



# Elliot Kolkovich

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## Summit County Prosecutor

### **For Immediate Release**

Thursday, July 24, 2025

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## **PROSECUTOR KOLKOVICH ANNOUNCES FREE CHILD SUPPORT SOLUTIONS EVENT IN HONOR OF CHILD SUPPORT AWARENESS MONTH**

### ***Parents Can Access Case Support, Community Resources, and Opportunities to Reduce State-Owed Debt***

AKRON, OH – Today, Summit County Prosecutor Elliot Kolkovich announced *Child Support Solutions*, a free community event for individuals and families with child support cases in Summit County. From 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 6, individuals will be able to meet with a Child Support Enforcement Agency (CSEA) case manager to:

- Discuss child support cases, including the potential to modify orders;
- Learn how to reinstate driver's licenses suspended due to child support non-payment by making payments, reporting employment, or joining a family assistance program;
- Explore options to reduce state-owed debt; and
- Get free genetic testing to establish parentage.

**“Child support is essential to the care and well-being of children across Ohio. By supporting parents, we can uplift families and help ensure our children in Summit County have bright, healthy, and fulfilling futures,”** said Prosecutor Kolkovich.

**“Without the help from the CSEA Outreach department, I don't know if I could have received the assistance I needed to get a job and get my driver's license back,”** said Gina, an obligor mother in Summit County. **“In the past, I was scared to contact the office due to the fear of not getting help and no one being understanding of my situation—but now I have a direct line with the outreach team members, and I get the help I need without judgement.”**

For every \$1 that is paid towards past due support at this event, CSEA will waive \$1 of past due support owed to the State of Ohio – not to exceed the total balance due to the State of Ohio. A minimum payment of

\$100 and a signed agreement with CSEA is required to receive the waiver. Any payments exceeding \$5,000 will require waiver approval from the State of Ohio. Checks, credit cards, and money orders will all be accepted as forms of payment.

Assistant prosecutors will also be present to discuss legal questions, and community organizations – including Akron Urban League, College Now, Summit County ReEntry Collaborative, Man2Man Fatherhood Program, Open M Ministries, Hope and Healing Survivor Resource Center, Amotec Recruiting, and Kindred Spirit Behavioral Health – will be present to connect individuals and families with additional resources and support. In Lock 3, children and families can participate in games and activities, and a limited amount of free school supplies will be available. Thanks to the sponsorship of Prime Time Sports and Framing in Kent, 100 treat tickets will be given out to attendees that can be redeemed for either a free popcorn or ice cream sandwich at the Peanut Shoppe, or a mini coffee or cookie at Ilić Café.

Additionally, METRO RTA is offering free rides on any METRO Direct route to and from this event for anyone who shows the event flyer (paper, digital, or photo) to the METRO Operator. This offer is valid for METRO Direct or METRO ADA transportation; it does not apply to METRO SCAT, Call-a-Bus, NEXT, Flexride, or the Northcoast Express.

While warrants related to child support cases will not be handled at this event, individuals can call the CSEA office at (330) 643-2765 for assistance.

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