



# JULIA R. BATES

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### HARDIMAN SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS TO LIFE IN PRISON

**TOLEDO, Ohio** – Lucas County Prosecuting Attorney Julia R. Bates announced that Judge Joseph McNamara sentenced Samantha Hardiman to 15 years to life in prison on March 13, 2026, after she pleaded guilty to murder Feb. 27, 2026 in violation of Ohio Revised Code 2903.02(B) and (D) and 2929.02(B).

On June 2, 2023, the Toledo Police Department received information about a deceased child inside a home at 1728 Freeman St. in Toledo. Detectives found Kristopher Snyder, a 7-year-old with special needs, deceased and alone in a playpen. He was extremely emaciated, had pale skin and weighed 19 pounds at the time of his death.

Investigators determined Kristopher's last in-person medical appointment occurred in 2019. Hardiman then chose telehealth appointments and painted the home's windows black to conceal the living conditions from outside. Investigators found ample food in the home along with alcohol and marijuana.

Hardiman faced five additional charges, including endangering children and involuntary manslaughter, which were dismissed at sentencing. After 15 years, Hardiman will have the opportunity to appear before the Ohio Parole Board, though release is not guaranteed, and the Lucas County Prosecutor's Office will oppose her release.

"The defendant had numerous free therapy opportunities available to help Kristopher develop the muscles he needed to eat and sit up," Bates said. "Instead of accepting that help or providing a feeding tube, she neglected her son and left him alone in a room."

Joshua Mulvey, 29, is scheduled for trial May 12, 2026 on related charges.

Chief of the Criminal Division Jennifer Liptack-Sutphin prosecuted the case for the Lucas County Prosecutor's Office.

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#### About the Lucas County Prosecutor's Office

The Lucas County Prosecutor's Office pursues justice, safeguards our community and advocates for victims. We balance accountability with individual rights, partnering with law enforcement to ensure public safety and fair governance. We are committed to integrity, outreach and justice for all.

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