



# **Elliot Kolkovich**

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## **Summit County Prosecutor**

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## **Akron Man Sentenced to 22-to-26 Years in Prison for Arson Fire Which Injured Two Firefighters**

AKRON, Ohio (Monday, March 18, 2024) – Summit County Prosecutor Elliot Kolkovich announced today that Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge Jennifer Towell sentenced Timothy Christian, 43, of Winton Avenue in Akron, to 22-to-26 years in prison for causing a house fire where two Akron firefighters were injured.

Judge Towell also designated Christian as an arson offender, meaning once released from prison he will have to register with the local sheriff for life.

On February 9, 2024, Christian pled guilty to the following charges:

- Aggravated Arson – a Felony of the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree
- Complicity in the Commission of an Offense – a Felony of the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree
- Conspiracy – a Felony of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree
- Four Counts of Felonious Assault – Felonies of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree

On August 15, 2022, Akron firefighters responded to a fire at a home on Winton Avenue near Vernon Odom Boulevard. As firefighters entered, the home exploded, injuring two firefighters. Investigators discovered gas cannisters purchased by Christian and co-defendant Stanley Winchester. Christian lived at the Winton Avenue home.

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“Two firefighters suffered significant injuries because Timothy Christian directed Stanley Winchester to set fire to his home. I’m pleased to know the public is safer with him behind bars for a long time,” said Prosecutor Kolkovich. “My heart goes out to the injured firefighters who put their lives on the line while trying to save others.”

On August 17, 2023, Winchester, 69, of Akron, pled guilty to the following charges:

- Aggravated Arson – a Felony of the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree
- Two Counts of Felonious Assault – Felonies of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree

Winchester, who was to testify against Christian at trial, is scheduled to be sentenced April 15, 2024 at 2pm.