

The trial of a southern Kentucky man charged with murdering his 20-month-old son, who died after drinking drain cleaner, has begun in Bowling Green.

Jurors heard recordings on Wednesday of statements that Bryan Daniels gave police after the death of his son, Kayden, on May 30, 2009 at their home in Wayne County.

Daniels is facing charges that include murder and making meth. Defense attorney, Mark Stanziano, said his client is not guilty of either charge.

Daniels told police that he first took the cup away from the child, but then put it back where he could reach it. He said he thought the cup contained juice, but knew meth was being made in the home.

The trial was moved after a jury couldn't be seated in Wayne County.

In court yesterday the judge dismissed a charge of manufacturing methamphetamine against Daniels. The Lexington Herald-Leader reports Circuit Judge Vernon Miniard Jr. ruled Thursday there was no proof that Bryan Daniels made meth on the day his son, Kayden, died. After prosecutors finished presenting their case Thursday, Miniard denied a motion by defense attorney Mark Stanziano to acquit Daniels on charges of murder, endangering Kayden and taking part in a criminal syndicate. Jurors will hear closing arguments and begin deliberating Friday.