



OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND



Anne Colt Leitess, State's Attorney

Anne Arundel Justice

A Monthly News Digest from the Office of the State's Attorney for Anne Arundel County

A Message from Anne Arundel County State's Attorney Anne Colt Leitess

Welcome to the February 2020 edition of Anne Arundel Justice!

This month's digest highlights a few of our successful outcomes by our dedicated team of attorneys who are committed to protecting the citizens of Anne Arundel County and upholding the highest ethical standards of justice.

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As always, thank you for allowing me to serve as your State's Attorney.

Man Receives 34 Years in Prison for Weeklong Crime Spree of Robbery and Assaults

Michael L. Arnold, 36, of Baltimore was sentenced to 34 years in prison by the Honorable Mark W. Crooks for one count of robbery, one count of attempted robbery and three counts of assault on correctional officers for three separate incidents occurring during a one week span announced Anne Arundel County State's Attorney Anne Colt Leitess.

Arnold entered a plea of guilty on December 5, 2019.

"Arnold's week of robbing,

Millersville Man Gets 15 Years for Overdose Death of Teenager-First Case of its Kind in Anne Arundel County

The Honorable Donna Schaeffer sentenced Jason Patton Baker, 46, of Millersville to 15 years in prison for his direct role in the death of 16-year-old Josiah Klaes announced Anne Arundel County State's Attorney Anne Colt Leitess. The teenager died from the lethal drug Fentanyl that Baker sold to him, knowing Josiah's young age and that the drugs were potent.

A jury found Baker guilty of one count of Involuntary Manslaughter for the grossly negligent act of

attempting to rob and assaulting members of our county correctional staff came to an end thanks to a thorough police investigation and our prosecution. He will now be held accountable for his actions which jeopardized the safety of our community and our county employees,” said Anne Arundel County State’s Attorney Anne Colt Leitess. “Safeguarding our community from violent offenders remains the top priority for my office.”

Assistant State’s Attorney James Tuomey prosecuted the case on behalf of the citizens of Anne Arundel County.

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selling the deadly drug to Josiah, as well as distribution of Fentanyl, Reckless Endangerment and other lesser included charges on December 11, 2019.

“Tragically, both the greed of the drug dealer and the insidiousness of the opioid epidemic has stolen the life of another young person from our community. It is difficult to understand why Baker, an adult, chose to sell life-threatening drugs to a minor. I am grateful for the Anne Arundel County Police Department’s excellent investigation which led to this prosecution and the ability to keep Baker off the street and unable to sell deadly drugs and hurt other families,” said Anne Arundel County State’s Attorney Anne Colt Leitess. “I would like to extend my deepest condolences to the family of the victim as they continue to heal and it’s my hope that this sentence brings some peace to their family.”

Assistant State’s Attorney Jason Steinhardt prosecuted the case on behalf of the citizens of Anne Arundel County.

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Severn Man Receives 60 Years in Prison for Rape and Sex Abuse of a Minor, First Time Comfort Dog Used During Trial in State of Maryland

James Robert IV, 38, of Severn was sentenced to 60 years for four counts of Rape and Sex Abuse of a Minor announced Anne Arundel County State’s Attorney Anne Colt Leitess. This is the first case in the State of Maryland where a comfort dog accompanied a victim while testifying during a trial.

A jury found Robert guilty of the charges on November 7, 2019.

"This sentence sends a profound message that we will hold sexual offenders who prey upon the most vulnerable members of our community accountable,” said Anne Arundel County State’s Attorney Anne Colt Leitess. “I would like to thank Caring Canines for providing the animals who can make the difference for a child who must relive a painful and terrible event in

court. In this case, the comfort dog reassured the young victim and gave her the support to speak about the heinous abuse she experienced. Her abuser was brought to justice and I hope that this outcome provides her with a sense of solace as she continues to heal.”

Assistant State's Attorney Mary-Ann Burkhart prosecuted the case on behalf of the citizens of Anne Arundel County.

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Happy Spring to all!

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