



News from the Criminal Division

April 2013

Message from Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh

National Crime Victims' Rights Week is April 21 – 27. This year's theme is "New Challenges. New Solutions." The week is celebrated nationally with awareness festivities such as walks, community fairs, exhibits and other advertisements to promote community education in participating communities.

Locally, the Rape Crisis Center of Summit and Medina Counties is hosting the 8th annual Walk a Mile in Her Shoes. This event raises awareness of rape, sexual assault and gender violence. It's a fun event in which my office will once again be participating. For more information, visit www.rccmsc.org.

Additionally, the Victim Assistance Program is sponsoring two events. The first is a candlelight vigil on April 21 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Akron. The second is a Crime Victims' Rights Awareness Luncheon on April 23. For more information about these events, visit the Victim Assistance Program website at www.VictimAssistanceProgram.org.

Although victim rights are specifically highlighted during National Crime Victims' Rights Week, my office is dedicated to supporting victims throughout the year. Since I took office in 2001, my Victim Services Division has evolved into a full-time unit that supports victims in all aspects of the criminal justice system.

My office recognizes the importance of victim assistance and places special priority on ensuring that victims are never neglected or left out of the judicial process. Every victim is important and must be shown the utmost level of care.

From the moment a crime is committed, victims face so much. They endure not only the pain of having been harmed, but also must repeatedly relive the offense as their case proceeds through the criminal justice system.

In addition to directly supporting victims, my office has a strong community outreach program that strives to educate the community on safety issues, victim needs and services available to victims.

Being a victim of a crime may sometimes be overwhelming to handle, which is why we make sure victims never undergo it alone.

For more information on National Crime Victims' Rights Week and the Office for Victims of Crime, visit <http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw/index.html>.

If you would like to know more about our Victim Services Division, please contact our Victim Services Director, Kristen Arapp, at arapp@prosecutor.summitoh.net or (330) 643-2800.

Stay safe,



Mother-Daughter Self-Defense

Are you worried about your daughter's safety as she becomes more independent, moves out, starts driving or is working late at night? Are you concerned for your own safety?

On May 8, Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh, Sheriff Steve Barry and University of Akron Police Lt. Chad Cunningham will host a Mother-Daughter Self-Defense class. The class will teach you what to do if someone tries to attack you, how to free yourself from a choke



hold, how to disable an attacker and how to escape if pinned to the ground.

You will learn a variety of simple techniques that could save your life. Some of the techniques include the "Wrist Breakaway," the "Groin Slap," the "Shin Kick" and the "Instep Stomp." You will also learn about various types of self-defense weapons and tips on using them. The class also includes safety tips on what to look for if you suspect danger, as well as how to reduce the likelihood of being attacked.

The class is open to women of all ages and is absolutely free with no registration required. Come alone or with a buddy.

We hope to see you May 8 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the gym at Hudson Middle School, located at 77 North Oviatt Street in Hudson!

For more information, contact April Wiesner at (330) 643-8386 or wiesner@prosecutor.summitoh.net.

Tough Prosecution

These defendants will be out of our community for a lengthy period of time thanks to the hard work of my assistant prosecutors:

Cory J. Stevens, age 37

- Rape
- **Sentenced to life in prison**
- **Eligible for parole in 2023**

Doylyn Clayton, Jr., age 19

- Aggravated Robbery (two counts)
- **Sentenced to 16 years in prison**

Richard Beasley, age 53

- Aggravated Murder (nine counts)
- **Sentenced to death**

Dvante Suddeth, age 18

- Aggravated Robbery (four counts)
- **Sentenced to 15 years in prison**

Jack Carmel, age 62

- Gross Sexual Imposition (five counts)
- **Sentenced to 15 years in prison**

Shannon Mount, age 44

- Aggravated Murder
- **Sentenced to life in prison**
- **Eligible for parole in 2053**

Guilty at Trial in March

Congratulations to the following assistant prosecutors for obtaining guilty verdicts at trial last month:

Jon Baumel

Nik Buckmeier

Mike Cody

Joe Dangelo (2)

Kevin Mayer

Angela Poth-Wypasek (3)

Jennie Shuki

Omar Siddiq

Colleen Sims

Brian Stano

Great job, prosecutors!

Help us go green!

If you currently receive this newsletter on paper and would like to receive an electronic version instead, email [Melanie Hart](mailto:Melanie.Hart@prosecutor.summitoh.net) at hart@prosecutor.summitoh.net.

April Top Cops

**Top Cops: FBI Special Agents Todd Wickerham, Jack Vickery, Michael Daugherty, Corey Collins and Drew McConaghy
Bureau of Criminal Investigations Special Agent Mark Kollar
Noble County Sheriff Deputy Jason Mackie (now with Guernsey County)**

Nominated By: Assistant Prosecutor Jon Baumel

What initially appeared to be an isolated shooting incident in Noble County dramatically turned into a premeditated serial killing spree involving witnesses and evidence spread over multiple jurisdictions.

