



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

**A MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR WALSH**

# SUMMER VACATION SAFETY

Summer is finally here! It's a time when many of you hit the road for vacation. I want to make sure you're safe and you return to a secure home.

You have your tickets and your hotel reservation, but how much preparation have you put into making sure your home is secure while you're away?

Criminals look for the easiest targets and the path of least resistance. It can only take a few seconds for someone to break into your home. But you can stop a criminal in their tracks.

Curb appeal is great when you're trying to sell your home. However, you want to make your home the least appealing one on the block for criminals. Keep bushes and shrubs trimmed to ensure the doors, windows, and garage are visible from the street. Also make sure the areas are well-lit at night.

Having a home alarm system is a great deterrent, but even if you don't have one, you can display an alarm company sign.

We all forget our keys and lock ourselves out of our home. It's a great idea to leave a spare key well

hidden. Criminals know what those hide-a-key boxes look like and all the typical hiding spots, such as under a rock, planter or mat by the door, or on top of the door ledge. Instead, get a coded key box or leave a spare key with a trusted neighbor.

Arrange to have someone pick up your mail or have the Post Office hold it for you. The same goes for newspaper deliveries.

What can you do if someone does break into your home? It takes a thief just seconds to break in to your home and then another three to five minutes inside looking for valuables.

A burglar's first step is the master bedroom and master bath, so find another location to store valuables.

The most valuable thing a thief can take is your identity, so don't leave documents with sensitive personal information out in the open or in easily accessible places. And finally—**DON'T FORGET TO LOCK YOUR DOORS AND WINDOWS!**



Now that your home is secure, what do you do once you head to your vacation destination?

- Never put your home address on your luggage tags. Write your phone number instead. That way if your luggage gets lost or stolen, strangers don't know where you live.
- Make copies of all important documents, like your credit cards and passport. Take one copy with you (pack it separately from the cards themselves) and leave one copy at home.
- Stay off social media. Don't tip off criminals by sharing too much information on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram (kids too!) Try not to post photos, status updates, or "check in" while on vacation.

Following these simple tips can help you and your loved ones focus on having fun instead of worrying about safety.

And, as always, stay safe,

*Sherrri B. Walsh*



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# IN THE COMMUNITY

The Summit County Prosecutor’s Office takes a lot of pride in providing training opportunities for local law enforcement officers.

About 50 officers attended specialized training on new and emerging investigative technologies presented by U.S. Marshal Chief Inspector David Martin.



Inspector Martin spoke about the National Domestic Communications Assistance Center and how local law enforcement can access vital information to help solve crimes.

The Summit County Prosecutor’s Office is also proud to support local causes. Employees dressed in purple as part of The Longest Day to raise awareness for people living with Alzheimer’s.

The Longest Day coincides with the first day of summer - the longest day of the year - to fight the darkness of Alzheimer’s. We wear purple to show support for people caring for those who are battling this condition.



The Summit County Prosecutor’s Office also provides assistance for families with people who battle Alzheimer’s, dementia, and other conditions which increase the chances they might wander and make it difficult for them to communicate.

Take Me Home is a secure database, accessible only by law enforcement, which is used to help reconnect caregivers with children and adults who have a difficult time communicating and may wander from home. This includes people who may suffer from Alzheimer’s disease.



The database contains a photo, contact information, and identifying characteristics that can be searched if a person is reported missing or is found wandering.

If you know of someone who could benefit from this program and is not registered, please have them contact Leslie at [knoblauch@prosecutor.summitoh.net](mailto:knoblauch@prosecutor.summitoh.net), or 330-643-2800.



Employees with the Summit County Prosecutor’s Office love to spread safety information. **Vonsheay Brown from the Juvenile Division** spoke with 7th graders attending the Empowered! Girls Summer Program at Schumacher Community Learning Center in Akron.

Vonsheay, who was joined by other Prosecutor’s Office employees, discussed ways to stay safe and tips to minimize a person’s chance of becoming a victim.

