



Prosecuting Attorney
County of Summit

NEWS
For Immediate Release:
Friday, January 20, 2012

CONTACT: April Wiesner
Phone: (330) 643-8386
wiesner@prosecutor.summitoh.net

Summit County Prosecutor Announces Indictment Against Richard Beasley
Summit County Prosecutor's Office and Attorney General's Office to jointly prosecute case

AKRON, OHIO – January 20, 2012 – Summit County Prosecuting Attorney Sherri Bevan Walsh today announced a 28-count indictment against 52-year-old Richard James Beasley of Akron. The indictment, which was announced at a press conference this morning with Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine, alleges that Beasley was the principal offender in these crimes.

The charges are as follows:

- Nine counts of Aggravated Murder with
 - Gun specification
 - Multiple victims death specification
 - Aggravated robbery death specification
 - Kidnapping death specification
 - Under detention death specification
- One count of Attempted Murder with a gun specification,
- Four counts of Kidnapping with gun specifications,
- Four counts of Aggravated Robbery with gun specifications,
- Four counts of Having Weapons Under Disability,
- Three counts of Theft,
- One count of Identity Theft, and
- Two counts of Grand Theft.

If convicted of Aggravated Murder with any of the death specifications, the prosecution will seek capital punishment.

“These victims had almost nothing to their names and were desperate for employment, a situation that is not alien to many in Ohio and throughout the country,” said Prosecutor Walsh. “To lure these men to their deaths with the false promise of steady work is a horrific and sickening crime. Attorney General DeWine and I are pooling our resources to seek justice for these men and their families.”



Prosecuting Attorney
County of Summit

Prosecutor Walsh also announced that her office and the Attorney General's Office will be jointly prosecuting Beasley. The Bureau of Criminal Investigation, a division of the Attorney General's Office, has been involved in the case from the beginning and continues to lead the investigation. When the Akron connection was discovered, the Summit County Prosecutor's Office began closely working with BCI and the Attorney General's special prosecutors. This continued cooperation will ensure that the prosecution is both efficient and cost-effective.

-30-

Note to editors: A chart that breaks down the indictment by victim is attached. The full indictment is available upon request.