FBI agents Todd Wickerham, Jack Vickery, Michael Daugherty, Corey Collins and Drew McConaghy, along with Noble County Sheriff's Deputy Jason Mackie (now employed with Guernsey County), were given the difficult task of coordinating the investigation.

They quickly and efficiently utilized all of their resources to locate crucial evidence from national website companies, restaurant security videos, searches of residences and vehicles, computer and phone records, as well as interview material witnesses.

Law enforcement used records from Google and Craigslist to find the exact location where the ad was placed, where Richard Beasley was living and to discover additional victims. They pored over security videos from Shoney's, Waffle House and Napoli's to find visual evidence of Beasley and Brogan Rafferty meeting with victims Scott Davis and Tim Kern.

Additionally, the FBI searched

multiple homes in an effort to locate crucial evidence. Their searches led to an analysis of phone and computer records that linked Beasley and Rafferty to the murders and attempted murder. The gun used to kill Tim Kern was found in Rafferty's home.

Deputy Mackie and Special Agent McConaghy interviewed Rafferty several times. These interviews led to a partial confession and additional evidence against Beasley.

The FBI agents identified and interviewed many people who had met with Beasley after responding to the Craigslist ad, as well as associates of Beasley and Rafferty. Through these interviews, the FBI was able to establish a pattern and uncover additional damning evidence against Beasley, including a large amount of David Pauley's property.

Bureau of Criminal Investigations (BCI) Special Agent Mark Kollar became the lead investigator. Among the numerous aspects of the case he handled, he was responsible for organizing evidence, investigating new leads, interviewing witnesses and assisting prosecutors with trial preparation and during the actual trial.

Special Agent Kollar found proof

that Beasley had stolen the identity of Ralph Geiger. This evidence included Beasley's application and work records where he used Geiger's name and records from a gun shop where Beasley, again using Geiger's name, took a gun to be serviced just days before using it to murder Tim Kern.

An investigation into a crime of this magnitude requires the cooperation of multiple law enforcement agencies. Everyone must pool their resources and work together to build a solid case.

Thanks in large part to the many exhausting hours of hard work put forth by the FBI, BCI and Noble County Sheriff's Department -- not to mention law enforcement agencies here in Summit County -- Richard Beasley and Brogan Rafferty were found guilty of all charges.

Rafferty will spend the rest of his life in prison and Beasley will be executed for this unthinkable killing spree.



Way to go, Special Agents Wickerham, Vickery, Daugherty, Collins, McConaghy and Kollar and Deputy Mackie!

Meet a Prosecutor: Nick Buzzy



Hire Date: November 2012

Title: Assistant Prosecutor

Hometown: Hudson, Ohio

Fun Fact: Growing up, my family and I played many different card games. Since I also have a passion for writing, I wrote a book on my favorite card game, Euchre, which was published and is available on Amazon for the Kindle device.

Education: I graduated with a bachelor's degree in finance at John Carroll University and earned my law degree from Case Western Reserve University.

Background: While at Case, I interned at the Summit County Prosecutor's Office for two summers and during my last semester.

Job Duties: I handle dependency, neglect and abuse cases for the Juvenile Division of the Prosecutor's Office.

Most Memorable Case: I had a case in which the mother and father went 12 straight weeks without visiting, calling or writing their one-year-old child. The child had been placed with a foster family less than 30 minutes away from where the parents lived. Despite showing no interest in their child, both parents were still fighting to prevent the child from being placed with relatives in Montana. Those relatives had been flying from Montana to visit the child, writing letters and using Skype to communicate. Fortunately, the magistrate agreed to place the children with the relatives.

The Best Part of my Job: I wanted to become a prosecutor because I wanted to use my advocacy skills to help victims and provide justice. Each day I am in court I feel like my advocacy skills improve, which I know will help me become a better prosecutor and advocate for victims in the future.

Agency Spotlight: Autism Society

Since 1990, the Autism Society of Ohio has worked to support and educate families affected by autism and all spectrum disorders, as well as to raise public awareness.

Founded by parents of children with autism, the Autism Society dedicates every day to increasing awareness about the challenges faced by people across the autism spectrum, advocating for individuals with autism and providing the latest information on treatments, research advancements and education.

The Akron chapter works to bring the national society's support to the local level. It not only directs families to much-needed resources, but also plans fun events for families and the entire community.

One of the larger events is the Autism 5K & Walk, which will take place on June 15 at Lock 3 in Akron. In

addition to the race and walk, there will be activities for kids, food, entertainment and autism service providers.

For more information or to register, visit www.AkronAutism5kAndWalk.org.



[AkronAutism5kAndWalk.org](http://www.AkronAutism5kAndWalk.org).

The Akron chapter has a strong volunteer base of more than 250 dedicated volunteers who assist with the organization's various autism-friendly events, fundraisers and educational initiatives.

Visit www.AutismOhio.org for resources and information on how to get involved.

Contact the Summit County Prosecutor's Office
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Akron, Ohio 44308
330-643-2800