

MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

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Arsonist Gets Max Prison Sentence

(January 24, 2013... Akron) ... Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Judge Tammy O'Brien sentenced Scott Purk, 50, of Bridgewater Parkway in Stow, to 28 years in prison. That is the maximum sentenced allowed.

Purk burned down his house in Stow in March 2009 in order to collect insurance money. He then set fire to a duplex in Stow in March 2010. The resident of the duplex was sleeping when the fire started, but she was able to escape unharmed. The Stow Police Department spent two years investigating these crimes with assistance from the Stow and Cuyahoga Falls Fire Departments.

On December 13, Purk pleaded guilty near the end of his trial to all of the charges in his indictment. Those charges include Attempted Aggravated Murder, a felony of the first degree; three counts of Aggravated Arson, felonies of the first degree; three counts of Aggravated Arson, felonies of the second degree; Insurance Fraud, a felony of the third degree; two counts of Disrupting Public Services, felonies of the fourth degree; and two counts of Endangering Children, misdemeanors of the first degree.