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Akron Man Found Guilty in Shooting Death of 4-Year-Old

AKRON, Ohio (Friday, October 5, 2018) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that a Summit County jury found Darnell Bitting, 32, of Georgia Street in Akron, guilty in the shooting death of four-year-old Janaya Swain.

Jurors found Bitting guilty of the following charges:

- Two counts of Murder with Firearm Specifications – special felonies
- Six counts of Felonious Assault with Firearm Specifications – felonies of the 2nd degree

At around 10:30pm on February 16, 2018, De’Azha Swain pulled up to a home on Mercer Avenue in Akron to retrieve some personal items. Four young girls, ages two, four, six, and seven, and their grandmother were also inside the vehicle. De’Azha knocked on the door and then got into an argument with Darnell Bitting, who was inside the home at the time. Bitting came out of the home with an AK-47 and fired the weapon. A shot struck and killed four-year-old Janaya Swain.

Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge Christine Croce is scheduled to sentence Bitting on Wednesday October 10, 2018 at 1pm.