



# ELLIOT KOLKOVICH

## SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR

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## PROSECUTOR KOLKOVICH ANNOUNCES LIFE SENTENCE FOR THE MURDERS OF MARQUISE BANKS AND ANTENIO LOUIS

AKRON, OH – Today, Summit County Prosecutor Elliot Kolkovich announced that Ahmere Williams, 23, of Akron, was sentenced to life in prison, with the possibility for parole eligibility after 23 years, for his role in two murders that took place in 2023. Williams pleaded guilty to the murder of 17-year-old Antenio Louis on East Glenwood Avenue in Akron, and to the murder of Marquise Banks on Interstate 77.

For the murder of Antenio Louis, Williams pleaded guilty to:

- One count of Aggravated Murder with a 3-Year Firearm Specification – an Unclassified Felony;
- One count of Felonious Assault – a 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Felony; and
- One count of Having Weapons While Under Disability – a 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Felony.

For the murder of Marquise Banks, Williams pleaded guilty to one count of Aggravated Murder – an Unclassified Felony.

In January 2025, Darrin Welch, Jr. was sentenced to life in prison, with the possibility of parole after a total of 25 years across two separate cases. For the death of Antenio Louis, Welch pleaded guilty to the charges of Murder – an Unclassified Felony – and Felonious Assault – a 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Felony. He also pleaded guilty to one count of Murder – an Unclassified Felony – for shooting and killing 18-year-old Marvin Rocker in 2023.

**“The lives of both Marquise Banks and Antenio Louis were tragically cut short by this senseless violence. There is no tolerance for gang violence in Summit County,”** said Prosecutor Kolkovich, **“I want to thank the Summit County Sheriff’s Office, Akron Police Department, and the federal investigators for their collaborative efforts in each of these investigations. Their dedication allowed us to bring Ahmere Williams to justice and remove a dangerous repeat offender from our community.”**

In August 2023, the Summit County Sheriff’s Office responded to a shooting and vehicle crash on Interstate 77 traveling southbound. The victim, Marquise Banks, had been shot several times and was transported to the hospital, where he was pronounced dead. Officers observed several bullet holes in Banks’ driver’s side

window and door. Ohio Department of Transportation cameras on I-77 showed footage of a truck that began to follow Banks vehicle, and an individual reaching out of the passenger side of the truck to shoot into the victim's driver side window. The victim's car then swerves across the median and crashes into a vehicle traveling in the northbound lane. Investigators recovered evidence from the scene and, through camera footage, anonymous tips, cell phone information, and other investigative leads, identified Ahmere Williams, a member of the Family Over Everything gang, as being involved in the shooting.

One week and five days after the murder of Marquise Banks, Akron Police Officers were dispatched to a call reporting a shooting on East Glenwood Avenue and Damon Street. One of the victims, Antenio Louis, had been riding as a passenger in a car when a white Toyota Camry approached the vehicle he was in at a high rate of speed. The Camry passed on the passenger side before pulling in front of the vehicle Louis was in, and then the occupants of the Camry opened fire, striking both Louis and the driver. Both were transported to the hospital, where Louis died from his injuries. During the investigation, officers identified Williams as being involved in the shooting through anonymous tips, cell phone data, and other evidence. Investigators also identified Darrin Welch Jr. as being involved, and following his arrest, Welch confirmed his and Williams' involvement and identified Williams as the shooter.

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