Mental evaluation ordered for area murder suspect

(KNZA)--A St. Joseph, Missouri man charged in the August shooting death of a former Troy, Kansas man will undergo a competency evaluation.

A judge Tuesday granted a motion filed by the attorney for 36-year-old Jessie Lee Nelson for the mental evaluation.

A preliminary hearing, which had been scheduled in the case, was placed on hold pending the outcome of the evaluation.

Nelson is charged with second-degree murder in the shooting death of 29-year-old Mack Jenkins. He's also charged with first-degree assault in the wounding of another man.

Police say Jenkins and a 23-year-old man were shot the evening of August 6 while in a vehicle that had crashed just north of downtown St. Joseph.

According to a probable cause statement, witnesses said the driver of a second car got out of his vehicle, walked to Jenkins vehicle and fired several gunshots. The suspect, later identified as Nelson, then alleged got back in a his vehicle and drove away.

Nelson remains in the Buchanan County Jail on a \$250,000 bond.

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