



Elliot Kolkovich

Summit County Prosecutor

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PROSECUTOR KOLKOVICH ANNOUNCES 15 TO 20.5 YEARS IN PRISON FOR OVERDOSE DEATH OF AUSTIN GUILDGOO

AKRON, OH – Today, Summit County Prosecutor Elliot Kolkovich announced that Victor Jackson, 21, was sentenced yesterday to 15 to 20.5 years in prison for multiple 2023 and 2024 drug trafficking charges, and his involvement in the overdose death of Austin Guildgoo in 2024. Jackson was also designated a Major Drug Offender for trafficking one pound of methamphetamine.

At the beginning of this month, Jackson pleaded guilty to the following 2024 charges:

- One count of Involuntary Manslaughter – a 1st Degree Felony;
- One count of Trafficking in a Fentanyl-Related Compound – a 2nd Degree Felony; and
- One count of Possession of a Fentanyl-Related Compound – a 3rd Degree Felony.

Jackson also pleaded guilty to the following 2023 charges:

- One count of Aggravated Trafficking in Drugs – a 1st Degree Felony;
- One count of Aggravated Trafficking in Drugs with a Major Drug Offender Specification – a 1st Degree Felony; and
- One count of Trafficking in Counterfeit Controlled Substances – a 5th Degree Felony; and
- One count of Aggravated Possession of Drugs – a 5th Degree Felony.

“Jackson’s conduct shows a clear pattern of deception and danger – from selling counterfeit drugs, to large-scale methamphetamine trafficking, to the misrepresented laced substances that cost Austin Guildgoo his life. His actions put countless people at risk. My office will continue to see that traffickers face justice for their actions,” said Prosecutor Kolkovich.

In early May 2023, a Cuyahoga Falls Police Officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle on Portage Trail at Front Street lacking a license plate light, where Jackson was a passenger. The officer detected the odor of marijuana and, during a subsequent search of the vehicle, a rolled blunt and other evidence of marijuana use. Officers also found unprescribed Alprazolam and Oxycodone pills. Jackson was arrested at the scene for possession of these drugs.

Later in 2023, members of the Medina County Drug Task Force and Akron Narcotics Unit, conducted three controlled drug buys with Jackson in Barberton and Akron. In the first buy, a few weeks after the May traffic stop, Jackson sold officers a half-pound of methamphetamine for \$1,300. In the second buy in June, he sold

them one pound of methamphetamine for \$2,400. During the third buy in August, Jackson accepted \$1,385 for what was represented as one pound of methamphetamine, but the substance was later determined to be sugar.

In September 2024, Cuyahoga Falls Fire Department paramedics were dispatched to Americana Drive in Cuyahoga Falls after Austin Guildoo's girlfriend returned home from work and found him unresponsive. Guildoo was pronounced deceased at the scene from an accidental overdose. During the on-scene investigation, officers located evidence consistent with drug use, including a bag containing white powder. A forensic review of Guildoo's phone showed recent messages with Jackson, who had sold him the substance while representing it as cocaine. Messages indicated that Guildoo questioned the appearance and authenticity of the drug multiple times, and Jackson continued to insist it was cocaine. Forensic testing later determined the powder was not cocaine but a mixture of multiple dangerous drugs including medetomidine, xylazine, fentanyl, heroin, morphine and protonitazene. Using Guildoo's phone, investigators arranged a controlled purchase from Jackson. Jackson agreed to deliver more "cocaine" to the parking lot of Guildoo's apartment complex. The Summit County Drug Unit and Cuyahoga Falls Police conducted surveillance, and Jackson arrived in a truck that matched the vehicle depicted in FLOCK camera footage of the prior drug sale with Guildoo. Jackson and the driver were detained, and Jackson was arrested on an active Failure to Appear warrant for his prior drug possession charges. A search of Jackson's person and the vehicle resulted in the recovery of a plastic bag containing approximately seven grams of powder that field-tested positive for fentanyl.

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