

# OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF KANSAS

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## PRESS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 27, 2025

**WICHITA, Kansas** – Charles Crawford, 63, received two consecutive life sentences today for the murders of Vanessa Crawford, 50, and Donald Eckert, 58, on July 25, 2023. This sentencing means Mr. Crawford will not be eligible for parole until 2073.

Crawford had previously entered a "no contest" plea to two counts of first-degree felony murder on December 19, 2024.

"The sentencing of Charles Crawford to two life terms provides a measure of justice for Vanessa Crawford and Donald Eckert, and their families," stated District Attorney Marc Bennett.

The District Attorney's office acknowledges the critical role of the Wichita Police Department. "This conviction and sentence are a testament to the diligent work of the Wichita Police Department whose swift response and thorough investigation were critical in apprehending the defendant and building a strong case. We especially want to thank Detective Addie Perkins for her tireless efforts in this case."

Our office remains committed in its mission to seek justice for victims and to ensure the safety and security of our community

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