

## For Immediate Release

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## PROSECUTOR KOLKOVICH ANNOUNCES LIFETIME LICENSE SUSPENSION FOR REPEAT DRUNK DRIVER

AKRON, OH – Today, Summit County Prosecutor Elliot Kolkovich announced that Dolen Edwards, 34, was sentenced to three years in prison, a \$1,350 fine, and a life-time driver's license suspension for his sixth drunk driving conviction. This was Edwards' third Felony Operating a Vehicle Impaired (OVI) conviction, which followed three previous misdemeanor OVI convictions. Other mandatory penalties were also imposed on Edwards, including restricted plates, an ignition interlock device, 6 points on his driver's license, and mandatory alcohol treatment.

In February 2025, Edwards pleaded guilty to the following charges:

- One count of Operating a Vehicle Impaired with a Repeat Offender Specification—a 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Felony; and
- One count of Driving Under an OVI Suspension—a 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Misdemeanor.

"This is an appropriate consequence to Edwards reckless driving and citizens can rest easy knowing the roads are safe from one less drunk driver," said Prosecutor Kolkovich. "At the Summit County Prosecutor's Office, we take pride in promoting safe driving awareness, exemplified by our Arrive Alive program, which provides free or discounted rides through the ride-share service LYFT during certain time periods."

In July 2024, Edwards was pulled over at a traffic stop. While interacting with Edwards, the officer could smell the strong odor of alcohol on him and asked him to exit the vehicle to conduct standard field sobriety tests, which Edwards failed. After failing those tests, Edwards submitted to a breath alcohol test, which showed a blood-alcohol content of 0.144.

The Arrive Alive Program, a campaign to prevent drunk driving, is offered during the St. Patrick's Day, July 4th, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Eve holidays. It was first launched during the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday weekend in 2018. Since its launch, 6,027 people have used the service.