



Elliot Kolkovich

Summit County Prosecutor

For Immediate Release:

CONTACT: Rick Raley

Phone: (330) 212-2675

rraley@prosecutor.summitoh.net

X: @ProsKolkovich

Wednesday, December 18, 2024

Elias Gudino Sentenced to LIFE in Prison For the Aggravated Murders of Three Men

AKRON, Ohio (Wednesday, December 18, 2024) – Summit County Prosecutor Elliot Kolkovich announced today that Elias Gudino, 59, of Henetta Avenue in Copley was sentenced to a life prison term with parole eligibility after 23 years.

A Summit County jury previously found Gudino guilty of the following charges:

- Six Counts of Aggravated Murder with Gun Specifications – Unclassified Felonies
- Three Counts of Murder with Gun Specifications – Unclassified Felonies
- Two Counts of Attempted Aggravated Murder with Gun Specifications – 1st-Degree Felonies
- Attempted Murder with a Gun Specification – a 1st-Degree Felony
- Four Counts of Kidnapping with Gun Specifications – 1st-Degree Felonies
- Having Weapons Under Disability – 3rd-Degree Felonies
- Tampering with Evidence – a 3rd-Degree Felony.

“Elias Gudino kidnapped and terrorized four men before executing three of them at point-blank range and nearly killing the fourth. His actions have no place in society, and he deserves to spend the rest of his life in prison,” said Prosecutor Kolkovich. “I am grateful for the joint investigative work of Copley Police, Akron Police, and the Department of Homeland Security, and I am thankful for the advocacy of my assistant prosecutors that led to justice for the victims.”

--more--

In March 2023, Gudino kidnapped four occupants of a house in Youngstown and bound and gagged them. He then attempted to lure a fifth person to the house so that he could kidnap that individual as well. When the fifth person did not show, Gudino drove the four victims to his residence in Copley. A short time later, Gudino took two victims to the side of a low-traffic road in Copley and shot them, which caused the death of one victim. The other victim was wearing a skullcap; the bullet went through the skullcap, missed his head, and he survived. The surviving victim played dead and waited for Gudino to leave before fleeing. Gudino returned to his residence and drove the remaining two victims to a another low-traffic road in Akron where he shot and killed them.

Police found the surviving victim wandering about ½ mile from the crime scene. He helped police track down and identify Gudino as the shooter.

At today's sentencing hearing, Assistant Prosecutor Zach Neumann recommended that the Court impose a life prison term without the possibility of parole. "Gudino's three murders were cold-blooded executions," Neumann said. "He has a significant criminal history with a prior federal drug trafficking conviction for which he served time. Gudino does not deserve the possibility of parole."