



FROM THE OFFICE OF
SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR
SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

A MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR WALSH

SENIOR SAFETY MONTH

Since taking office in 2001, it has been my mission to make Summit County safer. And for much of my adult life as a lawyer and prosecutor, my main goal is to fight for people's rights, especially victims. That's why September holds a special place for me.

Soon after being elected Summit County Prosecutor, I declared September Senior Safety Awareness Month. Every September it is my goal to bring awareness to specific crimes where seniors are targeted. I feel this is an important issue to devote an entire month to and to give Summit County residents, especially seniors, the tools they need to protect themselves.

Throughout the month, my office will be involved in community events, educating as many senior citizens as possible about scams, criminal activity, and how to protect your home. Unfortunately, many criminals see seniors as vulnerable and weak. But knowledge is strength and learning how to avoid certain situations will give you the power so you do not become a victim.

You can take action right now to protect yourself. Scam artists are always devising plans to either steal

your money or identity. The Grandparent and Jury Duty scams are just two ways you can be a victim. Your first thought when answering the phone is to trust the person on the line. But that trust can cause you to lose thousands of dollars.

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.
- If you have doubts about a telemarketer's legitimacy, be sure to ask for their company's name and address, along with a phone number where they can be reached at a later time.
- For elderly widows, if a caller asks for the man of the house, be sure not to say that there isn't one or indicate that you live alone.
- Talk to family and friends or call your lawyer, accountant or banker and get their advice before you make any large purchase or investment over the phone with a stranger.
- Check out unfamiliar companies

with your local consumer protection agency, Better Business Bureau, the National Fraud Information Center, or other watchdog groups.

Be sure to sign up for the Federal Trade Commission's Do-Not-Call-Registry. Telemarketers who continue to call you after you have registered are subject to penalties. You can sign up at www.donotcall.gov or at (888) 382-1222.

Don't forget the power to simply hang up the phone when a stranger calls trying to sell you something you don't want!

But also beware of people going door-to-door trying to sell you something. A typical scammer might say they have some leftover materials from a job just down the street and notice you need some work done to your house. Unless you know them or a trusted neighbor refers them, just tell them you're not interested. If they persist, call the police.

Doing these simple things will help protect you and your family.

Stay safe,

Sherri B. Walsh



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IN THE COMMUNITY

Members of the Summit County Prosecutor's Office had a wonderful time getting out in the community in August.

One of the highlights of the year is **National Night Out**, when we get to join together with local law enforcement and bring neighbors together to learn more about how to prevent crime.



We had volunteers throughout the county speaking with people and offering information on how to stay safe.

Prosecutor Walsh

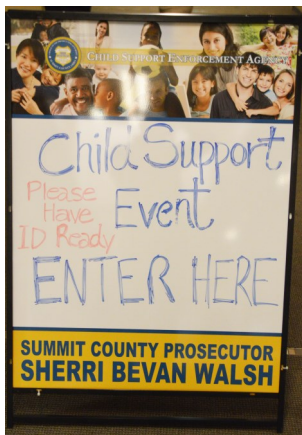
stopped by the city of Stow where she met with residents and had a great time with **Stow Mayor Sara Kline**.



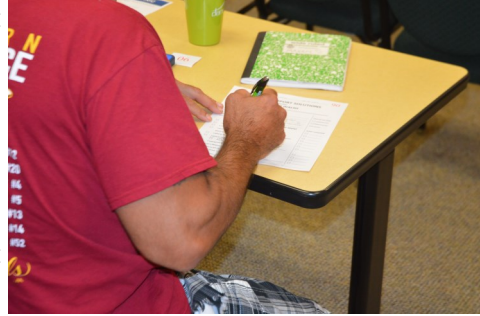
Thank you to everyone who took the time to meet their neighbors and work toward making our community a safer and better place to live.

Another one of our more popular events is our annual **Child Support Solutions Day**. The one-day event on August 12 at the Ohio Means Jobs Center helped Summit County families get the resources they need.

We assisted over 200 parents, resolved over 50 outstanding warrants and helped reinstate drivers' licenses for over 100 non-custodial parents who owed back child support. 75 employees and volunteers assisted during the 6th annual event. And for the first time, FirstMerit Bank provided its mobile unit to help attendees get



information about their credit score as well as offered other financial services.



