



# Elliot Kolkovich

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## Summit County Prosecutor

### For Immediate Release

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## PROSECUTOR KOLKOVICH ANNOUNCES CONVICTION FOR COLD CASE MURDER OF DAMON HARRIS, JR.

AKRON, OH – Today, Summit County Prosecutor Kolkovich announced that Rondell Harris, 36, pleaded guilty mid-trial for the 2016 murder of Damon Harris, Jr., 24, outside a barbershop on Copley Road in Akron.

Harris pleaded guilty to the following counts:

- One count of Murder with a 3-Year Firearm Specification – an Unclassified Felony;
- One count of Aggravated Robbery with a 3-Year Firearm Specification – a 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Felony; and
- One count of Having Weapons While Under Disability – a 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Felony.

**“After nearly ten years, I hope that this conviction may bring Damon’s family some peace and closure,”** said Prosecutor Kolkovich. **“For too long, Rondell Harris walked free, while Damon’s family grieved the loss of him just two months before his 25<sup>th</sup> birthday. I am glad that Harris has finally been brought to justice.”**

In March 2016, Rondell Harris went to a barbershop on Copley Road in Akron with the intent of committing a robbery. While surveying the area, Harris saw Damon Harris, Jr., outside and targeted him instead. After luring Damon to his vehicle, Harris attempted to rob him at gunpoint. When Damon tried to flee, Harris shot him once in the back with a shotgun. With no suspects at the time, the case went cold. In 2022, while in custody on unrelated charges, Harris confessed to the murder of Damon Harris, Jr., citing details that only someone involved in the crime would have known. He has since written multiple letters to Summit County Prosecutors, Summit County Court of Common Pleas Judges, and the Akron Police Department admitting to the killing.

Harris is scheduled to be sentenced on June 30, 2025 at 9 a.m.

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