



FROM THE OFFICE OF  
SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR  
**SHERRI BEVAN WALSH**

**A MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR WALSH  
FIGHTING FOR SUMMIT COUNTY**

A new year is upon us. Many of us make resolutions such as living a healthier lifestyle or choosing a goal which we hope will improve our lives.

This year, my goal is to continue my mission of fighting for crime victims and making Summit County a safer place for everyone.

In 2019, my office helped nearly 2,000 victims of crime and prosecuted approximately 4,000 felony cases.

I worked hard to keep drunk drivers off the road with our Arrive Alive program. This year we teamed up with several local cab companies as well as LYFT to provide FREE rides home within Summit County. Since

we started Arrive Alive back in July of 2018, we have provided FREE rides for more than 1,500 people during Christmas, New Year's Eve,



Thanksgiving, St. Patrick's Day, and July 4th holidays. We plan on offering Arrive Alive again throughout 2020. A special thank you to the sponsors who helped support this program in 2019.

The new year also gives us an opportunity to re-evaluate and re-focus our commitment to specific goals and programs.

That is why I want to make sure you know about my Child Support Enforcement Agency (CSEA).

My Child Support Enforcement Agency fights on behalf of families and works to get help for the people who need it the most. The majority of moms and dads support their children, despite their relationship issues. But for those who skip out on their responsibility, my Child Support Enforcement Agency is there to hold them accountable. Child

support can make a real difference in managing food, child care, clothing, shelter, transportation and medical expenses.

Each year, CSEA collects over \$74 million dollars and handles more than 45,000 child support cases. I am very proud of the employees who work in my Child Support Enforcement Agency.

Recently, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services awarded my CSEA with five awards for outstanding performance, including **BEST PERFORMANCE PATERNITY ESTABLISHMENT, BEST PERFORMANCE COLLECTIONS, AND BEST OVERALL PERFORMANCE** in the Metro Caseload Division. That includes the six largest counties in Ohio. This is the fourth year in a row Summit County CSEA was honored by the state for best overall performance.

My Child Support Enforcement Agency provides many opportunities for those who owe child support. Non-custodial parents can get help finding work as well as connect with local support agencies. Criminal charges and driver's license suspensions are a last resort.

My goal in 2020 is to continue to do our best in holding people accountable.

Stay safe!!  
*Sherrri B. Walsh*



# IN THE COMMUNITY

The holiday spirit is alive and well within the Summit County Prosecutor's Office. Office employees spent time at various events throughout Summit County.



One stop was at several local ACME markets where Prosecutor Walsh and her employees rang bells for the Salvation Army.



This is an annual tradition for the Summit County Prosecutor's Office. A big thank you to all the volunteers.



Everyone had a great time meeting new people and helping out Summit County's less fortunate.

Another of our favorite holiday traditions is attending the annual WAKR Senior Luncheon at Tangier.



This year, close to 350 people came out for the big event.

People who stopped by our table met with Prosecutor Walsh and learned about how to stay safe during the holiday season. We also provided information about our Take Me Home program and other great programs.



And that's Alice Marson who won our big prize—a massive poinsettia! Congratulations Alice!



This year, the Prosecutor's Office started a new tradition! Several employees, led by Prosecutor Walsh, serenaded the office with Christmas carols!

The group event went to different floors in the safety building and the Summit County Courthouse to spread holiday cheer. And yes, Santa even joined in!

The Summit County Prosecutor's Office is also very active in helping the community, especially those touched by crime and violence.

Our annual tradition of buying presents for families who came through our office continued. Prosecutor's Office employees were very generous with their donations and time to go shopping.

This year, the Prosecutor's Office bought presents for four families who needed a little extra holiday joy this year.



Thanks to everyone!





# AVERY'S CORNER

# CRIME & PUNISHMENT

The holidays are always a fun time for me. I sometimes get to do things I don't normally do.



That's me waiting in court. But this time it was a little different. I went to Akron Judge Jon Oldham's courtroom. He is in charge of "Recovery Court". He asked for me to stop by to help. I'm glad I did!

I also get to help with giving gifts! That's me sitting with a couple of small humans. My office raised money and bought them and other families gifts.



It was really nice to give them a special holiday.

I hope you have a very happy and safe New Year. And give a special hug to those you love, including my furry friends.



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## 2019 BY THE NUMBERS

- 4,081 TOTAL DEFENDANTS
- 3,937 FOUND GUILTY OR PLED GUILTY
- 96% CONVICTION RATE
- 42 TRIALS
- 39 HOMICIDE CASES
- EIGHT INVOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER DRUG OVERDOSE CASES



## TOUGH PROSECUTIONS

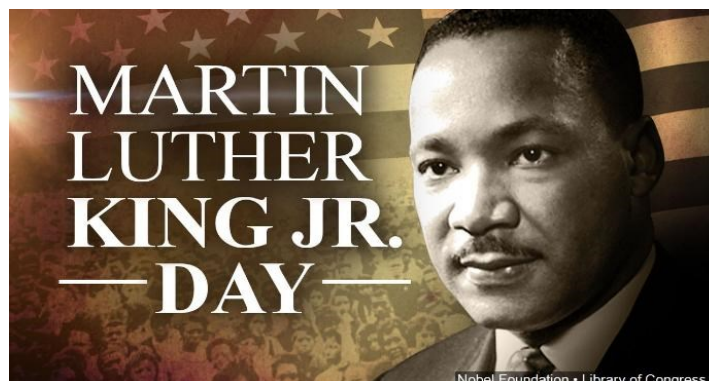
These defendants will be locked up for a lengthy period of time thanks to our dedicated Assistant Prosecutors:

**Cenquunn Woods, 24**

- Murder
- Aggravated Robbery
- LIFE IN PRISON

**Juba Ali, 64**

- Rape
- Kidnapping
- LIFE IN PRISON



Help Us Go Green!

