



FROM THE OFFICE OF
SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR
SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

A MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR WALSH

PROSECUTING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASES

As Summit County Prosecutor, I work hard to help victims and stop the cycle of violence in our community. I am so proud of the work my office does in finding innovative ways to prosecute cases and protect Summit County.

That is why I am pleased to announce my office has received a grant worth \$750,000 to enhance our response to domestic violence. The announcement of the grant is even more special as October is Domestic Violence Awareness month.

The three-year grant is being split between my office, the Summit County Court of Common Pleas, and the Battered Women's Shelter of Medina and Summit Counties. The money will be used to support a dedicated prosecutor and supervisor in my office, a dedicated victim advocate, as well as a domestic violence specialist probation officer in the Summit County Court of Common Pleas Domestic Violence Specialized Docket. This specialized docket was established in 2011 and was Ohio's first Felony Domestic Violence Court. My office's Domestic Violence Unit began in 2004.

This grant is especially important because one in four women and one

in seven men age 18 and older have been victims of physical violence by an intimate partner during their lifetime.

Also, one in 15 children are exposed to intimate partner violence each year, with 90% being eyewitnesses to the violence.

My office handles hundreds of intimate partner felony domestic violence cases each year. This money will allow my office to maintain and enhance the specialized prosecution of these cases. The funding also allows domestic violence cases to be handled by specially trained professionals in a manner that ensures offenders will be held accountable.

Domestic violence does not discriminate. Domestic Violence



OCTOBER is
Domestic Violence
AWARENESS
MONTH

awareness month began over 30 years ago, but many victims still live in fear and silence. Summit County offers many resources to help victims.

Prevention begins with education. My office provides community education to highlight the importance of prosecuting domestic violence related crimes. You can help stop the cycle of violence.

The Battered Women's Shelter of Summit and Medina Counties is a great resource. The agency's 24-hour crisis hotline is 888.395.HELP (4357) for Summit County and 877.414.1344 for Medina County.

As always, stay safe,

Sherri B. Walsh



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IN THE COMMUNITY

Each year, Prosecutor Walsh declares September as Senior Safety Awareness month to focus more attention to protecting seniors in our community. Several Prosecutor's Office employees were out in the community throughout the month promoting safety.

Prosecutor Walsh spoke with members of the AARP Green Chapter and provided tips on staying safe. The huge crowd of close to 100 seniors learned how to avoid scams and minimize their chances of becoming a victim.



Prosecutor's Office employees Lisa Holdt, Leslie Knoblauch, and Travis Johnson met with nearly 200 seniors at three separate Senior EXPOs—at MGM Northfield Park, the East Akron Neighborhood Development Corporation, and the City of Green Community Hall at Central Park.



Attendees were able to grab lots of safety information, and goodies, including our brand new Senior Safety Calendar for 2020.



Thanks to everyone who stopped by our table.

As part of her safety message, **Prosecutor Walsh** joined **Stow Deputy Law Director Jaime Syx** at Stow High School for our FREE Women's Self-Defense class.



Participants learned several moves, including how to get away if someone grabs your wrist.

Our next FREE Women's Self-Defense class is at Akron's Firestone Park Community Center on October 23 from 6pm-8pm. No registration is required.

Prosecutor Walsh brought her safety message to Springfield High School where she met with members of the Springfield Senior Condo Association.

Prosecutor Walsh provided lots of great safety information, including ways to stay safe at home and not get scammed.



Thanks to **Officer Perry Linaburg** for inviting us!

The Summit County Prosecutor's Office is proactive when it comes to ensuring local law enforcement is properly trained in assisting crime victims.

Over 300 members of the law enforcement community attended our fourth annual "Responding to the Needs of Victims" conference.

This year we had two dynamic speakers, Anne Munch and Kim Case. Anne is an attorney, educator and judge who shared her expertise with prosecuting sexual assault cases. Kim has a compelling story about resiliency and hope. Kim shared her experience as a survivor of a 16 hour hostage situation and multiple rapes.

Those in attendance also learned about our Start By Believing campaign to bring more awareness to survivors of sexual assault and the trauma they encounter.

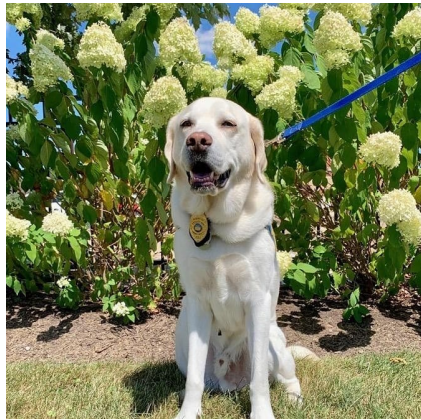




AVERY'S CORNER

CRIME & PUNISHMENT

September was a pretty chill month for me. I hung out with some friends and enjoyed the wonderful weather as summer began to turn into fall.



