



# Elliot Kolkovich

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## Summit County Prosecutor

### For Immediate Release

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## PROSECUTOR KOLKOVICH ANNOUNCES 9 TO 13.5 YEARS IN PRISON FOR DRUG TRAFFICKER

AKRON, OH – Today, Summit County Prosecutor Elliot Kolkovich announced that Tavares Skipper, 37, was sentenced to a mandatory term of 9 to 13.5 years in prison for charges stemming from a 2025 drug trafficking offense.

In October, Skipper pleaded guilty to the following charges:

- One count of Trafficking in Cocaine with a Specification for Forfeiture of Money in a Drug Case – a 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Felony; and
- Two counts of Endangering Children – a 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Misdemeanor.

He also pleaded guilty to violating the terms of his community control for prior drug trafficking convictions from 2022 and 2021.

**“Preparing these substances with two children present is both irresponsible and negligent, showing a clear disregard for their safety and the greater wellbeing of the community. Drug traffickers profit from the exploitation of people battling addiction, and my office will continue working to remove these offenders from Summit County,”** said Prosecutor Kolkovich.

In March 2025, the Akron Police Narcotics Unit and the FBI Safe Streets Task Force executed a search warrant at the Barberton residence of Tavares Skipper, who was on Community Control for prior drug-trafficking convictions. During surveillance, officers observed Skipper leave the home and conducted a traffic stop, during which he admitted there were drugs inside the residence and was taken into custody. While searching the residence, detectives recovered 158 grams of cocaine packaged in three baggies, several unidentified white pills, and \$2,935 in cash suspected to be drug-trafficking proceeds. Officers also seized digital scales, glass bowls with drug residue, and cutting agents. One child was in the car with Skipper at the time of his arrest, and another child, who was five years old at the time, was discovered alone in the home during the search.

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