

IN THE COMMON PLEAS COURT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, OHIO  
CRIMINAL DIVISION

STATE OF OHIO

Plaintiff,

vs.

JONATHAN ERIC LINK

Defendant.

CASE NO. 2024 CR 03226

JUDGE STEVEN K. DANKOF

STATE'S SENTENCING  
MEMORANDUM

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By and through the Montgomery County Prosecutor's Office, the State of Ohio respectfully requests this Court impose on Defendant Jonathan Link the maximum sentence permitted by law for the crimes for which he was convicted. The attached memorandum sets forth the support for this request and addresses the issue of merger.

Respectfully submitted,  
MATHIAS H. HECK, JR.  
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

By: /s/ Lynda A. Dodd  
**Lynda A. Dodd, #0068551E**

By: /s/ Jacob P. Mosher  
**Jacob P. Mosher, #0093799E**

By: /s/ Richard Smith  
**RICHARD SMITH, #0104863E**

Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys  
Montgomery County Prosecutor's Office  
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## **MEMORANDUM**

### **I. CASE HISTORY**

This matter proceeded to a Jury Trial on December 8, 2025, and the Jury reached its Guilty as Charged verdict on December 12, 2025. The Jury decided Defendant's Guilt based on the overwhelming evidence produced by the State at trial:

On Monday July 30, 2001 Kettering Patrol Officer Root responded to a request for service at 4516 Far Hills, wherein Eric Link reported that his girlfriend Shannon Anderson had left the residence on 7/28/01 and had not returned for her children ages 7 and 9. Link advised that he had called Children Services and they had advised him to make a police report. Patrol Officer Root took the report and provided Link with victim resource information. Defendant indicated he would keep the children for the time being, but the next day he took them to Children Services without making any effort to locate any family or friends of Ms. Anderson.

On August 16, 2001, a badly decomposed body was found in a ditch in Ross County. Kettering police learned of that body, and returned to Defendant's residence to locate items of Shannon Anderson's that could be used for identification purposes. At that time law enforcement had no idea they were entering the home, and bedroom, where Defendant had brutally murdered Ms. Anderson. Ultimately on October 1, 2001, the body found in Ross County was identified as Shannon Anderson. On October 10, 2001 Ross County officers, Kettering officers and Annette Davis from the Miami Valley regional crime laboratory returned to the Link residence and he signed consent for the officers to search. .

After learning that Shannon's body had been identified on October 1, 2001, but before law enforcement returned to his home, Defendant purchased a brand new mattress. Law enforcement immediately noticed the new mattress when they re-entered the bedroom. As the officers looked around the room, they located suspected blood throughout the bedroom: on the footboard, multiple spots on the entertainment center, in and on the dresser, on the closet, the closet track, and the ceiling directly above the blood speckled foot board. The blood, tested by two separate accredited laboratories, decades apart, was found to be Shannon Anderson's. The old mattress? That was located as well in the mattress store's dumpster. Although the top layer was cleaned, when the mattress was dissected there was a stain of Shannon Anderson's blood that soaked all the way to the coils.

Defendant, who had told a variety of stories about the last time he saw Shannon Anderson alive, was interviewed by law enforcement after the suspected blood was located in the bedroom he had shared with the victim. He admitted that the blood found in areas like the ceiling did not look good for him. And he suggested the detective not worry too much about the inconsistencies in his story.

After the interview ended Link walked home from the police station. The following day his sister contacted law enforcement, ultimately asking for a welfare check voicing concerns about Link's safety. Based on that call Kettering Detectives, including Green and Simoni, obtained a key to the residence from the landlord, entered the home and found Defendant in a locked bathroom, with self-inflicted suicide-type injuries, and medics were called.

The case was presented to Grand Jury in 2002 and a no true bill resulted. Yet law enforcement did not stop investigating the case. When the case was pursued by Det. Stout, of the Kettering Police Department and members of the Tactical Crime Suppression Unit (TCSU) from

Springboro and Centerville police departments, additional leads were uncovered. Evidence was developed from Defendant's former work computer and a former co-worker tying Defendant both to the area of the dumped body, and to Atlanta, where law enforcement located the victim's vehicle.

Additionally, these Detectives followed up with Shannon Anderson's two children, who were seven and nine at the time of their mother's murder. The girls had been in the other room, while Defendant brutally killed their mother, with blows that shattered her skull into tiny fragments. The girls had only stayed in the same home for a few years after the death of their mother. They were estranged, and grew up in different homes, in different states and did not communicate. Yet, 23 years after the last night they saw their mother, both girls told very similar facts about their last memories of bumps and thumps in their mom's room, while they waited for her to come kiss her good night. Both remembered the next day that they saw Eric, their mom's boyfriend, cleaning a dark reddish stain by their mother's bed. Both women, decades later, in separate states, drew sketches that were so similar they could only be depicting what they actually saw. The sketches of both now grown young women, also placed the dark reddish stain, right where the evidence he failed to clean, suggests it would be- right by the foot of the bed. In the area of the foot board, and under the blood on the ceiling.

With the complete investigation, Defendant was indicted for the murder he committed. On January 13, 2025, Defendant was indicted on one count of Murder (purposeful), in violation of 2903.02(A), an Unclassified Felony, and one count of Murder (proximate result), in violation of 2903.02(B), also an Unclassified Felony. The Jury found him Guilty on both charges on December 12, 2025.

## II. SENTENCING AND MERGER

In Defendant's Sentencing Memorandum, he incorrectly states that one of the Murder charges he was convicted of should be dismissed. That is incorrect. The State agrees that both counts of Murder merge into each other, and Defendant cannot be sentenced on both counts. But dismissing one count is not the remedy; the State elects sentencing on Count 1, Murder (purposeful). The penalty for a conviction of Murder (purposeful) is a term in prison of 15 years to Life.

The imposed sentence will be fifteen years to life. Defendant's actions most certainly have earned him a life sentence. This was a brutal murder, committed while her children were in the next room. Defendant then disposed of the victim's lifeless body like trash, in a distant area where she may never have been located. He had the mattress disposed of in another county as well. The victim's van left states away in Atlanta. Rather than call family for the children, he discarded them as well, leaving them with Children's Services, instead of friends or family.

Defendant's efforts to cover his crime very nearly succeeded. But for continued efforts of law enforcement he would have gotten away with murder. Finally, he will now begin serving the life sentence he earned in 2001.

Respectfully submitted,  
MATHIAS H. HECK, JR.  
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

By: /s/ Lynda A. Dodd  
**Lynda A. Dodd, #0068551E**

By: /s/ Jacob P. Mosher  
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the aforesaid Response was electronically filed via the Court's authorized electronic filing system which will send notification of this filing to Attorney for the Defendant, on the date same was e-filed.

By: /s/ Lynda A. Dodd  
**Lynda A. Dodd, #0068551E**