the link to the Prosecutor’s Office page highlighting the campaign – <https://prosecutor.summitoh.net/programs/Nick-s-Story.html>