



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

**A MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR WALSH
SENIOR SAFETY
SEE ABUSE—REPORT IT!**

Crime comes in all varieties—from the violent murder to a scam taking thousands of dollars from the victim. That’s why each September I place additional focus on keeping our seniors safe. I have dedicated September as Senior Safety Awareness Month.

As I do throughout the year, I will be out and about in the community at events, educating as many senior citizens as possible about scams, criminal activity, and how to protect themselves and their home.

This information is vitally important to help keep people, especially seniors, safe. Recently, my office prosecuted Kelly Morris, a home-health aide who stole from an 85-year-old woman she was hired to assist. The 50-year-old Morris stole thousands of dollars from the elderly woman.

That is just one case. But many situations like that go unreported. Just one in 24 cases of elder abuse—physical, emotional, or financial—is reported. Whether it’s a person scammed into buying gift cards to pay off a debt, or they’re scammed by a stranger who knocks at their door offering a fake service, seniors are among the most vulnerable.

Seniors are reluctant to report they are a victim of a scam. Many are concerned about the embarrassment or might be afraid people will think they can’t live on their own.

- Do not answer a call if you do not recognize the number. Remember, no agency will collect money through gift cards.

We are here to say we can help.

“Protect Our Seniors – See Abuse, Report It - Your Reaction Makes A Difference” is our new public awareness campaign. Through billboards placed around Summit County, we will provide the community with contact information if

Protect Our Seniors

1 in 24 cases of elder abuse is reported 12.4% of U.S. population is 65 years and older

See Abuse - Report It!

Your Reaction Makes A Difference

24 hour hotline:
Summit County
Sheriff Senior
Services Divisions:
(330) 643 - 2181

SHERRI BEVAN WALSH
SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR

24 hour hotline:
Summit County
Adult Protective
Services:
(330) 643 - 7217

There are several scams which specifically target the elderly. The Grandparents Scam, IRS Scam, and Jury Duty scam are just a few examples.

Here are some tips to remember so you do not become a victim:

- Never send money or give out personal information such as credit card numbers, bank account numbers, dates of birth, or Social Security numbers to unfamiliar companies or unknown persons.
- Many scams involve victims purchasing iTunes Apple gift cards. Utilities and companies will not accept payment with iTunes Apple gift cards.

they suspect a senior they know is a victim.

Also, our new Senior Safety Calendars for 2020 are in for distribution. The calendars are full of information to help keep you safe. Our next FREE Women’s Self-Defense class is Thursday, September 19th from 6p-8p at Stow-Munroe Falls High School.

If you would like a calendar, or want to have someone from my office speak to your group, please call Megan at 330.643.7915 or email at mbogavich@prosecutor.summitoh.net

As always, stay safe.

Sherrri B. Walsh

IN THE COMMUNITY

Summer may be slowly fading away, but the Summit County Prosecutor's Office continues its fight to keep the community safe. Several office employees were out and about providing information to help people minimize their chance of becoming a crime victim.

Prosecutor Walsh spoke with seniors at Akron's Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church.



The lively group learned about avoiding scams and how to stay safe.

Prosecutor's Office employees also provided safety information to employees of Direction Home Akron Canton Area Agency on Aging & Disabilities.



About 225 employees took part in the company's safety day event.

Prosecutor Walsh was honored to attend the 5th annual Hattie Larlham Friendship Luncheon hosted by **WKYC Channel 3's Sara Shookman**.



The wonderful event showcased all the great work the organization does for people with special needs. Great job everyone!

Awards were presented to people who help enrich the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Thanks to the Akron Library & United Way of Summit County for stopping by our

Child Support Enforcement Agency to read to children who came to the office with their parents. Many even got library cards.



A wonderful program to help kids!

Prosecutor Walsh strives to make Summit County a better and safer place to live. Along with our instructor **Chad Cunningham**, Prosecutor Walsh led our most recent FREE Women's Self-Defense class, held at Nardon High School. Thank you to everyone who participated and learned vital and potentially life-saving moves.



Also a special thank you to **Akron Municipal Court Magistrate Tania Nemer** who assisted Chad with the demonstrations

Our Child Support Enforcement Agency met with **Ohio Job & Family Services Director Kimberly Hall**.

