

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

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### **Man sentenced to Life in Prison With Parole Eligibility After 50 years For killing man over shoes**

(November 16, 2010 Akron) ... Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced that Xzavier Penwell, 19, of Akron, was sentenced today to Life in Prison and will not be eligible for parole until he is 69 years old, or in 50 years. Penwell was found guilty by a jury on November 5, of Aggravated Murder, Murder, Aggravated Robbery, Tampering with Evidence and Weapons Under Disability.

Penwell was sentenced by Judge Alison McCarty.

On April 22, 2010, on the corner of Boone St. and Buckingham St. in Akron, Ohio, the victim, Abdulmahdi Algarawi, was shot once by Xzavier Penwell. Co-defendant DeAnthony Smith, 19, also of Akron, and Penwell then stole the victim's van containing numerous pairs of shoes. The victim was lured to the area for the sale of shoes. The victim's vehicle, a 2002 Blue Dodge Caravan, was located several hours later on the other side of Akron. It had been set on fire. In the weeks that followed the murder, Penwell sold the shoes on the streets.

Smith was found guilty by a jury on September 17, 2010 and was sentenced to 21 years to life in prison for his role in the murder of Abdulmahdi Algarawi.

The victim left a widow and three children.