Several local agencies took part in the successful event including Summit County Sheriff's Department, Department of Veterans Affairs, Summit County Fatherhood Initiative, Summit County Common Pleas Court and **Summit County Chief Magistrate Ron Cable**.



And the Summit County Prosecutor's Office was among one-thousand people who attended a rally to bring awareness to the heroin crisis sweeping our community.

The heroin crisis affects every community and every neighborhood and does not discriminate based on race, gender, economics or age.

August 31st was International Overdose Awareness Day. Take time to help others caught in the grips of addiction. And please remember those who have succumbed to the grips of this addiction.



We will continue to hold people accountable as well as work with community leaders on possible solutions.

AVERY'S CORNER

KEEPING THE COMMUNITY SAFE

It's the dog days of summer—my favorite time of year! The warm weather is perfect to lay out in the backyard after a long day of running and chasing.

But I was plenty busy in August.

I spent some time with the new volunteers at the Rape Crisis Center.



They do a great job helping survivors of sexual assault. I'm so happy we are able to work together to help victims.

Plus, it was my birthday in August. I turned 5. That's 35 in human years. As you can see, I'm not that happy about getting older! Or maybe I just wanted some cake. I can't remember. But the cake tasted yummy!



And I got to spend time with one of my favorite people. That's Jean Johnson, one of our office secretaries. Jean takes me to court when my human Mel isn't at work. And that's her mom Mavella. We celebrated her 100th birthday. I hope I look as good as she does when I turn 100. Happy Birthday!



Thanks to everyone who works hard helping others.

Follow Avery II on Facebook at:

[www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/SummitCountyProsecutorAveryII)

SummitCountyProsecutorAveryII



Help Us Go Green!

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

GUILTY VERDICTS

August 2016

Congratulations to the following assistant prosecutors for obtaining convictions at trial. **GREAT JOB PROSECUTORS!**

Kassim Ahmed Seema Misra
Felicia Easter Ryan Stickel
Kevin Mayer



TOUGH PROSECUTIONS

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

Willie Hicks, 45

Demardre Johnson, 29

- Murder
- Having a Weapon Under Disability
- **LIFE IN PRISON**
- Felonious Assault
- Failure to Comply
- **7 YEARS IN PRISON**



THE NEEDS OF CRIME VICTIMS

The Summit County Prosecutor's Office is very proactive in responding to the needs of crime victims. Now, we are taking that pledge one step further, and helping train others in Summit County on how to help crime victims.

The Summit County Prosecutor's Office Victim Services Division assisted close to 2,000 victims and their families last year. Being a victim of a crime can be very stressful and emotional. And not all crime victims respond the same way. So how do first responders, investigators, counselors, and even family members, handle the various emotions and reactions of crime victims? That's why we are taking action.

Crystal Baker, the Director of our Victim Services Division, has put together a FREE one-day conference: Responding to the Needs of Victims. On September 29th, law enforcement officers, victim advocates, and key members of the community will come together to learn, teach, explore, and discuss some very difficult topics.

Among those scheduled to give a presentation is Doctor Jim Hopper, a nationally known expert on the impact of sexual assault on people. Dr. Hopper will take a closer

SAVE THE DATE

SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR
SHERRI BEVAN WALSH
PRESENTS

**RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF VICTIMS:
A FREE ONE DAY CONFERENCE**

FEATURING NATIONAL EXPERT, DR. JIM HOPPER PH.D.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2016
8:00A - 4:15P
QUAKER STATION 135 S. BROADWAY ST. AKRON, OH 44308

TOPICS TO INCLUDE:

- > THE NEUROBIOLOGY OF TRAUMA AND SEXUAL ASSAULT
- > VICTIM COMPENSATION
- > WORKING WITH SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
- > TRAUMA INFORMED RESPONSE TO VICTIMS

**BREAKFAST
AND
LUNCH
PROVIDED**

look at how the brain reacts and responds to sexual assaults, and how that reaction may impact memory.

Other speakers include Prosecutor Walsh, Domestic Relations Chief Magistrate Ron Cable, members of the Ohio Attorney General's Office, clinical psychologists, and a representative of the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Assault.

