

## **Lansing inmate sentenced on escape charges**

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LEAVENWORTH COUNTY, Kan. — A man who escaped custody will spend an additional 57 months in prison.

On June 9, 2025, a Leavenworth County jury found Bradley G. Verstraete, 55, guilty of aggravated escape from custody. On Friday, July 11, a judge sentenced Verstraete to an additional 57 months in the Kansas Department of Corrections.

Verstraete was serving a 102-month sentence at Lansing Correctional Facility when he was discovered missing during the facility's standard 8:30 p.m. inmate count on Sunday, April 7, 2024. Verstraete had been assigned to E-Dorm, a minimum-security living unit, but was still considered in the custody of the Kansas Department of Corrections. Facility surveillance footage showed Verstraete walking out of the unit without authorization. He was declared an escapee shortly thereafter. The following day, April 8, 2024, a concerned citizen reported a suspicious individual in the 900 block of 4H Road in Lansing. A Lansing police officer responded and apprehended Verstraete.

"Escaping custody isn't just illegal – it's a threat to public safety," said Leavenworth County Attorney Todd Thompson. "Escapes can create fear and disrupt daily life for our community members."