**Prosecutor Walsh** is active in the community, providing safety information to local businesses and organizations.

Recently, Prosecutor Walsh was asked to speak at Akron’s Lyondellbasell Industries for the company’s annual safety day.



Great information to help keep people safe!

A big thank you to everyone who attended our Senior Safety Fair in Tallmadge.



We had a great time providing information about avoiding scams and providing safety information to the more than 60 people who attended.

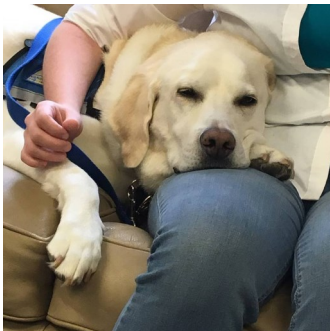


# AVERY'S CORNER

# CRIME & PUNISHMENT

June was a busy month for me. I got to run around and play and enjoy the summer weather.

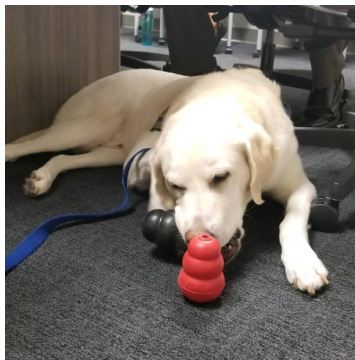
But I also got to make new friends and help some humans.



This one human came to visit me at my office. She was so nice. I even got to rest on her lap!

My human friends are so nice to me. Some even bring me gifts.

These are from someone who came to visit me at my office. Even though she was at the office because something bad happened to her, she thought of me and brought me these chew toys.



I'm glad I was able to help her—and I LOVE my new toys!

Most times humans come to visit me. But I got a chance to visit some special humans at Akron Children's Hospital.



I had a lot of fun there. But I couldn't read the signs. I hope I didn't do anything wrong!

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## GUILTY VERDICTS

### June 2019

The Summit County Prosecutor's Office had a **100% CONVICTION RATE** at trial for June. Congratulations to the following assistant prosecutors for obtaining a conviction at trial.

**Nik Buckmeier**

**Joe Miller**

**Ty Graham**

**Joe Mittica**

**Kevin Mayer**

**Greg Peacock**

## TOUGH PROSECUTIONS

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

**Kevin Carter, 26**

**Timothy Baldwin, 35**

- Aggravated Robbery
- Kidnapping
- Felonious Assault
- **41 YEARS IN PRISON**

- Rape
- **LIFE IN PRISON**

**Scott Brundage, 51**

**Marcus Coker, 36**

- Rape
- **24 YEARS IN PRISON**

- Aggravated Murder
- Kidnapping
- Felonious Assault
- Burglary
- **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 COPS

## AKRON POLICE SGT. TONY STARVAGGI & DET. RICHARD DONEY

### NOMINATED BY ASSISTANT PROSECUTOR ZACHARY NEUMANN

Our job as prosecutors is to hold people accountable and keep the community safe. We can't do that without the great work of local law enforcement.



Recently, a violent criminal who terrorized one Akron neighborhood was sentenced to over 40 years in prison. The work of two Akron Police Officers was instrumental in getting that positive outcome.

I nominate Sergeant Tony Starvaggi and Detective Richard Doney for their work on the Kevin Carter case.

Last year, Carter robbed a man at gunpoint, forced him to strip naked, tied him up with a dog leash, and then forced him into the trunk of a car. The victim was eventually able to escape. In a separate incident just one week later, Carter shot at two men, hitting one of them. Det. Doney was assigned to the first case and Sgt. Starvaggi began investigating the second incident.

The first step was identifying the suspect. Det. Doney built up enough trust with the victim, to the point where

the victim finally felt comfortable enough to identify Kevin Carter. The victim was terrified and feared retribution. Sgt. Starvaggi ordered records on a cell phone discovered near the shooting. During his investigation, Sgt. Starvaggi discovered one of the victims had been arguing with Kevin Carter at the time of the shooting.

