

MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

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Man found guilty of Aggravated Robbery

(July 28, 2010) ... Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Charles Peterson, 21, of Akron, was found guilty late yesterday afternoon (July 27) of Aggravated Robbery, a felony of the first degree with a three year gun specification, Robbery, a felony of the second degree, Grand Theft, a felony of the fourth degree, and two counts of Receiving Stolen Property, felonies of the fourth and fifth degree. The jury began deliberations at 9:00 a.m. and returned a verdict at 4:30 p.m.

Peterson will be sentenced by Judge Parker on August 24, 2010, at 10:00 a.m.

On January 30, 2010 Peterson and two other men made arrangements to buy shoes from Abdulmahdi Algarawi, who sold shoes out of his van. When the men showed up they had a gun and took the van, the shoes and Mr. Algarawi's personal belongings. The van was found two hours later. Akron police tracked foot prints in the snow to an Akron home where the suspect lived. Inside the police recovered the shoes, papers and wallet of the victim.

Peterson's co-defendants previously pled guilty. Stephen Green, 21, pled guilty on July 20, 2010, to Aggravated Robbery, a felony of the first degree with a gun specification and Failure to Comply with the Order of a Police Officer, a felony of the third degree. He was sentenced to seven years in prison. Edroy McCormick, 21, pled guilty on March 30, 2010, to Aggravated Robbery, a felony of the first degree. McCormick will be sentenced by Judge Tom Parker on July 29, 2010, at 9:30 a.m.

On April 22, 2010, the victim, Mr. Algarawi was shot and killed in another robbery. Deanthony Smith and Xzaiver Penwell, both 19 and of Akron, were indicted by the Grand Jury on charges of Murder and Aggravated Robbery in connection with Mr. Algarawi's death. Both men are scheduled for trial on September 19 in Judge Brenda Unruh's courtroom.