Man charged in deadly house fire waives prelim hearing

(KMZA)--One of two men charged in connection with the death of an elderly Vermillion man, whose body was located inside the ruins of his burned out home in January, waived his preliminary hearing last week.

Jefferson Goad, of Waverly, was bound over for arraignment on a charge of first-degree murder and five other counts.

Arraignment was scheduled for November 17 in Marshall County District Court.

Goad and Jeremy Penix II, of Melvern, are charged in the death of Donald McLaughlin, whose body was located inside his home following a January 24 fire and explosion.

The preliminary hearing for Penix was continued to October 30 after one witness testified last week. Several more witnesses are expected to testify.

In addition to the first-degree murder charge, both men are charged with conspiracy, aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary, arson and interference with law enforcement.

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