



Elliot Kolkovich

Summit County Prosecutor

For Immediate Release

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PROSECUTOR KOLKOVICH ANNOUNCES CONVICTION FOR COVENTRY TOWNSHIP MURDER

AKRON, OH – Today, Summit County Prosecutor Elliot Kolkovich announced that Jeffery Peasley, 44, was found guilty for the 2021 murder of Robert Zornes, Jr., 49, inside a friend’s home in Coventry Township.

Peasley was found guilty of the following charges:

- Two counts of Murder, each with a 3-Year Firearm Specification – an Unclassified Felony;
- One count of Felonious Assault with a 3-Year Firearm Specification – a 2nd Degree Felony;
- One count of Having Weapons Under Disability – a 3rd Degree Felony;
- One count of Grand Theft of a Motor Vehicle – a 4th Degree Felony; and
- Two counts of Disrupting Public Services – a 4th Degree Felony.

“Retaliation is never a justifiable solution to any conflict,” said Prosecutor Kolkovich. **“Although no verdict can bring Bobby back, I hope this decision provides some closure to his family.”**

In October 2021, Jeffery Peasley arrived at the Coventry Township house where Robert Zornes, Jr., known as Bobby to his loved ones, was staying with a friend. While there, Peasley and Zornes got into an argument that escalated into violence. During the confrontation, Peasley used a shotgun to shoot him as he attempted to flee. Peasley then fled the scene on Zornes’ motorcycle. He was arrested two days later by the Niles Police Department after he got into an accident on the stolen motorcycle. Witness testimony, DNA evidence, surveillance videos, and the Defendant’s own admissions connected him to the crime.

Peasley is scheduled to be sentenced on May 12, 2025 at 9 a.m. by Summit County Court of Common Pleas Judge Kelly L. McLaughlin. At that time Judge McLaughlin will also hold a hearing to determine if Peasley should be classified as a repeat violent offender.

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