



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

## A MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR WALSH CHILD SUPPORT—WORKING FOR YOU!

As Summit County Prosecutor, my priority is to make our community a better and safer place to live. As part of that mission, my office works hard to hold people accountable.

I pride myself on fighting for those who might not be able to fight for themselves. As we hold people accountable for committing crimes, I also feel we must hold people accountable for not living up to their responsibilities as a parent if they owe child support.

I am proud of the 115 people who work in my Child Support Enforcement Agency (CSEA). My Child Support Enforcement Agency collects more than \$74 million dollars each year for families who are owed child support.

That money is desperately needed to help families pay for essentials, like housing, food, utilities, and clothing.

Ohio's Department of Job and Family Services also thinks pretty highly of my Child Support Enforcement Agency.

For 2022, CSEA received the Best Overall Performance award among the state's six largest counties.

This was the seventh year in a row the Agency received such an honor.

CSEA received four total awards in 2022 including the award for Best Performance Collections on Current Support.

CSEA also recently implemented the "Safe Access Unit". The Unit works with survivors of domestic and intimate partner violence to provide safe access to child support services. If a parent feels that seeking child support would put themselves and their children in danger, the "Safe Access Unit" can offer safeguards.

Safeguards include conducting administrative hearings by telephone, which allow parents to access child support services without having direct contact with the other parent. The Prosecutor's Office Child Support Enforcement Agency also takes steps to keep parents safe when going to court, including providing an advocate to accompany parents if they are concerned about their safety.

The Summit County Child Support Enforcement Agency encourages responsible parenting, family self-sufficiency, and child well-being by

providing services to locate parents, establish paternity, establish, modify, and enforce support obligations, and collect support for children.

We have implemented a variety of tools to encourage payment of past due child support and only use prosecution as a last resort. Since its inception in 2001, the Criminal Non-Support program has collected more than \$57 million through its aggressive prosecution of individuals neglecting to pay child support.

I also know there are lots of families who are still fighting to get child support. It can be frustrating but let me assure you that we are doing everything we can to seek justice for a parent's failure to comply with their legal obligation.

If you are seeking a child support order or need to speak with a child support specialist, please call (330) 643-2765.

As always, stay safe.



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*Sherri B. Walsh*

# IN THE COMMUNITY

Thank you to the Norton Women’s Club for having Prosecutor Walsh speak at the organization’s recent event. Prosecutor Walsh discussed how to avoid being scammed and provided information to minimize a person’s chance of becoming a crime victim.



To avoid scammers—follow these tips:

- Don’t answer phone numbers you don’t recognize.
- You cannot pay bills with gift cards.
- Callers like to prey on your emotions. If a caller demands you take immediate action to avoid a fine or being arrested, hang up.
- If something seems too good to be true, it probably is.
- It is illegal to demand payment to have access to lottery winnings.

The Summit County Prosecutor’s Office was proud to attend the recent Akron Early College Career Fair.

We spoke with about 30 students who attend Akron Early College and discussed our office and the positive impact we have on the community.



## GUILTY VERDICTS

### January 2023

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

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Jennie Shuki</b>    | <b>Felicia Easter</b>  |
| <b>Ben Carro</b>       | <b>Jamila Mitchell</b> |
| <b>Zachary Neumann</b> | <b>Chuck Roman</b>     |

## GREAT JOB PROSECUTORS!

## TOUGH PROSECUTIONS

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

### Darnell Roberson, 28

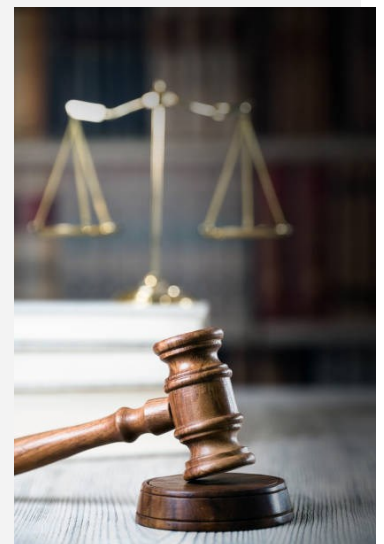
- Rape
- **LIFE IN PRISON**

### Noah Kyle, 26

- Rape
- **LIFE IN PRISON**

### Tyler Duncan, 22

- Felonious Assault
- **16-to-18 YEARS IN PRISON**





# AVERY'S CORNER

# EQUITY & SOCIAL JUSTICE

I always love helping hoomans who come to the office.

I recently met two young hoomans who came to talk with my co-workers about some bad things which happened. They were so nice.



We all sat on the floor together. I let them climb on top of me and hug me!

It was so nice to meet them and help them.

I want to say a big thank you to my favorite doctor—Dr. Paroff at Stow Kent Animal Hospital.



They take real good care of me. Recently my office sent a bunch of yummy food to Dr. Paroff's office as a big thank you for all the work they do.

I heard it was yummy—but they didn't save me any!

**Follow Avery II on Facebook at:**

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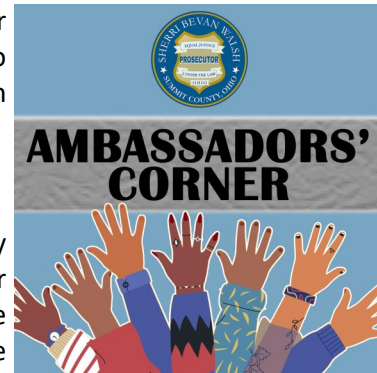
## FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS

Each month there are plenty of ways to celebrate and bring awareness to certain causes and issues.

