

## **MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH**

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### **Akron Man Sentenced to 31 Years to Life in Prison**

(February 24, 2015... Akron) ... Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced that Judge Thomas Parker sentenced Travaski Jackson, 24, of Garfield Avenue in Akron, to 31 years to Life in prison.

On November 7, 2013, Jackson, Dashaun Spear, and Alexis Martin organized a robbery that left one man dead and another with a bullet wound in his head. Janae Jones and Martin went into the home of Angelo Kerney. Jones and Martin distracted Kerney and his brother Alecio Samuel so that Jackson and Spear could enter the home to rob the victims. Spear shot Kerney, 36, who died during the robbery from his injuries. Samuel, 20, was shot in the head but survived.

Jones pleaded guilty to Murder and received 15 years to Life. Spear pleaded guilty on July 7, the morning of his trial, to Aggravated Murder with a firearm specification and Attempted Murder with a firearm specification and was sentenced to Life with Parole eligibility after 41 years are served. Judge Thomas Parker will sentence Martin on March 24, 2015 at 1:00p.m. Martin faces a sentence of up to 26 years to Life in prison.

On January 23, 2015, a jury found Jackson guilty of Murder, a special felony; Attempted Murder with a firearm specification, a felony of the first degree; Aggravated Burglary with a firearm specification, a felony of the first degree; Aggravated Robbery with a firearm specification, a felony of the first degree; Kidnapping with a firearm specification, a felony of the first degree; Felonious Assault with a firearm specification, a felony of the second degree; Tampering with Evidence, a felony of the third degree, and Having Weapons While Under Disability, a felony of the third degree.

Approximately 3 weeks prior to this homicide, Jackson committed a similar but unrelated home invasion and was tried and convicted of those offenses last year. He was sentenced in that case to 27 years in prison. Today's sentences will run consecutive to that sentence. As a result, Jackson will serve a total of 58 years to life in prison. The first time the Parole Board will be able to review Jackson's case for parole will be when he is 82 years of age.