

Prisoner who killed cellmate not contesting death penalty

TECUMSEH, Neb. (AP) - A Nebraska prison inmate who freely admits killing his cellmate is not contesting the death penalty sought against him by prosecutors.

Patrick Schroeder was in court Thursday before three judges who will decide whether he's sentenced to death or life in prison for the strangulation last year of his cellmate, Terry Berry.

The Omaha World-Herald reports that the 40-year-old Schroeder, who is serving as his own attorney, offered no rebuttal to prosecutors' case that he should be sentenced to death.

Last July, Schroeder pleaded guilty to killing Berry in the cell they shared at the Tecumseh State Prison. Schroeder already was serving a life sentence for killing a Pawnee City farmer in 2006. Berry was imprisoned for passing back checks.

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