

TOP COP

SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP POLICE DETECTIVE JOHN LOMBARDI NOMINATED BY ASSISTANT PROSECUTOR TOM KROLL

One of the more difficult cases we prosecute is when a survivor of sexual assault comes forward years after the incident. But thanks to some excellent investigative work, we were recently able to secure a conviction in a case dating back several years.

I am nominating Springfield Township Police Detective John Lombardi for his work on the case of James Lane. A Summit County jury convicted Lane in the rape of a 12-year-old girl and he is currently serving a life sentence for the crime.

When the victim's mother reported this crime Detective Lombardi immediately ensured the victim received medical and psychological care. Besides interviewing the victim, Detective Lombardi continued to develop evidence in the case by reaching out to others who had knowledge of the crime.



One key piece of evidence was discovered as Detective Lombardi interviewed the defendant. The detective noticed a homemade tattoo on Lane. Based on his investigation, Detective Lombardi knew this was code for defendant's relationship with the victim. Plus, Detective Lombardi was aware of a prior sex offense involving this same defendant, who had a history of preying on young victims.

Detective Lombardi's complete investigation and commitment to the case ensured a conviction for this sex offender.

As the November TOP COP, Detective Lombardi will receive a gift card from Lembo's Italian Restaurant in Akron. Thank you Lembo's for your continued support of local law enforcement.

Congratulations Detective Lombardi!!

AGENCY SPOTLIGHT

Summit County is a melting pot of diverse cultures and ethnicities. By just driving through neighborhoods, you can see how different cultures have left their marks on how we live.

This is apparent in Akron's North Hill neighborhood. North Hill is home to families from all over the world, including Nepal and Korea. Many people who live in North Hill are at-risk, with the community battling unemployment, crime, and broken families.

One organization is trying to change that. Urban Vision serves the North Hill community by working with families, especially those from other countries, to build dignity, unity, and empower them to succeed and lead.



The faith based organization has about 115 students in its aftercare program where participants receive help with homework and engage in extracurricular activities.

URBAN VISION

Urban Vision also offers several other programs including teaching English, ballet, a Christmas store, and daycare. They even have a community garden!

All of Urban Vision's staff live in North Hill, which gives them a better sense of the needs of the community and helps build deeper relationships..

For more information please visit Urban Vision's website at www.urbanvisionministry.org

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