

MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

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Life in Prison for Man Who Stabbed Mother, Hid in Attic

(August 27, 2012... Akron) ... Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Daniel E. Smelko, 49, of Highview Avenue in Akron, pleaded guilty this morning to Murder and Felonious Assault, a felony of the second degree.

Smelko stabbed his 72-year-old mother in the chest with a steak knife in their home in Akron on January 24. Family members called police for a welfare check when they were unable to get ahold of the victim. Police found the woman dead in a bedroom and Smelko hiding in an upstairs crawl space.

Visiting Judge Marvin Shapiro immediately sentenced Smelko to life in prison. Smelko will be eligible for parole in 2027.