February has plenty of those opportunities. Here are a couple of designations:

- **NATIONAL CANCER PREVENTION MONTH**  
National Cancer Prevention Month focuses on the things we can control to lessen our odds of developing cancer.
- **NATIONAL HEART MONTH**  
Increases awareness about heart disease. Even small changes help make a difference. Reduce the amount of fast food. Eat more greens. Take the stairs. Walk the kids to school. Go outside and play with the kids or walk the dog.

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.



In honor of Black History Month, the Ambassadors for Equity and Social Justice would like to honor the life and legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Ambassador Judith Lee had the honor of interviewing Dr. King's youngest daughter Dr. Bernice King, during Kent State University's Black History program.

One of the few questions asked was, "If your father were here today, what do you think he'd be most proud of and what would he be most disappointed with?"

Her reply was, "I think my father would be proud to see that through the years since the passing of the voting rights act, more blacks are voting which has led to the placement of more minority leaders today, especially our country's first black President Barack Obama."

"I think he would be most disappointed that we did not adopt a lot of what he wrote about and that we are not rapidly shifting to a people-oriented society. He would be disappointed that we are not away from the conditions that existed during his time. A lot of African Americans are still living in poverty and lagging in education which was what he was fighting to move away from."



**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 DET. RON GAREY

### NOMINATED BY ASST. PROS. JEREMY VEILLETTE

When crime hits a community, it can leave a lasting impact. People afraid to leave their home. Kids worried about playing outside. A crime spree recently hit Akron's North Hill neighborhood. But Akron Police, led by Detective Ron Garey, was able to crack the case. And that's why he's this month's TOP COP.



Akron's North Hill neighborhood was being terrorized by a group of teens. Upwards of a dozen were involved in more than ten separate incidents.

In one incident, a group of five attacked a 14-year-old who was playing basketball by himself. The teen suffered numerous injuries. The group also pushed the teen into a fence, causing some bad cuts.

In another incident, a group of the same teens forced their way into a home where they pulled the young victim outside and beat him up.

A third incident involved the same group where they attacked another teen.

Det. Garey led the investigation, where his team thoroughly reviewed the evidence. Det. Garey also asked for help from local school resource officers, who recognized the teens from videos taken during the assaults. Det. Garey was able to connect one teen to four different incidents.

Our office was able to take three cases to trial in Juvenile Court and secured convictions in all three. The one teen who was connected to all of the incidents will spend the next nine-to-18 months at a juvenile facility.

Without Det. Garey's persistence on breaking up this group, we would not have been able to hold them accountable and make Akron's North Hill neighborhood safer.

**Great job and congratulations  
Detective Garey!!!**

## TEEN DATING VIOLENCE

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. According to the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence, approximately 1.5 million high school students across the country experience physical abuse from a dating partner.

Even more surprising, about 75 percent of parents have never talked with their children about domestic violence.

If you are a victim of domestic or dating violence, you have options. Call the Hope & Healing Resource Center at 330.374.0740 to develop a safety plan.

The National Resource Center on Domestic Violence has more info as well [www.nrcdv.org](http://www.nrcdv.org).



## WOMEN'S SELF-DEFENSE



### FREE WOMEN'S SELF-DEFENSE CLASS

Sponsored by

Summit County Prosecutor

**Sherri Bevan Walsh**

with Certified Instructor  
**Chad Cunningham**



Learn simple techniques that could save your life!

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

Thursday, March 16, 2023  
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Tallmadge Rec. Center  
(basketball court #4)  
46 N. Munroe Rd.  
Tallmadge, OH 44278



For more information, contact:  
James Pollack  
330-643-8386 or [pollack@prosecutor.summitoh.net](mailto:pollack@prosecutor.summitoh.net)

**NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED!**

# WHY I'M A PROSECUTOR

## FREELAND OLIVERIO

"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.

As we continue a new year, their dedication to the community, and to finding justice, hasn't changed.



Assistant Prosecutor Freeland Oliverio who works in our Criminal Division, talks about why being a prosecutor is so important to him.

### • WHY DID YOU BECOME A PROSECUTOR?

I became a prosecutor after working in the private sector for two years. I handled family law and civil litigation, but my favorite field was criminal law. Over time I realized that I wasn't interested in representing an individual person and that I would find it more fulfilling to serve my local community, to serve victims of crimes, to do what's best for the interests of justice, and ultimately what's best for the defendant.

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

The best part of being a prosecutor is that I like that I'm doing something important. Your job as prosecutor is to serve the interests of justice. I think having a job where you have that in mind is really fulfilling. I can go home and look myself in the mirror and feel good about it.

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

The most difficult part of being a prosecutor is that we deal with really difficult subject matter. We see some of the most difficult aspects of humanity including sex crimes, murders, assaults, and people who are really deep into drugs. It's difficult to separate that from our lives.

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

# SENSORY KITS

The Summit County Prosecutor's Office is always looking for innovative ways to help victims of crime and their families.

That includes people who are living with a disability or have sensory sensitivity.

Our office has put together sensory kits, with noise cancelling headphones, fidget toys, a soft, plush stuffed animal, as well as other items to help people who have sensory sensitivity, such as those living with Autism.

We are also working closely with the Hussman Institute for Autism, which has provided our office with additional sensory bags.

The vision of the Hussman Institute for Autism is to improve the lives of individuals with Autism and their families. The Hussman Institute also provides sensory kits to law enforcement.



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