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Bloody Trail Led to Murder Victim

LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP) - A recently released affidavit says an Oskaloosa man charged in a Lawrence killing laughed about the victim bleeding to death. Joel Hardy reports Time-

The affidavit supporting the arrest of 34-year-old Joshua Lee Back says officers followed a blood trail from where officers found 45-year-old Tracy Dean Lautenschlager bleeding in May.

The Lawrence Journal-World reports that the trail ended at a home, where a witness told police that Lautenschlager, Back and a third man had smoked methamphetamine the night before. The affidavit says the meth-smoking companion told officers that Back said he had "cut a person's throat and laughed about the amount of blood squirting from the wound."

Back is charged with second-degree murder and jailed on \$750,000 bond. His defense attorney didn't immediately return a phone call from The Associated Press.

**Associated Press**