

Grand Jury Indicts Inmate for Capital Murder

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Earlier today, Warren County Prosecutor David P. Fornshell announced the indictment of Jack Welninski, 33, for aggravated murder (a special felony), along with two capital specifications, and a repeat violent offender specification. Welninski is currently incarcerated at the Ohio State Penitentiary in Youngstown, Ohio.

On April 23, 2018, Welninski is alleged to have strangled to death his cellmate, Kevin Nill, 40, of Piqua, Ohio, while incarcerated at Lebanon Correctional Institution in Turtlecreek Township. Investigators believe that Welninski murdered Nill to obtain a transfer to a different prison. The two had been cellmates for less than an hour before Nill was discovered deceased in the cell.

Welninski is currently serving a 69-year prison sentence after being convicted in Wood County, Ohio, for the 2015 attempted murder of an Oregon, Ohio police officer. Nill had been incarcerated for attempted domestic violence.

The first capital specification is based upon a finding by the grand jury that Welninski committed the offense of aggravated murder while he was under detention. The second capital specification is based upon a finding by the grand jury that, at the time of the aggravated murder, Welninski had previously been convicted of an offense, an essential element of which was an attempt to kill another.

An arraignment date is pending.



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