



Elliot Kolkovich

Summit County Prosecutor

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PROSECUTOR KOLKOVICH ANNOUNCES 13–18 YEARS IN PRISON FOR DEATH OF SHAWN KNOX

AKRON, OH – Today, Summit County Prosecutor Elliot Kolkovich announced that Christopher Bailey, 40, was sentenced to 13 to 18 years in prison for the shooting-death of 27-year-old Shawn Knox in 2022 inside a friend’s residence on Lafollette Street in Akron. He was also sentenced to concurrent time for unrelated drug charges.

On Monday, Bailey pleaded guilty to the following charges:

- One count of Voluntary Manslaughter with a 3-Year Firearm Specification – a 1st Degree Felony;
- One count of Having Weapons While Under Disability – 3rd Degree Felony; and
- One count of Tampering With Evidence – a 3rd Degree Felony.

“My condolences and greatest sympathies are with Shawn Knox’s family and friends during this time, with such a heavy loss weighing on their hearts. Prosecuting violent gun crimes remains one of my top priorities, and I am thankful for my assistant prosecutors and the Akron Police Department for their work holding Bailey accountable,” said Prosecutor Kolkovich.

In April 2022, Akron Police officers responded to reports of a shooting on Lafollette Street. Upon arrival, officers found Shawn Knox, who had sustained multiple gunshot wounds to the chest, lying in the driveway of a friend’s residence. The investigation revealed that prior to the shooting, Knox, his girlfriend, and their child were visiting a friend’s home where Christopher Bailey was staying. Over the course of the evening, an argument between Knox and Bailey escalated into gunfire. Following the shooting, officers took Bailey into custody when he exited the residence.

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