



# BUTTE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY



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## PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
December 14, 2022

### DEFENDANTS HELD TO ANSWER ON 2021 ROBBERY/MURDER

Three Oroville co-defendants were in Butte County Superior Court this week for an extended preliminary hearing on murder and related charges that may bring life sentences in state prison.

In January 2022 the Butte County District Attorney's Office filed felony complaints charging **Andrew Lockner, 36, Lester Reed, 44, and Shelby Beaulieu (aka Bankston), 26, all of Oroville**, with murder, attempted robbery, and shooting at an occupied vehicle that resulted in the death of a 33-year-old Oroville man in June 2021. Beaulieu is charged with an additional misdemeanor count of soliciting for prostitution. Lockner and Reed are each charged with a count of being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm.

On December 13, 2022, a six-hour preliminary hearing on all three defendants was held in the Butte County Superior Court. During the preliminary hearing, prosecutors presented witnesses and evidence sufficient to convince the judge to hold all three defendants for trial on all charges and allegations in the criminal complaint.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said the charges arise from the morning of June 29, 2021, in South Oroville. Ramsey said the evidence presented at the preliminary hearing established that at approximately 5:27 a.m. on June 29, 2021, Oroville Police received a call of an unresponsive man in the driver's seat of a vehicle near the intersection of Lincoln Boulevard and Pearl Street in South Oroville. When Oroville Police arrived, they found Jacob Nevin, 33, of Oroville, deceased in the vehicle. The cause of death was determined to be a gunshot wound.

Ramsey said during an ensuing seven-month investigation, detectives from the Oroville Police Department determined Nevin had been shot at 5:08 a.m. while sitting in his vehicle in a gravel parking lot near the intersection of Myers and D Streets in South Oroville. Text messages between Nevin and Beaulieu were presented at the preliminary hearing in which Beaulieu agreed to engage in an act of prostitution with Nevin and asked Nevin to meet her at the gravel parking lot.

Further evidence presented established that while Beaulieu met with Nevin in the parking lot, Lockner and Reed approached from a different direction with the intent to rob Nevin. During the attempted robbery one shot was fired, striking Nevin in the abdomen. After being shot, Nevin attempted to flee in his vehicle. Nevin drove approximately 9 blocks before losing

consciousness and drifting off the road at the location where he was found.

Oroville Police officers testified a passerby noticed the vehicle, still running, with Nevin slouched in the driver's side and pulled over to assist. By the time Oroville Police arrived, Nevin had died from the single gunshot wound.

Ramsey said all three defendants will be in court on December 28, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. in Butte County Superior Court for the setting of their joint jury trial. All three defendants are in custody in lieu of bail. Bail was set for Lockner at \$2,550,000; for Reed at \$2,650,000; and for Bankston at \$2,375,000.