Contact Melanie Hart at [hart@prosecutor.summitoh.net](mailto:hart@prosecutor.summitoh.net) to receive this newsletter by e-mail



# TOP COP

## BARBERTON POLICE OFFICERS JOHN KARNUTH & CODY MITCHEN NORTON POLICE OFFICERS ED SIMMONS & KEVIN LANDALS NOMINATED BY ASSISTANT PROSECUTOR JON BAUMOEL

Every day, police officers can find themselves in dangerous situations. In one recent incident, four local officers rose above the call of duty and put their lives on the line to help save several people.



As the officers returned to the facility to find Mr. Havrilek, he shot at them with his rifle. The officers ordered Mr. Havrilek to drop his weapon. When he did not drop his weapon, Officers Karnuth and Simmons fired at Mr. Havrilek, hitting him in the leg and hand. Mr. Havrilek was eventually taken into custody with only minor injuries.

Late last year, David Havrilek was sentenced to 19 years in prison for an incident at the Barber Storage South facility. Havrilek had a number of weapons and dozens of rounds of ammunition.

The four officers, along with others from both departments, found themselves in a life and death situation and were able to get several people to safety. We salute them for their bravery and heroism.

Norton Police Officers John Karnuth and Cody Mitchen, along with Barberton Police Officers Ed Simmons and Kevin Landals arrived on scene and worked quickly to secure the area. However, at the time, the officers were unsure of where Mr. Havrilek was. They did know a number of people were in the back of the facility, including a two-year-old girl with her father. The officers stood single-file to form a barrier between Mr. Havrilek and the innocent people, and were able to escort everyone to safety.

As this month's TOP COPS, the officers receive gift cards from Belgrade Gardens in Barberton. Thank you Belgrade Gardens for your support of local law enforcement.

**Great job and congratulations Officers Karnuth, Mitchen, Simmons, and Landals!**

## EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Chelsea Bollin for being honored as the 2019 Summit County Prosecutor's Office Employee of the Year!

Chelsea has devoted almost 12 years to the Summit County Prosecutor's Office, most recently as Supervisor of our Child Protection Unit.



Chelsea goes above and beyond to protect neglected and abused children in Summit County.

Chelsea's professionalism and work ethic set a new standard of excellence.

Congratulations again, and thank you for your dedication to the office and citizens of Summit County.

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING

January is Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention month. Ohio ranks fourth in the highest call volume to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center. The U.S. State Department estimates upwards of 800,000 individuals, mostly women and girls, are exploited.

A free event on how to prevent human trafficking is scheduled for Saturday January 25 at the Akron Summit Public Main Library on South Main Street.

Summit County also has a new 24 hour Human Trafficking hotline.

If you need to make a report or need immediate response to a human trafficking incident, contact the Summit County Sheriff's new hotline at 330.252.2614 or call 9-1-1.

**Human Trafficking Happens Here Too! Tips and Tools**

A PUBLIC EVENT TO EDUCATE OUR COMMUNITIES

SAVE THE DATE!  
**JANUARY 25, 2020** 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
 AT THE AKRON SUMMIT COUNTY LIBRARY

# WHY I'M A PROSECUTOR

## JOE MCALEESE

Over the past two years, the Summit County Prosecutor's Office has provided insight into how we approach our jobs by producing videos highlighting our assistant prosecutors. "Why I'm A Prosecutor" gives our prosecutors the chance to tell their own story and why being a prosecutor is so important to them.

2020 starts off with a very personal story from Assistant Prosecutor Joe McAleese who works in our Criminal Division.



### • WHAT'S THE BEST PART OF BEING A PROSECUTOR?

The best part of being a prosecutor is working with people going through one of the worst parts of their life. You get the opportunity to assure them that with the efforts of our office and law enforcement, we're going to get them through this.

### • WHAT'S THE MOST DIFFICULT PART OF BEING A PROSECUTOR?

Without a doubt, one of the more difficult things of being a prosecutor is the potential limitations, whether it be with the law or the evidence, no matter how hard we work on a case. Even though we might believe the victim, we may not be able to present the case or take it to trial, which can be difficult.

You can watch Joe's complete video on our website, Facebook and YouTube page.

### • WHY DID YOU BECOME A PROSECUTOR?

I became a prosecutor because my parents had one bit of advice which stuck with me – one of the more important things to do is to help people at their worst. My dad is a police officer and I remember him bearing the burden of what victims go through. So if I wanted to be there for people when they were at the worst time of their life I could be a prosecutor and provide them some security that life will move on even when something really bad happens.

## STALKING AWARENESS MONTH

As we begin a new year, there is something which impacts millions of people in the United States but many times is ignored — STALKING.

January is Stalking Awareness Month. Each year 7.5 million Americans are victims of stalking, often with devastating consequences. The hope is that by talking about stalking, people have increased understanding of the crime.

Stalking victims are often forced to move frequently in an attempt to escape and to avoid their stalker. Visit [www.stalkingawarenessmonth.org](http://www.stalkingawarenessmonth.org) to learn more about ways you can protect yourself.



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