



Elliot Kolkovich

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Akron Man Sentenced to LIFE IN PRISON for Killing LYFT Driver in 2021

AKRON, Ohio (Thursday, May 16, 2024) – Summit County Prosecutor Elliot Kolkovich announced today Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge Alison McCarty sentenced Kahlyl Powe, 26, of East Buchtel Avenue in Akron, to LIFE IN PRISON for the 2021 murder of 48-year-old Kristopher Roukey. Powe will be eligible for parole after serving 19 years in prison.

“Mr. Roukey was a wonderful husband and father and was out trying to earn money to help support his family. His death leaves behind a hole which will be felt for years. I hope the Roukey family will find some peace and justice knowing the defendant will spend a significant amount of time in prison,” said Prosecutor Kolkovich.

On May 6, 2024, Powe pled guilty to the following charges:

- Murder with a Firearm Specification – a Special Felony
- Carrying a Concealed Weapon – a Felony of the 4th Degree
- Improper Handling of a Firearm in a Motor Vehicle – a Felony of the 4th Degree
- Possession of a Deadly Weapon While Under Detention – a Felony of the 1st Degree
- Felonious Assault – a Felony of the 2nd Degree
- Assault of a Law Enforcement Officer – a Felony of the 4th Degree

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On May 2, 2021, Powe shot and killed 48-year-old Kristopher Roukey. Roukey was working as a LYFT ride-share driver and had picked up Powe near East Market Street and East Buchtel Avenue in Akron when Powe shot and killed him.

Powe underwent three mental health evaluations between November of 2021 and July of 2023. In January of 2024, Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge Alison McCarty ruled Powe was competent to stand trial.

In January of 2022, while in the Summit County jail for the murder of Roukey, Powe was charged with assaulting a Sheriff's Deputy. In a separate incident at the Summit County jail in February of 2023, Powe was charged with assaulting another inmate.