

## **Leavenworth County Attorney's Office announces intention to seek the death penalty in capital murder case**

OFFICE OF LEAVENWORTH COUNTY ATTORNEY  
TODD THOMPSON, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – May 23, 2023

RE: CASE # 2020-CR-000493

LEAVENWORTH, Kan. --- A man charged with capital murder appeared in court today, where he learned the state intends to pursue the death penalty.

Donald Ray Jackson Jr, born on June 6, 1980, learned of the state's intention to seek the death penalty as punishment for alleged crimes that happened on October 24, 2020.

According to online court records, Jackson appeared in custody with his counsel during today's arraignment. Jackson stood silent during arraignment, so the court entered a plea of not guilty on his behalf. The defense announced they will not have available jury time until maybe 2025.

Leavenworth County Attorney Todd Thompson said, "The defendant can plead guilty, not guilty, or stand mute – also known as standing silent. Standing mute or silent means a defendant does not take a stance on being guilty or not guilty; they remain silent according to rights guaranteed by the 5th Amendment."

A motions hearing is scheduled to begin October 30, 2023, at 9 a.m.