

Lower bond possible for man charged in fatal wreck

Written by

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1:04 PM, Nov. 9, 2010

COVINGTON – Kenton District Judge Douglas Grothaus said he would take under advisement a request to lower the bond of a 25-year-old Independence man charged with causing a fatal wreck that killed the stepson of attorney and WLW radio personality Eric Deters.

Ronald Gambrel is being held at the Kenton County jail in lieu of a \$250,000 bond. He is charged with second-degree manslaughter for the Aug. 14 death of Corey Bradley, 22, of Independence.

Grothaus said he needed time to read the numerous letters and documents Gambrel's lawyer had presented him Monday during a preliminary hearing. Among the documents was a letter from someone willing to employ Gambrel if he was released on bond.

His attorney, Shannon Sexton, said what his client is alleged of doing is an anomaly in an otherwise good life.

An investigator said Gambrel was driving

his 2001 Pontiac Firebird Trans Am at 7 a. m. Aug. 14 on Bristow Road when the car crashed through more than 100 feet of split-rail farm fence. A Trans Am onboard computer recorded the car's speed at 75 mph five seconds before the wreck, according to investigators. The speed limit was 35 mph.

Gambrel's blood-alcohol content was 0.123 to 0.131 at the time of treatment, according to investigators. Dr. Gregory Davis of the Kentucky State Medical Examiner's Office estimated Gambrel's blood-alcohol content at the time of the wreck to be 0.144 to 0.159. Under Kentucky law, a driver is considered drunk when his blood-alcohol level is 0.08 or greater.

Grothaus also found there was enough evidence to send the case to a grand jury.

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