

Sex crimes, murder for hire, lead to life sentences

(KAIR)--A Leavenworth man, charged in connection with child sex-crimes, and soliciting to have his victims murdered, received multiple life sentences in Leavenworth County District Court Wednesday.

According to Leavenworth County Attorney Todd Thompson, 40-year-old Steven Manczuk was sentenced to three life sentences, as well as 4-years-11 months, of incarceration, after a jury, earlier this year, found him guilty of rape, aggravated criminal sodomy, sexual exploitation of a child, and solicitation to commit capital murder.

Thompson, in a release, says Manczuk's crimes were committed between 2010 and 2013 when the victims were under the age of 14.

The life in prison sentences were handed down for the charges of aggravated criminal sodomy, sexual exploitation of a child, and rape, while the near 5-year-sentence was for the charge of solicitation to commit capital murder.

Manczuk was initially charged with rape, aggravated criminal sodomy, and sexual exploitation of a child following an FBI investigation in May of 2020 after the FBI- Detroit Division opened a case on a man who lived in Michigan. Investigators determined that the subject of the Detroit investigation had a Skype account that communicated with another, later identified as Manczuk, with that conversation happening in July 2011. During those conversations, Manczuk shared child pornography pictures and stated that he had access to a child to sexually abuse.

Manczuk was already in custody on the initial charges of rape, aggravated criminal sodomy, and sexual exploitation of a child when authorities learned he was soliciting to have those victims murdered.

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