CSEA Director Jennifer Tultz and CSEA Chief Assistant



Prosecutor Deborah Watkins discussed how we support Summit County families as well as ways to improve state assistance.

Prosecutor Walsh spent time with employees at Medical Mutual, providing them tips on how to stay safe.

Information about safety included basic awareness and self-defense moves to help minimize their chance of becoming a victim.



If you would like Prosecutor Walsh to present safety information to your company business, please call Megan at mboogavich@prosecutor.summitoh.net or call 330.643.7915..

or



EVERY'S CORNER

CRIME & PUNISHMENT

As summer winds down, I love hanging out with my human friends. Especially when I get to help someone. I'm sitting here with one of my new friends who came to court because something bad happened to her.

I'm glad I was able to spend time with her and help her through what happened.



Some of my favorite humans are the little, itty bitty ones. His mom works at my office and stopped by. Looks like he found the perfect place to nap!



I got to meet a strange duck! I think his name is Webster. He works just down the street with a baseball team.



I wonder if he loves chasing balls as much as I do. Maybe we can swap jobs for a day!

Oh, I almost forgot. August 1st was my birthday! I'm 8 years old.

I got to celebrate with a lot of my human friends at work. And they even let me have some cake!



I can't wait to help as many people as possible.

Follow Avery II on Instagram at:

@averyscpo



GUILTY VERDICTS

August 2019

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

Elisabeth Jackson Rick Raley



TOUGH PROSECUTIONS

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

Michael Olson, 35

- Aggravated Murder
- Rape
- **LIFE IN PRISON WITHOUT PAROLE**

James Ferrell, 56

- Rape
- **LIFE IN PRISON**

Todd Cleavenger, 42

- Kidnapping
- Felonious Assault
- **16 YEARS IN PRISON**



SEPTEMBER IS
SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

One conversation can change a life.

SUMMIT COUNTY
SUPPORT HOTLINE

1.888.434.8878



Help Us Go Green!

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



TOP COPS

AKRON POLICE OFFICER JASON BECK

NOMINATED BY ASSISTANT PROSECUTORS CRISTIANA SIBLEY & MAUREEN WALSH

Our TOP COPS typically are recognized for their outstanding work in solving a crime and bringing a criminal to justice. This month is a little different. Our TOP COP is also being honored for his work in helping prevent crime.

We nominate Akron Police Officer Jason Beck as this month's TOP COP.

Officer Beck is the School Resource Officer at Akron's Innes CLC. Officer Beck is an outstanding School Resource Officer who works very hard on his cases.

Most recently, Officer Beck conducted a complete and thorough investigation regarding an assault at Innes CLC. Officer Beck gathered multiple witness statements, reviewed different surveillance footage and recovered a video of the assault from a student's phone. His hard work and thorough report saved us hours while preparing for trial. Additionally, the victim said Officer Beck always said hello and asked him how he was doing after the assault. These types of interactions leave a lasting impression on young people, and I am grateful that



Officer Beck works so hard to have positive interactions with students.

After speaking with many students who attend Innes, I have found that all speak highly of Officer Beck and his role in their lives at school. As a school resource officer, Officer Beck is sometimes the first law enforcement officer these children and their parents might meet. With his kindness and professionalism, he leaves a great first impression on those he encounters.

In a world where students might not always feel safe at school, Officer Beck goes above and beyond forming positive relationships with students and victims to help them feel safe and heard.

As this month's TOP COP, Officer Beck receives a gift card to The Peanut Shoppe. Thank you The Peanut Shoppe for your support of law enforcement.

**Great job and congratulations
Officer Beck!!**

RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF VICTIMS

The Summit County Prosecutor's Office is holding its 4th annual conference – "Responding to the Needs of Victims" - on Friday, September 20th from 8am to 4:30pm at the Hilton Akron Fairlawn.

The conference is geared specifically for those who come in contact with victims of crime including law enforcement, victim advocates, social workers, therapists, medical personnel, and attorneys.

