



**Prosecuting Attorney**  
County of Summit

**NEWS**  
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**John Wise Sentenced to Six Years in Prison**

*State sought a sentence commensurate with Wise's lack of malice*

**AKRON, OHIO – December 13, 2013** – Summit County Prosecuting Attorney Sherri Bevan Walsh today announced that Judge Mary Margaret Rowlands sentenced John Edward Wise, 68, of Massillon, to six years in prison. A jury convicted Wise on November 8 of Aggravated Murder, Murder and Felonious Assault, each with an associated firearm specification.

Wise shot his wife in the head and told police that he killed his wife to end her suffering after she had a brain aneurysm. Throughout the case, the prosecutors repeatedly offered Wise the opportunity to plead guilty to a lesser charge in the belief that Mr. Wise's actions lacked the malicious intent normally seen in Aggravated Murder and Murder cases.

"It is not our intention to minimize what happened," said Prosecutor Walsh. "You cannot bring a loaded gun into a hospital and shoot someone. John Wise killed his wife. He endangered everyone who was at the hospital that day."

Prosecutors previously asked the court to sentence Wise to a six-year sentence on a lesser-included charge of his Murder conviction. To ensure our objective of a fair and just resolution to this tragic case, the State today elected sentencing on the third count of the indictment.

When charges merge for sentencing purposes, as they do in this case, Ohio law dictates that the prosecutor elect the charge for which the defendant is sentenced. The State typically requests that the judge sentence on the highest conviction. However, the State is allowed to elect any charge for which the defendant was convicted.

"Today's sentence does not negate the work of the jury. Their verdict was correct under the law," said Prosecutor Walsh. "John Wise remains convicted of Aggravated Murder, Murder and Felonious Assault, and he should serve his entire prison sentence."