

# Inmate who used a shank during an attack receives sentence

OFFICE OF LEAVENWORTH COUNTY ATTORNEY

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CASE NUMBER: 2024-CR-000153

LEAVENWORTH, Kan. --- A Lansing Correctional Facility inmate who used a “shank” during an attack on a corrections officer has been sentenced to more than 10 years in the Kansas Department of Corrections.

A jury found 34-year-old Eli Mendoza guilty of **Battery Against a Law Enforcement Officer** on Oct. 28, 2024. On Friday, Dec. 6, 2024, Mendoza was sentenced to 130 months in prison. The sentence will run consecutive to all prior cases.

On January 12, 2023, a Lansing correctional officer was attacked and battered while attempting to break up a fight involving 34-year-old inmate Eli Mendoza and another inmate. During the altercation, Mendoza hit the officer in the head several times. Following the fight, a shaved-down homemade device was discovered. Although hit several times, the officer didn’t require stitches.

Leavenworth County Attorney Todd Thompson said, "The safety and well-being of prison staff and inmates remain a top priority. We commend this officer for his efforts in upholding that commitment to safety, and we are grateful that their injuries were not more severe."