



# Elliot Kolkovich

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## Summit County Prosecutor

### **For Immediate Release**

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## **PROSECUTOR KOLKOVICH ANNOUNCES CONVICTION FOR THE DEATH OF MARIO HARRIS**

AKRON, OH – Today, Summit County Prosecutor Elliot Kolkovich announced that Damon'te Sherrod, 25, was found guilty on Monday for the shooting of then 19-year-old Mario Harris in 2016, who died of his injuries at the age of 28 in 2024. Sherrod pled guilty to Involuntary Manslaughter with a 3-Year Firearm Specification.

**“Mario Harris fought for a long time, and it is a tragedy that this senseless act of violence ultimately claimed his life. His family has carried this pain for nearly a decade, and our hearts are with them as they continue to navigate such a profound loss,”** said Prosecutor Kolkovich.

In 2016, Akron Police officers responded to reports of a shooting on McKinley Avenue in Akron. Upon arrival, officers located 19-year-old Mario Harris in the rear passenger seat of a stolen vehicle suffering from a gunshot wound to the left side of his face. Harris was transported to a nearby hospital with life-threatening injuries. An investigation by the Akron Police Department determined that prior to the shooting, Damon'te Sherrod had been operating the vehicle with several other individuals in the car, including Mario Harris, who was a backseat passenger. Once the vehicle was parked, two occupants exited the vehicle. Sherrod then began playing with a firearm in the car and shot Harris. During the subsequent investigation, Sherrod, who stayed at the scene with Mario Harris and called 911, confessed to shooting Harris.

In 2017, Sherrod entered a plea of No Contest to Felonious Assault and Receiving Stolen Property in relation to the shooting of Mario Harris. Pursuant to Ohio law, the State reserved the right to pursue additional charges should Harris later succumb to his injuries. As a result of the shooting, Harris suffered severe brain injuries and paralysis which required full-time care until his death. He remained under medical supervision until November 20, 2024, when he died from complications related to those injuries. Following his death, Sherrod was indicted and charged in connection with Harris's death.

Sherrod is scheduled to be sentenced on November 25<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM.

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