

Trial Set for Ks Fugitive in Neb Chase

TECUMSEH, Neb. (AP) - A July trial in Nebraska has been scheduled for a Kansas fugitive who's accused of firing at officers during a vehicle chase in southeast Nebraska.

The Beatrice Daily Sun reports that 33-year-old Michael Engstrom, of Topeka, Kan., pleaded not guilty earlier this week to several felony counts in Johnson County District Court---including attempted second-degree murder.

His wife, Jamie Engstrom, pleaded guilty to felony child abuse. Prosecutors dropped several charges connected to the Feb. 13 chase in exchange for Jamie Engstrom's plea. Authorities say the child abuse charge was filed because Jamie Engstrom had placed a 14-year-old child in harm's way. Officers discovered after the chase that the child was in the Engstroms' car.

Both Engstroms have been charged with murder in the slaying of a Topeka man earlier on Feb. 13.

In addition, Michael Engstrom is facing charges in Pawnee County in connection with an armed robbery at the Casey's general store in Pawnee City.

Associated Press