Positive Kansas Man Cleared of Exposure Charges

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An HIV-positive 43-year-old Hutchinson, Kansas, man has been found not guilty of exposing a male teenager to the virus, *The Kansas City Star* reports.

According to the article, a Reno County jury acquitted Harlin Bailey of a felony count of knowingly exposing another to a life-threatening communicable disease for performing oral sex on the teenager. Defense attorney Kelly Driscoll told jurors that the man had taken necessary precautions before any sexual activity had taken place to prevent possible transmission, including disclosing his HIV status.

However, defense attorney Keith Schroeder questioned whether the teen—then a special education student—was capable of understanding HIV or how it is transmitted.

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