

MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

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N. Canton Attacker and Rapist Sentenced to 25 years

(Akron, June 8, 2011) ... Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced that Joshua Cowell, 36, of North Canton, was sentenced yesterday, June 7, to 25 years in prison by Judge Judith Hunter for Rape, Aggravated Burglary, Felonious Assault and Kidnapping. Cowell pled guilty to these crimes on April 26, 2011.

In the early morning hours of September 21, Cowell broke into a neighbor's home, a 33 year-old woman, held a knife to her throat and threatened to kill her if she screamed. The victim screamed and Cowell hit her in the face with the flashlight. She ran and called 911. She recognized Cowell because he had come by her door earlier that day.

That attack was in the news and another woman read about it and called the police. She told them that she been raped by Cowell the day before the attack on the other woman. This victim, a 47 year old woman, did not report the rape because Cowell had threatened to kill her and her son.

Cowell was also ordered to be Tier III Sexual Offender.