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Immediate Release
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IN RE: State vs. Valorie Olah
Case #2018 CR 758

State of Ohio vs. Samantha Olah
Case #2018 CR 759

The Office of Colleen M. O'Toole and veteran Assistant County Prosecutor, Gene Barrett, obtained a guilty verdict against Valorie Olah and her daughter, Samantha Olah of Orwell, Ohio. After 6 days in Trial, the jury found Samantha Olah guilty of Child Endangerment, a felony of the third degree (F3) and her mother, Valerie Olah of Involuntary Manslaughter, a felony of the first degree (F1) and Child Endangerment, a felony of the third degree (F3) in the death of toddler, Brantley Santiago in April 2018. The Olahs ran a babysitting service in their Orwell home at the time of Brantley's death.

Samantha faces up to 3 years in prison for felony child endangerment. Valerie faces a maximum penalty of up to 3 years for the felony child endangerment and 11 years for the involuntary manslaughter for a total of 14 years. Samantha Olah's bond was revoked and she was immediately taken into custody at the Ashtabula County Jail. Valerie remains free on bond continued by the Court.

The child's mother, Beverly Santiago was also indicted and agreed to cooperate in the case against the Samantha and Valerie Olah, who were Brantley's daily babysitters. In exchange for her cooperation, Beverly will plead guilty to felony child endangering with final sentencing left to the Court.

The pediatrician for Brantley who failed to report the abuse, has since left the UH Hospital system. She cooperated with Prosecutors by testifying in this matter. She was not criminally charged with failure to report, however she could face both disciplinary action on her medical license as well civil action by the Santiago family.

Sentencing for all Defendants will take place at a time to be determined by the Court.

Prosecutor Colleen M. O'Toole thanks all law enforcement involved, including Sgt. David Bonfield, Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner, Dr. Erica Armstrong, Ashtabula County Sheriff's Detective Ted Barger, TerriJo Mickle from Children's Services Board, Dr. Lolita McDavid from Rainbow Hospital, the other experts from UH Hospital and all those involved. Diligent work by everyone made this case a success.