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SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR

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PROSECUTOR KOLKOVICH ANNOUNCES GUILTY PLEA FOR THE DEATH OF CHARLES JEFFERSON

AKRON, OH – Today, Summit County Prosecutor Elliot Kolkovich announced that Philip Mayfield, 39, of Akron, pleaded guilty today to one count of Involuntary Manslaughter, a 1st Degree Felony, for the 2026 death of 33-year-old Charles Jefferson outside his home on Donald Avenue in Akron.

"The loss of Charles Jefferson is deeply tragic. My condolences go to the family during this incredibly difficult time. I cannot imagine the pain and grief they are experiencing," said Prosecutor Kolkovich.

A bit after midnight on March 18, 2026, brothers Philip Mayfield and Charles Jefferson were attending a barbecue. On the way home, they got into an argument that continued when they arrived at Jefferson's residence on Donald Avenue. Ring camera footage captured the two arguing, with Jefferson standing in his driveway speaking with Mayfield, who remained inside his vehicle. Jefferson then walked around the front of the vehicle as Mayfield accelerated, striking Jefferson and dragging him down the street. Following the incident, Mayfield called 911 and informed dispatchers that he had struck Jefferson with his vehicle. Mayfield remained at the scene until emergency medical services arrived, at which point he was arrested. Jefferson died in the hospital a few days later. Mayfield was subsequently charged in Jefferson's death.

Mayfield is set for sentencing at 2:00 PM, on January 13, 2027.

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