

For Immediate Release

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 CONTACT: <u>Elaine Vilem</u> (330) 643-8386

PROSECUTOR KOLKOVICH ANNOUNCES LIFE SENTENCE FOR SUMMIT LAKES APARTMENTS PARKING LOT MURDER

AKRON, OH – Today, Summit County Prosecutor Elliot Kolkovich announced that Robert Neal, 28, was sentenced to life in prison for the murder of Dennis Jackson outside the Summit Lake Apartments in Akron on February 3, 2018. Neal is currently serving another life sentence for a murder that took place just 10 days earlier in Cincinnati. He will be eligible for parole consideration after 18 years.

Neal pleaded guilty today to the following charges:

- One count of Murder with a 3-Year Firearm Specification an Unclassified Felony; and
- One count of Having Weapons under Disability a 3rd Degree Felony.

"Dennis Jackson's young life was cut short by the senseless violence of Robert Neal's actions; my heart goes out to Jackson's family, and I hope this conviction can bring them some peace in their grief," said Prosecutor Kolkovich. "I want to thank the Akron Police Department and my assistant prosecutors for their work in bringing Neal to justice."

Dennis Jackson pulled into the Summit Lake Apartments parking lot, with a passenger in the front seat beside him. On the surveillance footage of the parking lot, flashes of light can be seen in the car, indicating multiple gunshots. The passenger then exited the car and started to flee on foot before turning around and returning to the driver's side of the car, shooting Jackson several more times. Jackson was found deceased later that morning outside the car. Phone records revealed Neal was the last person Jackson had contacted, and Neal's gun matched the one used in the crime. Surveillance footage of the crime also connected Neal to the shooting and identified him as the passenger in the car.

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