



Elliot Kolkovich

Summit County Prosecutor

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Tuesday, August 6, 2024

Akron Man Pleads Guilty in Connection with 2020 Shooting Death of 20-Month-Old

Philip Mendoza Sentenced to 15-to-20.5 Years in Prison

AKRON, Ohio (Tuesday, August 6, 2024) – Summit County Prosecutor Elliot Kolkovich announced today that Phillip Mendoza, 62, of Edward Avenue in Akron, pled guilty to several charges in connection with the 2020 shooting death of 20-month-old Tyree Halsell.

Mendoza pled guilty to the following charges:

- Conspiracy to Commit Murder with a Gun Specification – a Felony of the 1st Degree
- Three Counts of Felonious Assault with Gun Specifications – Felonies of the 2nd Degree

After accepting the plea, Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge Alison McCarty sentenced Mendoza to 15-to-20.5 years in prison. Mendoza must serve at least 15 years of his sentence.

In August of 2020, several shots were fired at a home on 5th Avenue in East Akron, in the area of South Arlington Street near I-76. Of the seven people at the home, three were struck, including 20-month-old Tyree Halsell. Halsell later died from his injuries. The two other shooting victims survived. After an investigation lasting nearly two-and-a-half years, Akron Police arrested Phillip Mendoza for his role in the shooting.