



# Kansas Bureau of Investigation

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**October 1, 2024**

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## **UPDATE: Arrest and identification made in skeletal remains homicide**

WILSON COUNTY – The Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI), the Neodesha Police Department, and the Wilson County Sheriff's Office positively identified the man whose skeletal remains were found in rural Wilson County, and have made an arrest connected to the case.

The victim was identified as Levi Ellis, 39, of Neodesha. An autopsy was conducted on his remains.

KBI agents, with assistance from officers with the Neodesha Police Department, developed a suspect in the case. An arrest warrant was issued for first-degree murder connected to the death of Levi Ellis.

On Oct. 1, around 1 p.m., officers from the Broken Arrow Police Department in Oklahoma arrested Joseph D. Ferraro, 56, of Neodesha, at the Clarion Hotel at 2600 N. Aspen Ave., in Broken Arrow.

He was booked into the Tulsa County Jail in Tulsa. Extradition will be pursued. The investigation is ongoing.



Ferraro booking photo  
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**EARLIER RELEASE**  
**September 25, 2024**

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## **Skeletal remains found in Wilson County**

**WILSON COUNTY** – The Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI), the Neodesha Police Department, and the Wilson County Sheriff's Office are conducting a homicide investigation after human skeletal remains were located in rural Wilson County.

On Sept. 24, at around 11:30 a.m., the Neodesha Police Department requested KBI assistance after they located skeletal remains in a pasture east of 6554 Ottawa Rd., in Neodesha. KBI agents and the Crime Scene Response Team responded to the area. Investigators confirmed the remains were human.

An autopsy is scheduled. Positive identification may take longer than typical cases due to the condition of the remains.

Anyone with information about this investigation is asked to call the KBI at 1-800-KS-CRIME. Anonymous tips can also be submitted online at <https://www.kbi.ks.gov/sar>.

This investigation is ongoing.

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