

[Cite as *Shaker Hts. v. El-Bey*, 2017-Ohio-9022.]

# Court of Appeals of Ohio

EIGHTH APPELLATE DISTRICT  
COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA

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JOURNAL ENTRY AND OPINION  
Nos. 105701 and 105702

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**CITY OF SHAKER HEIGHTS**

PLAINTIFF-APPELLEE

vs.

**BRANDON PROFIT EL-BEY**

DEFENDANT-APPELLANT

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**JUDGMENT:**  
**AFFIRMED**

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Criminal Appeal from the  
Shaker Heights Municipal Court  
Case Nos. 17 TRD 01124 and 17 CRB 00154

**BEFORE:** S. Gallagher, J., Kilbane, P.J., and Blackmon, J.

**RELEASED AND JOURNALIZED:** December 14, 2017

**FOR APPELLANT**

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SEAN C. GALLAGHER, J.:

{¶1} This is an accelerated appeal brought pursuant to App.R. 11.1 and Loc.App.R. 11.1. Brandon Profit El-Bey appeals his convictions for operating a vehicle without a license, failing to stop at a stop sign, driving with expired or unlawful license plates, and carrying a concealed weapon. By designating this as an accelerated appeal, El-Bey has “agreed that we may render a decision in ‘brief and conclusionary form’ consistent with App.R. 11.1(E).” *State v. D.F.*, 8th Dist. Cuyahoga No. 104410, 2017-Ohio-534, ¶ 1.

{¶2} El-Bey does not dispute that he violated several ordinances or the validity of the underlying convictions. Instead, El-Bey asserts that he is not subject to the Shaker Heights Codified Ordinances because he is a national of the “Tribal-Nation, United Washitaw de Dugdahmoundyah Mu’urs.”

{¶3} “Numerous courts have rejected similar challenges to convictions based on ‘sovereign citizen’ or ‘sovereign nation’ arguments.” *Shaker Hts. v. El-Bey*, 8th Dist. Cuyahoga No. 104236, 2017-Ohio-929, ¶ 6, citing *State v. Wyley*, 8th Dist. Cuyahoga No. 102889, 2016-Ohio-1118, ¶ 6-7, 11-12; *Garfield Hts. v. Foster*, 8th Dist. Cuyahoga No. 102965, 2016-Ohio-2834, ¶ 9; *State v. Few*, 2d Dist. Montgomery No. 25969, 2015-Ohio-2292, ¶ 6; *State v. Blacker*, 12th Dist. Warren No. CA2008-07-094, 2009-Ohio-5519, ¶ 7-10; *St. Paris v. Galluzzo*, 2d Dist. Champaign No. 2014-CA-29, 2015-Ohio-3385, ¶ 46; *State v. Matthews*, 2d Dist. Greene No. 2015-CA-73,

2016-Ohio-5055, ¶ 3-6; *Friend v. Schatzman*, M.D.N.C. No. 1:15CV231, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 36332, 3-5 (Mar. 24, 2015).

{¶4} In light of the fact that El-Bey does not challenge the legal or factual basis of his convictions and seeks only to assert his status as a sovereign person as a means to avoid application of the Shaker Heights Codified Ordinances, a principle rejected by this and a majority of courts, we affirm.

It is ordered that appellee recover from appellant costs herein taxed. The court finds there were reasonable grounds for this appeal.

It is ordered that a special mandate issue out of this court directing the municipal court to carry this judgment into execution.

A certified copy of this entry shall constitute the mandate pursuant to Rule 27 of the Rules of Appellate Procedure.

SEAN C. GALLAGHER, JUDGE

MARY EILEEN KILBANE, P.J., and  
PATRICIA ANN BLACKMON, J., CONCUR