



# ELLIOT KOLKOVICH

## SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR

**For Immediate Release**

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### **PROSECUTOR KOLKOVICH ANNOUNCES CONVICTION FOR MAN INVOLVED IN HIT-SKIP DEATH OF ELIZABETH ROCK**

AKRON, OH – Today, Summit County Prosecutor Elliot Kolkovich announced that Joseph Zolnowski, 36, of Parma, was found guilty for failing to stop after hitting and killing 84-year-old Elizabeth Rock with his car outside St. Barnabas Church in Northfield in 2024. Zolnowski pleaded guilty to one count of Failure to Stop After an Accident, a 3<sup>rd</sup> degree felony.

**“Just last December marked the one-year anniversary of Elizabeth Rock’s tragic and sudden death. Beloved by her son, daughter-in-law, granddaughter, and so many more family and friends, she will be dearly missed by her community,”** said Prosecutor Kolkovich.

In December 2024, Joseph Zolnowski was traveling in the northbound lane outside St. Barnabas Church and struck and killed 84-year-old Elizabeth Rock as she was reaching the other side of the street. Zolnowski continued to drive and did not stop. The next day, Zolnowski turned himself into the police and confessed.

Ohio law also requires drivers involved in a crash to immediately stop and remain at the scene until released by law enforcement, a requirement Zolnowski violated.

Zolnowski is scheduled to be sentenced on April 2, 2026 at 9 AM.

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