



Warren Correctional Inmate Sentenced for Murdering his Cellmate

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Warren County Prosecutor David P. Fornshell announced that Jedidiah Hayes Lang, 43, of Youngstown, Ohio, pled guilty to murder for the 2023 killing of Cody Bartimus at Warren Correctional Institution (WCI) in Turtlecreek Township. Judge Donald E. Oda II sentenced Lang to the statutory sentence of 15 years to life to run consecutively to his other murder sentence.

On October 26, 2023, WCI staff members discovered Lang's cellmate, Bartimus, unresponsive in his cell during their range checks. Bartimus was transported to Atrium Medical Center, but was pronounced deceased at 9:36 p.m. The Montgomery County Coroner's Office determined Bartimus' cause of death to be strangulation.

Investigators from the Ohio State Highway Patrol were alerted to the incident and responded to the prison to begin their investigation. Upon arrival, they met with Lang, who had been removed from his cell and was being held in a medical holding cell. Lang told investigators that he had grabbed a towel from the clothesline and wrapped it around Bartimus' head in an effort to, "rip his head off." He further admitted that the altercation lasted approximately five minutes and that he was on top of Bartimus with his knee pressing into Bartimus' back while he pulled Bartimus' neck with the towel. Lang stated that he was choking Bartimus for multiple minutes but wasn't sure exactly how long. He admitted that he could tell Bartimus was dead because he had, "done this before."

At the time of this offense, Lang was already serving a sentence of 15 years to life after being convicted of murder in a 2013 Knox County case.

Fornshell commended Ohio State Highway Patrol Investigator Kyle Klontz, Warren County Prosecutor's Office Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys John J. Arnold and Gray Chester, and Victim Witness Coordinator Melissa Kennard for their work on the case.



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