

PRESS RELEASE:

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Office of Leavenworth County Attorney Todd Thompson

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Independence Man Sentenced in 2020 Fatal Shooting in Leavenworth County

LEAVENWORTH, Kan. — A 24-year-old Independence man has been sentenced to 122 months in prison for involuntary manslaughter in connection with a 2020 shooting death in Leavenworth County.

According to court records, on Aug. 16, 2020, at approximately 2 a.m., following a brief altercation at a bar in Lansing, the victim left the parking lot in a vehicle. Two vehicles eventually pursued the victim, with Joshua X. Craig a passenger in one of them.

While traveling on Eisenhower Road in Leavenworth, Craig fired a gun in the direction of the victim's vehicle. The bullet shattered the rear window and struck the victim, resulting in the victim's death.

During the investigation, shell casings recovered from the scene were later compared to a firearm Craig admitted belonged to him.

Craig pleaded guilty on June 29, 2026, to involuntary manslaughter. On Aug. 12, a judge sentenced Craig to 122 months in prison and ordered him to pay \$11,499.79 in restitution.

Leavenworth County Attorney Todd Thompson said, "This case is a tragic example of how one reckless decision can have permanent consequences. Our thoughts remain with the victim's family, who have carried the weight of this loss."