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**NEWS
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David Stoddard Sentenced to Life Without Parole

AKRON, OHIO – May 23, 2014 – Summit County Prosecuting Attorney Sherri Bevan Walsh today announced that Judge Tom Teodosio sentenced David A. Stoddard, 25, of 14th Street NW in Barberton, to 38 ½ years in prison plus Life Without Parole for a January 2013 shooting spree that left a pregnant Barberton teenager dead and another teenage girl severely injured.

In the early hours of January 6, 2013, Stoddard forced his way into a home on East Archwood Avenue in Akron in search of an ex-girlfriend. After arguing with one of the occupants in the house, Stoddard started shooting. A 19-year-old woman was shot in the ear but survived. Another woman, 16-year-old Anna Karam, was shot in the head. She and her unborn child died.

“I applaud the work of the assistant prosecutors and everyone in my office who worked hard to secure a guilty verdict,” said Prosecutor Walsh. “A difficult childhood is no excuse for murder, and I thank the jury for putting aside their emotions to recommend David Stoddard spend the rest of his life in prison.”

On March 10, the jury found Stoddard guilty of

- Aggravated Murder with three death specifications;
- Two counts of Attempted Murder, felonies of the first degree, each with a firearm specification;
- Two counts of Reckless Homicide, with one firearm specification;
- Aggravated Burglary, a felony of the first degree, with a firearm specification; and
- Felonious Assault, a felony of the second degree, with a firearm specification.