The cell phone records showed Carter was the owner of the phone. Also on the phone was a picture of Carter holding two guns taken the day before the shooting.

After several months of investigating, the two officers turned two extremely violent acts by unknown assailants into two cases resulting in a jury trial conviction for all charges and a 41 and half year prison sentence for Kevin Carter.

As this month's TOP COPS, Sgt. Starvaggi and Det. Doney get gift cards to Texas Roadhouse.

**Great job and congratulations Sgt. Starvaggi & Det. Doney!!**

## CHILD SUPPORT SOLUTIONS

August is Child Support Awareness Month, a time when the Summit County Prosecutor's Office highlights our efforts to help local families. Our **Child Support Solutions** event provides an opportunity for parents who owe money to make things right.

*Summit County Prosecutor*  
**Sherri Bevan Walsh**  
*Presents*  
**Child Support Solutions**

A 3-Day Event To Help You:  
**PAY YOUR CHILD SUPPORT**

- Get free genetic paternity testing
- On-site employment assistance
- New no-fee payment options
- Learn about Fatherhood programs
- See what options are available to reduce state-owed debt
- Get your driver's license back after making a payment

This year's event covers three days, from **August 14-16**. We can discuss payment arrangements, support modification, and help restore suspended driver's licenses when a payment is made.

Our Child Support Solutions event will run from 8:30a.m. to 4:00p.m. at our CSEA office at the Ohio Building.

## ARRIVE ALIVE!

The Summit County Prosecutor's Office was once again proud to sponsor FREE rides home during the July 4th holiday with our Arrive Alive program.

We teamed up with LYFT to provide FREE rides home with the goal of keeping drunk drivers off the road. LYFT drivers gave over 1,000 FREE rides during the holiday.

Arrive Alive was launched in Summit County one year ago. Since then, we've provided FREE rides home for nearly 2,000 Summit County residents

**ARRIVE ALIVE**

SPONSORED BY:

**SHERRI BEVAN WALSH**  
SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR

Celebrate **July 4th** responsibly!  
Have a designated sober driver or use **ArriveAlive**

And stay tuned—we plan on once again providing the service during Thanksgiving and Christmas.

# WHY I'M A PROSECUTOR

## DAN SALLERSON

Over the past year, 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.

Assistant Prosecutor Dan Sallerson who works in our Criminal Division, tells us why being a prosecutor is so important to him.



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

The best part of being a prosecutor is trying to bring a sense of closure and justice to people who have been wronged. You see the suffering they go through and if we can do something to try to bring peace and closure to the whole process, that makes you feel very good about it.

### • WHY DID YOU BECOME A PROSECUTOR?

The decisions people make and the actions they take have consequences. It's very important to me that they are held accountable. People have to take responsibility for their actions and this job is often about that, trying to hold people accountable for the choices they make and the actions they do.

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

One of the first things I learned is that what I know to be true and what I can prove to be true are not always the same. That can be really frustrating. You fight and do as much as you can for victims of crime.

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

## JOSHUA MIKTARIAN—EOW JULY 13, 2008

For most, this time of year is filled with summertime fun and laughter. But for our office, it is a time of sadness. It's when we lost one of our heroes.

July 13 marks 11 years since tragedy struck our community. July 13, 2008, Twinsburg Police Officer Joshua Miktarian was shot and killed during a traffic stop.

Miktarian was just 33-years-old when he was killed in the line of duty, leaving behind a wife and young daughter.

Officer Miktarian's death was the first in Summit County in 17 years. His death has impacted us to this very day.



Officer Miktarian was an outstanding representative of the Twinsburg community. He spent his career dedicated to helping people throughout Summit County.

Officer Miktarian went by many names — "Captain Justice" or "Mr. Invincible" to many, "The Pizza Man" to others — and is missed by all of us.

Police officers put their lives on the line every day to protect our community. We give a heart-felt thanks for their work and sacrifice.

Thank you Officer Miktarian and our law enforcement community for keeping us safe.

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