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July 19, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MAN FOUND GUILTY OF AGGRAVATED MURDER OF 3-YEAR-OLD BOY

TOLEDO, Ohio – Lucas County Prosecuting Attorney Julia R. Bates announced that on July 19, 2024, a jury found Michael Kitto guilty of four counts, including aggravated murder and felonious assault of a 3-year-old boy.

On Oct. 6, 2022, Kitto watched his girlfriend's 3-year-old son, Declan Hill, while she was at work. Around 10:35 a.m., Kitto called 911 and reported that the child had run into a wall. Emergency Medical Services arrived and found Declan unconscious, unresponsive, not breathing and without a pulse. Doctors declared him dead on Oct. 7, 2022.

"We are thankful for the jury's service and that we were able to provide justice for Declan's family," Lucas County Prosecuting Attorney Julia R. Bates said. "There is never a need to mistreat anyone, let alone a young child. I hope his family finds some comfort at this time. May his memory remain cherished in their hearts forever."

Since November 2023, the Lucas County Prosecutor's Office has been running a public service campaign targeting families of young children with the message, "It's OK, Just Walk Away." This campaign aims to raise awareness about child abuse and Shaken Baby Syndrome.

The jury also found Kitto guilty of murder and endangering children.

Sentencing for Kitto is set for July 24, 2024 at 1:30 p.m.

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