Jeff Co Man's Hearing on Murder Charge Halted

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) - A preliminary hearing for a Jefferson County man accused of first-degree murder in a chase-related traffic death has been discontinued after his attorney cited an unspecified conflict of interest.

The Topeka Capital-Journal reported that a Shawnee County judge on Thursday halted the hearing for 62-year-old Sherman Norman Jenkins after his attorney said she no longer could represent him.

Donna Asher did not publicly identify her conflict in the case. But District Judge Mark Braun said he would appoint a new attorney for Jenkins.

Jenkins is accused in the Feb. 4 death of Mia Holden. She was a passenger in a car when authorities say her car was hit by Jenkins's pickup truck while he was being pursued by police.

Associated Press