



STATE OF KANSAS
Tenth Judicial District

OFFICE OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY
STEPHEN M. HOWE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Update January 4, 2024

On January 4, 2024, the Honorable Judge Michael P. Joyce sentenced Michael L. Balance to 618 months in prison for Count I, Second-Degree Murder.

Update: October 24, 2023

On October 19, 2023, a jury found Michael L. Balance guilty of Second-Degree Murder, in case number 21CR1333. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Cathy Eaton and Kenneth Allison, with the assistance of the Prairie Village Police Department, the Kansas City Metro Squad, and the Johnson County Crime Lab. This case is set for sentencing on December 15, 2023.

Date: May 3, 2021

The State of Kansas has charged Michael L. Balance, 58, of Des Moines, Iowa, with one count of premeditated first-degree murder in Johnson County District Court case number 21CR1333.

On May 1, 2021, at approximately 6:09 P.M., Prairie Village Police officers responded to a life-threatening medical call at an apartment in Prairie Village, Kansas. Upon arrival, 70-year-old John Hoffman, was located deceased inside the residence.

The arrest was the result of an investigation by the Prairie Village Police Department, the Kansas City Metro Squad, and the Johnson County Crime Lab.

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