

Accused baby-killer's bail \$75,000 - Judge praises cops' work in case, says suspect, 48, isn't a threat to society

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DETROIT -- Declaring that the accused murderer of 3-month-old Isaiah Lewis posed no threat to society, 36th District Judge Steve Lockhart set the suspect's bond at \$75,000 at his arraignment Sunday.

Harold Reed, 48, of Detroit is charged with murder and child abuse in the child's death. If convicted on those charges, he could be sentenced to up to life in prison upon conviction.

Judge Lockhart entered a not guilty plea on **Reed**'s behalf. There were no family members from either side present in the courtroom.

The judge also praised police for their prompt work in cracking the case.

"This is a real sad case ... but one bright spot is the work of the Detroit Police Department. The care and dedication I saw from the officers was exceptional."

The body of the child, missing since Aug. 3, was found Friday in a vacant house near Seven Mile and Woodward. The baby's mother, Shaniqua Betty, 20, told police she handed her baby to a stranger at a bus stop while she went home to retrieve a purse and shoes.

Judge Lockhart said he did not feel that **Reed** was a threat to society because, "(The crime) was brought to you -- you didn't seek it out."

Lockhart did not see a flight risk because "you've shown great cooperation with the police." But regarding the crime, he said, "It is extremely serious. We have a dead child."

Reed's preliminary examination has been set for Aug. 23. **Reed** is being held at the Wayne County Jail.

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