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Tippecanoe County High Tech Crime Unit helps with murder conviction

The Tippecanoe County High Tech Crime Unit is helping other counties seek justice.

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Posted By: Kayla Sullivan

TIPPECANOE COUNTY, Ind. (WLF1) — The Tippecanoe County High Tech Crime Unit is helping other counties seek justice. As we told you over the weekend, Scottie Kincade is behind bars for the murder of his ex-girlfriend.

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News 18's Kayla Sullivan reports how the rare partnership helped convict a killer in Warren County.

"It was a very tragic end to a severe domestic violence case," said Sean Leshney, Tippecanoe County High Tech Crime Unit Chief Investigator. "I just felt happy and honored that Warren County Prosecutor John Larson and Chief Deputy Hart included me and that we could work well together in a short time frame."

In December, Warren County asked Leshney to investigate and present digital evidence during Kincade's murder trial. It involved phone records from both Kincade and those he talked to the day of the murder.

"Witnesses have different perspectives," said Leshney. "They remember different things, they might not have the times correctly."

However, phone records are difficult to dispute. Tippecanoe County Prosecutor Patrick Harrington said the high tech unit is crucial in this digital age.

"This digital evidence, forensic evidence that Sean was able to extract also cleared other people," said

Harrington.

Leshney did that by pinpointing general locations of other potential suspects at the time of the murder.

"We might work for the prosecutor's office, but we follow evidence where it wants to go," said Leshney.

The unit has taken more than 500 cases in five years.

"We've obtained guilty pleas from drug dealing cases to child molesting cases to battery," added Harrington.

Those convictions didn't just come from this county, but several others in and out of Indiana. It's a rare combination of resources meant to be shared.

"We have the only high tech crime unit in the state of Indiana that's embedded with a prosecutor's office and a major university and we are one of three in the country," said Harrington.

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