

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
ROSS COUNTY, OHIO

2026 FEB 13 PM 12:42

STATE OF OHIO,

Plaintiff,
-vs-

MARTIN A. HOWARD,

Defendant.

CASE NO.: 26 CR 053
ROSS COUNTY COMMON PLEAS
CLERK OF COURTS
JONIAN L. WHEELER

INDICTMENT FOR:
COUNT ONE: AGGRAVATED
VEHICULAR HOMICIDE
2903.06

COUNT TWO: FAILURE TO STOP AFTER
AN ACCIDENT
4549.02

COUNT THREE: FAILURE TO STOP
AFTER A NONPUBLIC ROAD ACCIDENT
4549.021

DEGREE OF FELONY:
EACH IS A THIRD

INDICTMENT

STATE OF OHIO, COUNTY OF ROSS, SS:

In the Common Pleas Court of Ross County, Ohio, of the 2026 term, first fourth part, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six.

The Jurors of the Grand Jury of the State of Ohio, within and for the body of the County aforesaid, being duly impaneled and sworn and charged to inquire of and present all offenses whatever committed within the limits of said County, on their oaths, in the name and by the authority of the State of Ohio, do find and present:

COUNT ONE: That Martin A. Howard, on or about January 10, 2026, in the County of Ross aforesaid, while operating or participating in the operation of a motor vehicle, did recklessly cause the death of another, to wit: Joshua R. Hopkins, in violation of Section

2903.06 of the Ohio Revised Code, and against the peace and dignity of the State of Ohio.

COUNT TWO: That Martin A. Howard, on or about January 10, 2026, in the County of Ross aforesaid, while driving or operating a motor vehicle upon a public road or highway, was involved in a motor vehicle accident or collision with persons or property, which resulted in the death of a person, and the said Martin A. Howard, having knowledge of said motor vehicle accident or collision, did fail to remain at the scene of the motor vehicle accident or collision until such time that he had given his name, address, registered number of the motor vehicle, and the name and address of the owner of the motor vehicle, to any person injured in the motor vehicle accident or collision or to a police officer at the scene of the motor vehicle accident or collision, as he failed to remain at the scene of the motor vehicle accident or collision until a police officer arrived, and further, upon leaving the scene of the motor vehicle accident or collision, the said Martin A. Howard did fail to notify the nearest police authority concerning the location of the motor vehicle accident or collision, the operator's name and address, and the registered number of the motor vehicle the operator was operating, in violation of Section 4549.02 of the Ohio Revised Code, and against the peace and dignity of the State of Ohio.

COUNT THREE: That Martin A. Howard, on or about January 10, 2026, in the County of Ross aforesaid, while driving or operating a motor vehicle on any public or private property other than a public road or highway, was involved in a motor vehicle accident or collision resulting in injury or damage to persons or property, and which resulted in the death of a person, when the said Martin A. Howard, having knowledge of said motor

vehicle accident or collision, did fail to stop at the scene of the motor vehicle accident or collision until such time that he had given his name, address, registered number of the motor vehicle, and the name and address of the owner of the motor vehicle, to any person injured in the motor vehicle accident or collision or to any other person who so requested the information, as he failed to remain at the scene of the motor vehicle accident or collision, and further, upon leaving the scene of the motor vehicle accident or collision, the said Martin A. Howard did fail to provide said information within twenty-four (24) hours of the accident or collision to the Sheriff of the county in which the accident or collision occurred, in violation of Section 4549.021, of the Ohio Revised Code and against the peace and dignity of the State of Ohio.



Jeffrey C. Marks #0080026
Prosecuting Attorney
Ross County, Ohio

A True Bill


India Chusman Williams
Foreperson of the Grand Jury

STATE OF OHIO, COUNTY OF ROSS, SS:

I, _____, Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas in and for said County, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the original Indictment, with the endorsements thereon, now on file in my office.

Witness my hand and the seal of said Court, at Chillicothe, Ross County, Ohio, this _____ day of _____, 2026.

Clerk

Deputy

JEFFREY C. MARKS
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
ROSS COUNTY, OHIO