

Atchison man pleads to reduced charge in beating death

(KNZA)--An Atchison man has pleaded no contest to a reduced charge of involuntary manslaughter in the beating death of a Cummings man in 2019.

46-year-old Scott Vandeloo entered the plea October 14 in Doniphan County District Court, canceling a jury trial that had been set for this week.

Vandeloo was among three Atchison men charged with second-degree murder in the death of 42-year-old Jason Pantle.

Sentencing was scheduled for December 8.

Last month, a Doniphan County jury found 24-year-old Brian Spilman, Jr., guilty of involuntary manslaughter in the death of Pantle. He's scheduled to be sentenced November 3.

A jury trial for the third defendant, Matthew “ Cole” Scherer, has been pushed back to March 28 of next year.

Authorities allege the trio engaged in altercations with Pantle during a September 22, 2019 party in southern Doniphan County. Pantle died later at a Kansas City Hospital after suffering what investigators called serious head injuries.