



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

A MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR WALSH  
**CITIZENS ACADEMY IS BACK!**

For many the criminal justice system can be confusing and overwhelming at times. Many people not familiar with the ins and outs of the courts wonder how and why certain things happen.

I work hard to make what we do in the Prosecutor’s Office as transparent as possible. That’s why I’m so pleased to announce our Prosecutor’s Office Citizens Academy is back!

Have you ever wanted to learn more about how criminal charges are filed? What about plea agreements? Or how trials are conducted? Then you’ll want to sign up for our Citizens Academy. Topics covered range from grand jury proceedings, officer involved shootings and bodycams, child support, human trafficking, victim services, sentencing and much more.

We also provide an overview of the Prosecutor’s Office—from safety speeches to crime prevention. We explain why, as prosecutors, we are not permitted to discuss a pending case publicly. You will never hear my office describe details of a current case to the media.

My goal is to hold criminals accountable and not try the case in the media.

This is the fourth year my office has hosted a Citizens Academy. This year the academy is being held remotely, so you don’t even have to leave your home. The 10-week course is from 6pm-8pm every Wednesday evening beginning September 14th.

To apply, just head to my office website—  
[www.prosecutor.summitoh.net](http://www.prosecutor.summitoh.net).

There you’ll find the link to download the application and how to register.

You can also link to the application by using the camera on your cell phone to point at the QR code on the flyer below. A link will pop up on your phone.



Registration ends August 31st, so you still have a little more time.

I hope to see you there!

And as always, stay safe.

*Sherri B. Walsh*

**PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH PRESENTS 2022 CITIZENS ACADEMY**


“Criminal justice touches our lives in ways that most people might not think about.”  
- SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

**TOGETHER WE THRIVE**

Learn how we balance the scales of justice. Be a part of the Citizens Academy! Remote weekly classes will begin September 14, 2022 and cover:

- Gun Violence
- Police Shootings & Body Cams
- Child Support
- Sex Crimes
- Human Trafficking
- Grand Jury
- Domestic Violence
- Ethical Decisions

**Scan QR code for Application**





**Application Link:**  
[prosecutor.summitoh.net](http://prosecutor.summitoh.net)

**Registration ends August 31, 2022**

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 [prosecutorwalsh](https://www.instagram.com/prosecutorwalsh)  
 [SummitCountyProsecutorOffice](https://www.facebook.com/SummitCountyProsecutorOffice)

# IN THE COMMUNITY

The Summit County Prosecutor’s Office staff is very involved in the community, working hard to make Summit County a better and safer place to live.

That commitment means taking part in various community events, like the recent Open M Community Day Luncheon.

So much fun with lots of food, music, games, and giveaways.



## SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

### PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH AND CSEA INVITE YOU TO COMMUNITY APPRECIATION DAY

*A day of hope, healing, help, fun and family*

**August 26, 2022**  
**11am - 3pm**  
House of the Lord  
1650 Diagonal Rd. Akron, OH 44320

- On-site Resources for all:**
- Child Support Case Managers
  - Genetic Testing
  - Employment
  - Job training
  - Fatherhood
  - Counseling
  - Addiction services
  - Re-entry services
  - ODRC
  - Univ of Akron
  - Apprentice Programs
  - Fair Housing
- Many other resource providers will be there to answer questions and provide helpful information.

- Raffles**
- Games for Kids with Prizes
  - Self Defense Demonstrations
  - Free Haircuts for Kids
  - Corvette Club
  - Free Bicycle Repairs (5 bikes to be given away)
  - Meet Avery (Prosecutor's Facility Dog)

### FREE SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR CHILDREN (QUANTITIES LIMITED)

In collaboration with The House of the Lord Prison Ministries and South Street Ministries.

# CRIME & PUNISHMENT

## TOUGH PROSECUTIONS

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

- **Richard Schultz, 55**
- Rape
- **LIFE IN PRISON**
- **Steven Hayes, 22**
- Murder
- **LIFE IN PRISON**
- **Donnell Lawson, 29**
- Murder
- **LIFE IN PRISON**



## GUILTY VERDICTS

### July 2022

Congratulations to the following assistant prosecutors for obtaining convictions at trial.