FREE SELF-DEFENSE CLASS

As we focus this month on senior safety, make plans to join us for our FREE Women's Self-Defense Classes.

Our next event is coming up soon—Monday September 26 at Kimpton Middle School on North River Road in Munroe Falls.

You will learn vital information and techniques which could save your life. And it's lots of fun.

So come join us and bring a family member or friend. We'll have plenty of refreshments. And if you can't make this event, stay tuned! We're in Hudson in October!



FREE WOMEN'S SELF-DEFENSE CLASS

Sponsored by

Sherri Bevan Walsh

Summit County Prosecutor

AND

Lt. Chad Cunningham
University of Akron Police Dept.

No registration required!



Learn simple techniques that could save your life!

- Verbal techniques
- Free yourself from a chokehold
- Learn the wrist breakaway
- Escape if pinned to the ground
- Practice kicks and slaps

Monday,
September 26th, 2016
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Kimpton Middle School
380 N. River Road
Munroe Falls, Ohio 44262



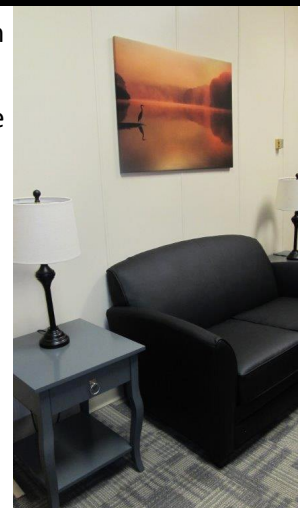
For more information, contact:
Jenifer Watson
330-643-7915 waton@prosecutor.summitoh.net

WITNESS WAITING ROOM

We're getting close! Our renovation of the victim waiting room in the courthouse is almost complete! The walls have been painted, and the furniture is in. Now, just some minor touches are needed to finish the project.

From tearing out the old (and yucky!) carpeting to putting a fresh coat of paint on the walls, a number of people put time and energy into making the space a calm and quiet location for people who have to deal with the stress of court.

Thank you to everyone who helped!



TOP COP

SUMMIT COUNTY SHERIFF'S DETECTIVES JASON KLINE AND LARRY BROWN NOMINATED BY NIK BUCKMEIER

Tracking down a person who is sending and receiving child porn can be very difficult. Many times, these criminals hide behind fake names while trolling chat rooms.

But we were able to secure a conviction in one of these cases thanks to the hard work and dedication of three law enforcement officers, including two Summit County deputies. That is why I am nominating Summit County Sheriff's Detectives Jason Kline and Larry Brown.

Detectives Kline and Brown followed up on the investigation started by Detective Randall Snyder of the Pinal County, Arizona Sheriff's Department.

The initial investigation led to Curtis Burden, who was posting explicit pictures and videos of children. Kline and



Brown obtained search warrants for two apartments and seized several electronic devices. Because of that evidence, officers were able to arrest and charge Curtis Burden who eventually confessed.

Detectives Kline, Brown, and Snyder performed an exhaustive investigation culminating in not only a confession from Curtis Burden, but a conviction. As a result of their hard work, Curtis Burden is now serving a six year prison term.

As the September TOP COPS, Detectives Kline and Brown are the recipients of a gift card from Bricco Downtown and Luigi's Restaurant. Thank you Bricco and Luigi's for your support of our office and local law enforcement.

Congratulations and great job!

2017 SENIOR SAFETY CALENDARS AVAILABLE

As mentioned earlier in this newsletter, Prosecutor Walsh has declared September as Senior Safety Awareness Month.

As we help all of Summit County stay safe, we use September to focus on our seniors. And one way is our annual Senior Safety Awareness Calendar.

The 2017 calendar is hot off the presses and ready to send out. With lots of important safety information, the 2017 Senior Safety Calendar is a must have for any family member or friend. Everything you need to know, from how to recognize and stop bullying among the elderly to staying away from scammers who target seniors.

If you would like one to be mailed to you, please contact Jennifer Watson at 330.643.2800 or email her at watson@prosecutor.summitoh.net.

SENIOR SAFETY AWARENESS 2017 CALENDAR



Calendar Sponsored by Summit County Prosecuting Attorney Sherri Bevan Walsh

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