

Leavenworth man sentenced in deadly 2022 shooting

OFFICE OF LEAVENWORTH COUNTY ATTORNEY

TODD THOMPSON, COUNTY ATTORNEY

PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – March 27, 2024

countyattorney@leavenworthcounty.gov

<https://www.facebook.com/LeavenworthProsecutor>

CASE NUMBER: 2022-CR-000222

LEAVENWORTH, Kan. --- A 34-year-old Leavenworth man has been sentenced on charges stemming from the 2022 fatal shooting of a man inside an apartment in Leavenworth.

On March 27, 2024, a judge sentenced Ryan C. Cheatham to 110 months in the Kansas Department of Corrections. Cheatham, who was convicted by a jury on February 13, 2024, was sentenced to serve 102 months on **Voluntary Manslaughter** and eight months on **Criminal Possession of a Firearm**. The judge ordered both sentences to run consecutively for a total of 110 months.

On February 13, 2024, a jury convicted Ryan C. Cheatham on charges of Voluntary Manslaughter and Criminal Possession of a Firearm in the fatal shooting of Warren Simon Jr, aka Sugar Bear. The verdict came following a two-day trial in Leavenworth County District Court.

According to court records, on May 18, 2022, Leavenworth police officers were dispatched to a reported shooting inside an apartment. Upon arrival, they discovered the victim lying on the floor, his shirt stained with blood.

A witness who was inside the apartment when the shooting happened told police Cheatham and the victim were inside the living room of the apartment when Cheatham picked up Simon's gun and pointed it at someone. Simon said he didn't like the way Cheatham was pointing the gun; Cheatham then shot Simon multiple times. After the shooting, Cheatham fled the apartment but was later taken into police custody at a family member's home.

During an interview with Leavenworth police officers on the night of the fatal shooting, Cheatham admitted to shooting Warren but claimed he did it in self-defense.

"As a prosecutor, I am committed to using every available tool to ensure justice for our victims. This was a senseless and troubling crime; we hope the family of the victim can further heal," said Leavenworth County Attorney Todd Thompson.