- |                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Ben Carro</b>        | <b>Greg Peacock</b>  |
| <b>Michelle Cordova</b> | <b>Charles Roman</b> |
| <b>Jamila Mitchell</b>  | <b>Tristan Serri</b> |
| <b>Joe McAleese</b>     |                      |

## GREAT JOB PROSECUTORS!



# AVERY'S CORNER

# EQUITY & SOCIAL JUSTICE

Recently I got to spend time with some friends I haven't seen in a long time.

I was happy to spend time with them as they came to court to find out how long a bad hooman will be locked up. He did some bad things to them. I'm glad I was able to sit with them and I'm happy they finally have closure.



I got to meet a new friend recently.

I stayed with him as we walked around the courthouse and found the courtroom where he may have to spend some time. I'm glad I was able to help him and hope to see him soon.



August started off with a celebration as it was my birthday!

I turned 11. We had a cake (I even got to have some!) and a big party.



I've been with the Summit County Prosecutor's Office for over nine years! I love to help people and make their experience with the justice system better.

I'm excited to see what the next year brings.

**Follow Avery II on Facebook at:**

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

[SummitCountyProsecutorAveryII](http://SummitCountyProsecutorAveryII)



The Summit County Prosecutor's Office "Ambassadors for Equity & Social Justice" was formed to work toward bringing people of different backgrounds and cultures together. Each month the Ambassadors share thoughts in making our community a better place to live. Here is an article from one of the group's members.



WE the Ambassadors spend countless hours exploring and discussing current events and what we as a group can do to make today's social climate better.

The Ambassadors like to think we are more alike than different. Although the world is filled with different nationalities, cultures, and ethnic groups, we would like to believe we have similar values.

Explore this list to see if any of the sayings are familiar:

- "Treat people the way you want to be treated"
- "Whatever worth doing is worth doing well "
- "What goes around comes around"
- "Watch how you carry yourself"
- "Be careful how you treat people "
- "Family is everything "
- "Say what you mean and mean what you say"
- "Your word is your bond"

Any one of those items familiar?

No matter how you grew up, we believe the desires are the same for our children regardless of race, color, or creed.

We the Ambassadors implore you to "Live life with Love in your Heart " and to spread it to your children and children's children. Join us in bringing about change that is necessary in our own lives and spread the love to others. If we do so, we believe the world will be a better and safer place in which to live.

"Tell someone you love them and mean it."



**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 COP

## AKRON POLICE LT. DAVE WHIDDON

NOMINATED BY ASST. PROSECUTORS BRIAN LOPRINZI & JENNIE SHUKI

It was one of the most shocking, tragic crimes Akron has seen in a long time. A 21-month-old baby girl and her father were chased down and intentionally run over by the driver of an SUV. Who could have done this and why? With no known witnesses, the investigation had to be built from the ground up.



is our nomination for TOP COP is what he did after the case was solved.

For years, Akron Police Lt. Dave Whiddon has led the Crimes Against Persons Unit to solve countless numbers of murders, rapes, robberies, and other horrible crimes. This case, like the many before it, was an example of great teamwork by detectives (including retired Det. Mike Shaeffer), uniformed officers, and the unit's invaluable administrator. Without the years of experience, and dedication by the entire unit, Shawn Allen may never have been identified as the person responsible.

Follow-up investigation on a crime of this magnitude can be as important as the initial investigation. Lt. Whiddon spent hours *after* Mr. Allen was charged making the case stronger. He watched countless hours of video from nine separate surveillance cameras in order to find the critical clips that allowed him to develop a time line of the events of the killer's actions that night.

Lt. Whiddon's ability to solve complicated cases is unparalleled. He is the ultimate professional, who strives to achieve justice. Lt. Whiddon *takes* ownership in his cases, and *gives* freely of his time. For those reasons, Lt. David Whiddon is always welcome at our trial table, and is this month's Top Cop.

