

MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

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Randy Thomas Sentenced to Life in Prison

(February 5, 2014... Akron) ... Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Judge Thomas Parker sentenced Randy A. Thomas, 21, of Akron, to life in prison. A jury yesterday found Thomas guilty of Murder with a firearm specification.

On April 13, 2013, Thomas and his cousin, Anthony Smith, started arguing outside Thomas' grandmother's house on 7th Avenue. The two agreed to drive their cars to 8th Avenue to fight. Instead of fighting, Thomas shot Smith three times, killing him.

Witnesses were able to identify Thomas as the person who was arguing with Smith before the shooting. Thomas was also identified as having driven a vehicle seen leaving the scene immediately after the shooting. Thomas' fingerprint and gunshot residue were found on the vehicle's steering wheel.

Thomas will be eligible for parole after serving 19 years.