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**Wichita, Kansas -** A Wichita jury has determined a man who murdered his 17 month old daughter should be given the Hard 50 prison sentence.

In 2009, Jonell Lloyd, 30 of Wichita, was sentenced to a term of 50 years to life by District Court Judge Jeffrey Goering. In 2013, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that two men found guilty of murder in Finney and Leavenworth Counties should have been given the Hard 50 by a jury, not a judge.

The Kansas Legislature rewrote the law during a two-day special session in September of 2014, requiring juries, not judges, decide aggravating and mitigating factors in cases of premediated first degree murder when a sentence of 50 years to life is possible.

The Lloyd case was the first to be tried in Sedgwick County for resentencing by a jury.

Today after just over two hours of deliberation, a jury in Judge Goering's courtroom ruled the aggravating factors were not outweighed by the mitigating factors meaning Lloyd should receive a life sentence and not be eligible for parole until he has served 50 years.

In July of 2008, Lloyd beat and choked his daughter Chavira Brown after she woke up from a nap with wet pants. Lloyd put the child in three plastic bags, zipped her into a couch cushion and placed her in the attic of his home near 15<sup>th</sup> and Green in Wichita. The child suffocated to death.

Judge Goering is scheduled to sentence Lloyd to the Hard 50 next week.

## District Attorney Marc Bennett 18<sup>th</sup> Judicial District of Kansas