

## **MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH**

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### **Akron Man Gets 18 Years in Prison for Robbing Elderly Couple**

(October 12, 2012... Akron) ... Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Dewand T. Hammett, 34, of Crosby Street in Akron, pleaded guilty to two counts of Kidnapping, felonies of the first degree; one count of Aggravated Burglary, a felony of the first degree; and two counts of Aggravated Robbery, felonies of the first degree.

On the morning of June 15, a retired couple was sitting in their attached garage at their home on North Firestone Boulevard. Hammett came into their garage holding a 9mm handgun and demanded their money and jewelry. Hammett pulled the victims into their home, threatening multiple times that he "was going to kill them." He took jewelry and more than \$450 from the victims. Hammett then led the victims back into the garage, where he demanded more jewelry and the keys to their minivan. Hammett fled in their van when one of the victims ran back into the house and called 911.

An Akron patrol officer located the stolen van in an apartment building parking lot. Officers saw Hammett in the doorway of one of the apartments and persuaded the resident to allow them to search the apartment. Detectives found a wallet, driver's license and jewelry, a 9mm handgun and the key and registration for the stolen minivan. Detectives then searched Hammett and found \$453 in cash and two rings.

As part of the plea agreement, Hammett was sentenced to 18 years in prison.