That's one thing I've learned from my human friends—take a moment to enjoy the day and smell the flowers (these smelled great!).

Oh, and speaking of hanging out with friends, I met some new friends recently. They're staying at my house until they're old enough to find their own forever home. Even though they're cats, they are very nice and don't take up a lot of room!



If you want to make your home a "forever" home for a four-legged friend (or any animal!), October is Adopt a Shelter Dog month.

Check out some of my friends at the Humane Society of Summit County.



Follow Avery II on Instagram at:

@averyscpo



GUILTY VERDICTS

August 2019

Congratulations to the following assistant prosecutors for obtaining a conviction at trial.

Ben Carro

Joe McAleese

Jay Cole

Zach Neumann

Ty Graham

Dan Sallerson



TOUGH PROSECUTIONS

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

Danny Hamby, 40

- Murder
- Kidnapping
- **LIFE IN PRISON**

Toni Kenney, 32

- Kidnapping
- Tampering w/ Evidence
- Gross Abuse of a Corpse

David Havrilek, 43

- Attempted Murder
- **19 YEARS IN PRISON**

- **16 YEARS IN PRISON**



Help Us Go Green!

Contact Melanie Hart at hart@prosecutor.summitoh.net to receive this newsletter by e-mail



TOP COPS

NEW FRANKLIN OFFICERS ETHAN BROWN & MATTHEW HONE

NOMINATED BY ASSISTANT PROSECUTOR ZACHARY NEUMANN

The recent murder of 18-year-old Samantha Guthrie has received national attention. The Akron teen was shot and killed last year, with four people convicted in the crime. If not for the work of the officers involved in the investigation, it is possible the murder would have been unsolved.



Thanks to the hard work of the Akron Police Department and the New Franklin Police Department, the Summit County Prosecutor's Office was able to secure the convictions of four people.

I would like to focus on two of the officers, whose instincts were key in the investigation. That's why I nominate New Franklin Police Officers Ethan Brown and Matthew Hone.

On November 5 of last year, Samantha Guthrie's mother reported her missing. Akron Police determined the teen was shot and killed, with the suspects dumping her body in the woods. The problem was the officers did not know exactly where Samantha's body was. They only had a

vague description given them by the suspects in the case—a wooded area connected to a dirt access road. The access road also had several signs on it. The suspects told investigators Samantha's body was about 200 yards from the road.

It was almost like finding a needle in a haystack. But New Franklin Officers Brown and Hone knew of a place that sounded similar. After spending countless hours searching wooded areas in New Franklin, Officers Brown and Hone discovered Samantha's body.

Due to their diligent work, Samantha Guthrie's family was able to have some sense of closure.

As this month's TOP COPS, Officers Brown and Hone receive a gift card to 35 Brix. Thank you 35 Brix for your support of law enforcement.

**Great job and congratulations
Officers Brown & Hone!!**

GREEN SENIOR SAFETY FAIR

Seniors—get ready to be safe! Come to our next Senior Safety Fair at the Central Park Community Hall on Steese Road in Green.

Learn from Prosecutor Walsh about the latest scams targeting seniors as well as ways to stay safe while in the community.

You'll get a free lunch plus learn information about local businesses and organizations which cater to seniors and their needs.

Our Senior Safety Fair is Wednesday November 13 from 11am to 1pm. Registration is required but the event is free. Just call 216.430.0955 to RSVP.

We hope to see you in Green on November 13th!

SENIOR SAFETY FAIR

November 13, 2019 @ 11:00 a.m.

**Central Park Community Hall
1795 Steese Road, Green, OH 44685**

Free lunch • Giveaways • Door prizes

RSVP to (216) 430-0955

WHY I'M A PROSECUTOR

DEVORAH PASTERNAK

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.

Devorah Pasternak, an assistant prosecutor in our Criminal Division, tells us why being a prosecutor is so important to her.



• WHY DID YOU BECOME A PROSECUTOR?

I became a prosecutor because I believe there is no better way to help victims or our community within the court system. Unlike a defense attorney who is solely focused on the will of their client, a prosecutor gets to see the entire case from start to finish. It's a big picture view of a course of events, from determining charges to finding the best outcome for victims and our community.

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

The best part of being a prosecutor is working with a great team who are all working together for the same goal of getting justice for victims and our community.

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

The most difficult part of being a prosecutor is fighting the desensitized view or reaction to crime. That includes trying to convince people that each case is unique as opposed to viewing it as just one of thousands of cases.

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

HALLOWEEN SAFETY

Halloween is right around the corner and we want to make sure families are safe when they hit the streets.

Remember these simple tips, and check out the graphic, if you or your kids are on the hunt for some tasty sweets—or if you are handing out candy.

- Go with friends only in well-lit areas.
- Teach your children to never go into a home for candy.
- Use reflective tape on your child's costume so drivers can see them.
- Have children carry a glow stick or flashlight.



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