Solving difficult cases is what we have come to expect from the Lieutenant and his crew. The reason Lt. Dave Whiddon

**Congratulations Lt. Whiddon & great job!**

## WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

The United States Congress passed the 19th Amendment to the Constitution granting women full and equal voting rights on this day in 1920. Every year on August 26, we commemorate this right with National Women's Equality Day.



On July 30, 1971, New York Representative Bella Abzug presented a bill designating August 26th as Women's Equality Day.

On that date in 1971, rallies, celebrations and political debate filled the country. By 1973, Congress passed a joint resolution declaring Women's Equality Day to be observed on August 26th of each year. Every year since, each President declares this day as Women's Equality Day commemorating the certification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution.

## BACK TO SCHOOL

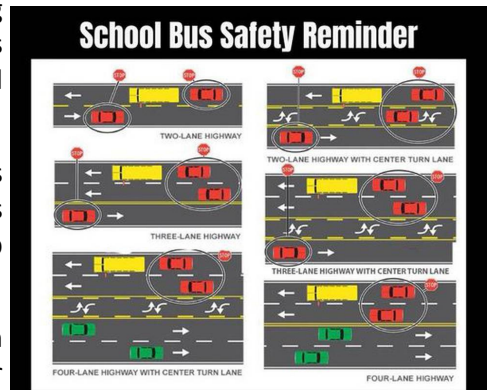
It's back to school time! Many students are back in the classroom. It's a good time to remind people to keep an eye out for kids walking to school as well as watching for school buses on the road.

Remember the rules when a school bus pulls over to pick up or drop off children.

On a road with fewer than four lanes, all traffic

approaching a stopped school bus from any direction must stop at least 10 feet from the bus and remain stopped until the bus begins to move or the bus driver signals drivers to proceed.

If the school bus is stopped on a street with four or more lanes, only traffic traveling in the same direction as the bus must stop.



# WHY I'M A PROSECUTOR

## MARRETT HANNA

"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.

Marrett Hanna, who's an assistant prosecutor in our Civil Division, talks about why being a prosecutor is so important to her.



### • WHY DID YOU BECOME A PROSECUTOR?

I became a prosecutor because I had been working in criminal defense at a firm which handled some really intense criminal defense work. It was challenging and disturbing and I did not feel comfortable or that it was rewarding.

I had an opportunity to work for the prosecutor in Portage County and as soon as I took that job I felt like I was home. I felt that I was in the right place and that I could make a difference. People need a voice and it was a perfect opportunity to be that voice. My sister always said I was a natural arguer so it was a very good fit for me. I've wanted to be an attorney since I was in the seventh grade.

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

The best part about being a prosecutor is making a difference. I feel like you give people a voice who don't have a voice, or their voice is

not loud enough and you have the opportunity and ability to be loud enough for people to hear you.

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

The most difficult part of being a prosecutor is losing a case which you think you should have won. You put your heart and soul into something and then you don't get the results you feel are deserved or just under the law. It's difficult having to explain to your client what happened.

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

## SELF-DEFENSE CLASSES ARE BACK!

The Summit County Prosecutor's Office is pleased to announce that, after a more than two-year break because of the COVID-19 pandemic, our FREE Women's Self-Defense classes are back!

Learn simple and easy techniques to help you avoid becoming a crime victim. Our certified instructor will show common sense ways to get away from an attacker.

The fun and informative class is Wednesday August 31 from 6p-8p at the Central Park Community Hall in Green.

It's free and you don't have to pre-register. Just show up!

Hope to see you there!



### FREE WOMEN'S SELF-DEFENSE CLASS

Sponsored by

Summit County Prosecutor

**Sherri Bevan Walsh**

and City of Green Law Director

**Lisa Dean**

with Certified Instructor

**Chad Cunningham**



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

Wednesday, August 31, 2022  
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Central Park Community Hall  
1755 Town Park Blvd  
Green, Ohio 44720



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