

MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

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New York Man Guilty of Assaulting Deputies with Bodily Fluids

(November 22, 2013... Akron) ... Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that a jury found Sanford Joseph Lapsley, 31, of Van Wick Expressway in Jamaica, NY, guilty of Harassment with a Bodily Substance, a felony of the fifth degree, and Obstructing Official Business, a felony of the fifth degree.

During a layover on a flight from Atlanta to New York City in October 2012, Lapsley and a friend got drunk at a bar at Akron-Canton Airport. When Lapsley boarded his flight, he started screaming and swearing in the plane's bathroom and had to be escorted off the plane by airline staff and Sheriff's deputies. Lapsley continued to scream and swear as deputies tried to rebook him on a later flight and then bring him to the Sheriff's Area at the airport. Lapsley tried to escape the deputies and fell, injuring his tooth and losing a tooth. He spit blood into the face of one of the deputies who tried to help him up.

Lapsley continued spitting, screaming and swearing as he was taken to the hospital. He eventually threw his urine from a portable urinal at a wall, splashing urine on a Sheriff's deputy.

Judge Parker will sentence Lapsley on December 30 at 9:00 a.m.