



Elliot Kolkovich

Summit County Prosecutor



INTERNS ENJOY SUMMER EXPERIENCE

For students, time spent at the Summit County Prosecutor’s Office is more than just an internship. It’s a journey of discovery, learning, and professional growth that bridges the gap between the classroom and the real world.

Interns shadow seasoned prosecutors, attend motion hearings, and go behind the scenes with weekly luncheons and exclusive tours of various institutions and agencies, such as the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation or the Cleveland Clinic Akron General Emergency Trauma Department. These experiences are designed to provide students with a well-rounded view of what prosecutors do.

A significant part of an intern’s responsibilities includes conducting legal research and preparing documents for assistant prosecutors. The time and effort interns spend developing well-written memoranda broadens their understanding of the law and prepares them for real-life assignments. There is never a shortage of work, and anything that an intern can accomplish helps lighten the load for assistant prosecutors whose schedules are already full.

For students who have their legal intern certificate from the Supreme Court of Ohio, juvenile traffic court is the perfect place for them to develop their skills. They can conduct discovery, participate in pre-trial conferences, and sit in the first chair when going before the magistrate. “I am so thankful that juvenile traffic court allowed me to



work on real cases,” said Elias Cobti, a second-year law student at The University of Akron.

The highlight of the summer is the internal mock trial held at the end of July. Law students are assigned to the prosecution or the defense, and the undergraduate

students who participate usually serve as witnesses. The experience can be nerve-racking, but assistant prosecutors are there to coach students through the process and make sure they have what they need to succeed.



This year, Jesse Nacin, a second-year law student at Cleveland State, won the award for best advocate. Riya Desphande, a sophomore undergraduate student at Ohio State, won the award for best witness. “I was nervous at first, but our coaches ensured we were ready,” said Desphande. Nacin added, “Our coaches hammered the fundamentals and gave us the tools and confidence my co-counsel and I needed to get the job done.”



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IN THE COMMUNITY

NAACP SCHOLARSHIPS

The Summit County Prosecutor’s Office was proud to be one of the title sponsors for the NAACP’s annual Scholarship Luncheon.

The event brought people to Akron’s Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church to celebrate the accomplishments of 30 well-deserving scholarship winners.

“I am honored to support the Akron NAACP’s mission to achieve equity, political rights, and social inclusion of Black people and all persons of color,” said Prosecutor Kolkovich.

Congratulations to the NAACP and everyone who participated in the event.



Prosecutor Kolkovich joined Assistant Prosecutors Joe McAleese and Emily Williams at the 14th annual Autism Society of Greater Akron’s “Step Into Autism” walk. The event, held at the Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Amphitheater brought over 100 people to celebrate and support those living with autism.

We also provided information about our Take Me Home Program.

Take Me Home is a secure database, accessible only by law enforcement, which is used to help reconnect caregivers with children and adults living with autism, dementia, or Alzheimer’s Disease, who have a difficult time communicating and may wander from home.



GUILTY VERDICTS

June & July 2024

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

- Rimma Avanesyan** **Ryan Cash**
- Chris Delisio** **Jovana Ilic**
- Joe McAleese** **Seema Misra**
- Austin Nagy** **Zachary Neumann**
- Chuck Roman**

Prosecutor’s Office employees were spreading the word about safety at our FREE Women’s Self-Defense class at the Fairlawn West Church of Christ.



Attendees learned ways to be safe in the community as well as simple moves like groin kicks to help minimize their chances of becoming a crime victim.

Our next FREE Women’s Self-Defense class is Tuesday, August 20 at Cuyahoga Falls Middle School at 6 p.m.

Use the QR code to find out the dates and locations of our upcoming self-defense classes.





ADAM'S CORNER

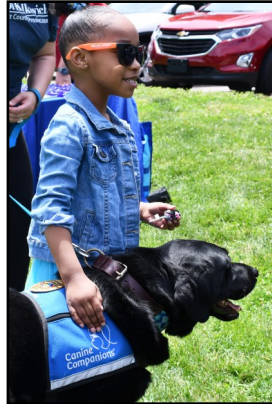
EQUITY & SOCIAL JUSTICE

I met so many new friends at the WAKR Pet EXPO at Akron's Hardesty Park.

This was the 23rd annual Pet EXPO, but the first time the event was held since the COVID pandemic in 2020.

It was so much fun being outside and being with so many people. I love going to the park and running around.

I hope to see you at our next event!



The Summit County Prosecutor's Office "Ambassadors for Equity & Social Justice" was formed to bring co-workers of different backgrounds and cultures together. Each month the Ambassadors share thoughts to make our community a better place to live. Here is an article from one of the group's members.

When you think of July, you typically think of the Fourth of July—it's as American as it gets; parades, cookouts, cold drinks, and fireworks. But what do you know about the holiday's origins?

In April 1775, during the initial battles of the Revolutionary War, the colonies wanted complete independence from England. As the war dragged on, England passed legislation granting itself more control over the colonies, specifically taxes. The passage of the Stamp Act, The Townshend Acts, and the Tea Act forced people to pay more money without providing them any say in how they were governed—thus taxation without representation.

Violent acts like the Boston Massacre and the Boston Tea Party also escalated tensions between the two sides and ignited the war. In April 1775, the first shots of the Revolutionary War broke out.

On June 7, 1775, Virginia's delegate Richard Henry Lee introduced a motion calling for his colony's independence. This led to a five-man committee (Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Roger Sherman, Benjamin Franklin, and Robert R. Livingston) who drafted a formal statement justifying the break from England.