This year, experts Anne Munch, Esq. and Kim Case bring their unique training to Summit County. Those attending will learn effective victim advocacy as well as strategies to challenge double standards and stereotypes that often cripple our responses to victims, investigations and prosecution efforts in sexual assault cases. Continuing education credits are available to attorneys, social workers, therapists and counselors. To register—go to <https://bit.ly/2xLY9pG>

Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/2xLY9pG> Summit County Prosecutor
Sherri Bevan Walsh
Presents

Fourth Annual Conference Responding to the Needs of Victims

Featuring Nationally Recognized Experts
Anne Munch, Esq. & Kim Case

The participants will learn effective victim advocacy as well as strategies to challenge stereotypes that can cripple our responses to victims, investigations and prosecution efforts in sexual assault cases. This training is beneficial for all audiences.

OBJECTIVES:

The role of alcohol and drugs on the question of consent.

How to corroborate criminal intent on the part of the offender and take blame off of victims.

Learn strategies for successful investigations and prosecutions.

Kim Case is a renowned speaker recognized for her work creating a positive response for victims. A message of resiliency and hope, Kim shares her experience as a survivor of a sixteen hour hostage situation and multiple rapes which nearly took her life. Anne Munch, Esq. is a dedicated attorney, educator and judge with over 30 years' experience advocating for victims of crime, with emphasis on sexual assault and domestic violence.

Cost: \$35⁰⁰

Friday, September 20, 2019
8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Registration 8:00am - 8:30 am

Hilton Akron / Fairlawn 3180 W Market St. Akron, OH 44333



Continuing Legal Education
Approved by the Supreme Court of Ohio for 5 CLE's for attorneys.

CSWMFT Board CEU's
Approved for 5 CEU's for Counselors, Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists

WHY I'M A PROSECUTOR

TOM KROLL

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 Tom Kroll, a supervisor 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 when you have a case where the victim puts their whole trust in you and you come out with a great outcome.

It's knowing that you made a difference and helped them through one of the most difficult times in their lives.

• WHY DID YOU BECOME A PROSECUTOR?

My career before going to law school was in social work. After law school, I had a few friends who became prosecutors. I realized that being a prosecutor involved a profession where I could be in the courtroom, try cases, and help people.

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

It's the times that, despite someone putting their trust in you, and you putting your best effort into the case, the right outcome just doesn't happen.

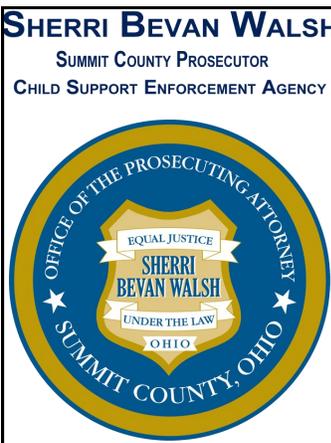
You can watch Tom's complete video on our website, Facebook and YouTube page.

SUCCESSFUL CHILD SUPPORT SOLUTIONS

We fight for families! The Summit County Prosecutor's Office Child Support Enforcement Agency's "Child Support Solutions" was a huge success.

The 9th annual event assisted over 130 parents representing nearly 270 open active cases. The three-day event collected nearly \$24,000 in payments.

For the first time, Child Support Solutions offered "Dollar Days". For every one dollar paid toward past due support, the program waived one dollar of past due support owed to the State of Ohio. To take part in the agreement, the participant needed to make a minimum payment of \$100.



"My mission as Summit County Prosecutor is to fight for people. Whether you are a crime victim or someone who is supposed to receive child support payments, my office works hard to get them the help they need," said Prosecutor Walsh.

Prosecutor Walsh added, "Child Support Solutions Days is just one way we fight for families and get them the money they so desperately need. I'm so proud of my Child Support Enforcement Agency and its efforts to break down barriers which prevented people from paying child support".

Thank you to everyone who helped organize and took part in this event.

Office of Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh

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Akron, Ohio 44308

330-643-2800

Sherri Bevan Walsh

Summit County Prosecuting Attorney

53 University Avenue, 6th Floor

Akron, OH 44308

(330) 643-2800

co.summit.oh.us/prosecutor

Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/2xLY9pG> Summit County Prosecutor
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