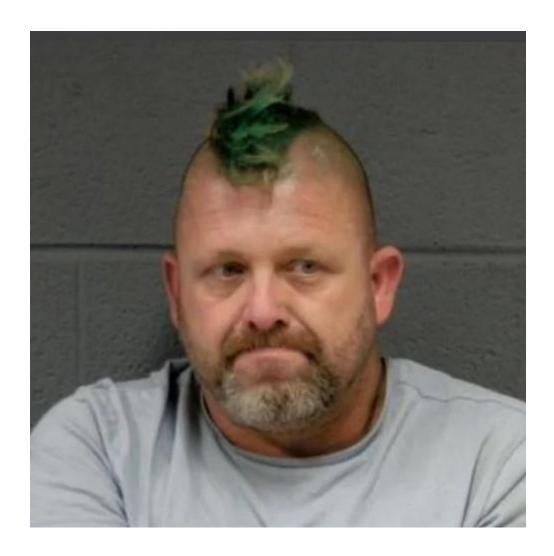


Belleville Man Convicted Of First-Degree Murder In Washington County Case

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WASHINGTON COUNTY – On October 25, 2023, a Washington County Judge convicted 44-year-old Kevin Loucks, of Belleville, with First-Degree Murder (Class M Felony).

The charge comes after an exhaustive investigation by the Illinois State Police Division of Criminal Investigation Zone 7 into the murder of 44-year-old Montez Pearson. On July 19, 2023, Pearson was located deceased near Lunte Creek Road in Washington County.

Loucks was taken into custody on July 23, 2023, after a search warrant was executed at his residence in Belleville.

The ISP was assisted during the investigation by the Washington County Sheriff's Office and the Belleville Police Department.