



# **SHERRI BEVAN WALSH**

## **SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR**

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### **Akron Man Found Guilty of Burning 2-Year-Old**

AKRON, Ohio (Monday, April 20, 2015) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Devon Melton, 24, of Tonawanda Avenue in Akron, pled guilty after entering an Alford plea\*.

Melton was charged with the following:

- Two counts of Felonious Assault, felonies of the second degree
- Two counts of Child Endangering, felonies of the second degree
- One count of Child Endangering, a felony of the third degree

On January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Melton was watching his girlfriend's 2-year-old daughter when the girl suffered severe burns to her hands and legs. Doctors at Akron Children's Hospital found burns on the girl's thighs were from the heated metal of a cigarette lighter.

Summit County Common Pleas Judge Tom Parker will sentence Melton on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Melton faces a maximum of 16 years in prison.

\*An Alford plea (SCOTUS - North Carolina v. Alford – 1970) is when a defendant pleads guilty to a crime, but believes he is innocent of the charges. However he believes the state of the evidence is overwhelming to the degree that he would be convicted should the case be tried.