On July 2, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of Lee's motion. Then, two days later, on July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence. The tradition of setting off fireworks on the Fourth of July began in Philadelphia as a ship fired a canon thirteen times, one for each colony.

Fourth of July celebrations became more widespread after the war of 1812 as the United States again defeated England. In 1870, Congress made the Fourth of July a federal holiday.

The Ambassadors for Equity and Social Justice hope you had an enjoyable and safe holiday.



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OUTSMART THE SCAM

AUG 17 IN GREEN

Join Summit County for a free, Green Community Hall public event with experts and resources focused on helping YOU outsmart the scam!

1755 Town Park Blvd
Uniontown, Ohio 46685
10am - 12pm

Sponsored by **TAVIA GALONSKI**
SUMMIT COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS

ILENE SHAPIRO
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

ELLIOT KOLKOVICH
PROSECUTOR



Help Us Go Green!

Contact Tara Fought at tfought@prosecutor.summitoh.net to receive this newsletter by e-mail



TOP COP

ARKON FIRE CAPTAIN BRENT SCARBOROUGH

NOMINATED BY ASST. PROSECUTOR RIMMA AVANESYAN

Firefighters put their lives on the line every time they respond to a call for help. Fires can be unpredictable and dangerous and could result in people getting hurt.

That’s why we recognize Akron Fire Department Captain Brent Scarborough for his work on a house fire which resulted in injuries to two Akron Firefighters.

Just before 2:30 a.m. on August 15, 2022, Akron Fire crews responded to Winton Avenue where a house was on fire. When they arrived, firefighters learned there was a victim trapped inside the home. As firefighters worked to save the life of the person trapped, the house exploded and two firefighters suffered significant injuries.

After the fire was extinguished, Akron Fire Investigators, including Captain Scarborough, discovered gas cannisters in the home. Those cannisters were purchased by two people, Timothy Christian and Stanley Winchester. Winchester lived at the Winton Avenue home.



Through their tireless investigation, Scarborough and others uncovered that this case was an “arson for hire” situation. Timothy Christian contracted Stanley Winchester to set fire to the home. Scarborough and the investigators believed this was a scheme to fraudulently obtain insurance funds. Both Christian and Winchester were eventually charged with several crimes. Ultimately, Winchester pled guilty to aggravated arson and felonious assault charges, and assisted in the prosecution of Christian’s case. Christian is serving a prison sentence of 22 to 26 years after pleading guilty to a series of charges. Both will have to register as arson offenders for the rest of their lives.

Clay McCausland with the Department of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms was also instrumental in the investigation and prosecution.

Great job and congratulations!

SENIOR EXPO

ARRIVE ALIVE—RESULTS

We love being out and about in the community, helping inform people about ways to stay safe.

We spent time at two separate locations for the 10th annual Senior EXPO — the Kenmore Community Center in Akron and Longwood Park in Macedonia.

We chatted with lots of seniors and provided them with safety information.

Thanks to everyone who stopped by to grab some great giveaways and to say hi!



The Summit County Prosecutor’s Office works hard to protect the community and make Summit County a better and safer place to live.

That’s why we team up with the Summit County Sheriff’s Office for our Arrive Alive program— offering FREE or reduced fare rides



home for those who decided to have alcoholic beverages during New Year’s Eve, St. Patrick’s Day, the Fourth of July, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

This past Fourth of July holiday we provided 429 rides to Summit County residents with the goal of keeping drunk or impaired people from getting behind the wheel.

Thank you to Summit County Sheriff Kandy Fatheree for helping us keep our community safe!

REMEMBERING JOSH

He was a beacon of hope and a light which shone bright in Northeast Ohio. This month we remember the life of Twinsburg Police Officer Josh Miktarian.

Sixteen years ago, on July 13, 2008, Officer Josh Miktarian was on patrol when he pulled over a car. The driver fought with Officer Miktarian and eventually killed him. The man was convicted at trial and is currently on Ohio's death row.

Josh Miktarian was much more than a police officer. He was a husband and father, and a passionate public servant who worked hard to make the community better. He was an outstanding representative of the Twinsburg community. He spent his career dedicated to helping people throughout Summit County.

Many in the community worked side-by-side with Josh and knew they could count on him when they needed him the most.

At the time, Josh's death was the first death of a law enforcement officer in Summit County in 17 years. His death has impacted us to this very day.



Officer Miktarian went by many nicknames — members of his rock band "Barium" called him "Captain Justice" and he was also known as "Mr. Invincible" to friends. He was "The Pizza Man" to so many as he owned a neighborhood pizza restaurant. He is dearly missed by everyone who knew him.

We remember Josh year-round, but especially in July. We thank him and his family for their service and sacrifice.

We will never forget!



FUGITIVE SAFE SURRENDER

The Summit County Prosecutor's Office is working with the Summit County Sheriff's Office on an event to help make our community safer. Fugitive Safe Surrender is back in Summit County for the first time in over a decade.

Fugitive Safe Surrender provides an opportunity for people who have a warrant to voluntarily surrender in exchange for the possibility of favorable consideration on resolving their case. Free legal representation will be available, with attorneys present to provide representation for those who surrender and appear before a judge. This program offers individuals with warrants the opportunity to resolve their case in a safe manner.

The event is from August 7 through August 10 at the House of the Lord Church, 1650 Diagonal Road. The hours will be 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Summit County
FUGITIVE SAFE SURRENDER



Wanted for a crime in Summit County and ready to take responsibility?

Take your first step towards a second chance...
SURRENDER YOURSELF SAFELY:

August 7th - 10th
9:00am - 5:00pm

The House of the Lord
1650 Diagonal Road, Akron, OH 44320



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