

Leavenworth man sentenced for theft of a Chevy Camaro, approaching officer with a knife

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PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – June 30, 2023

LEAVENWORTH, Kan. --- Johnathon Brister, a Leavenworth man born on February 11, 1977, has been sentenced to serve 32 months in the Kansas Department of Corrections after being found guilty of stealing a Chevy Camaro and assaulting a Leavenworth County Sheriff's sergeant with a knife.

On January 10, 2023, Brister, was apprehended in the 1400 block of Ottawa Street by a sergeant from the Leavenworth County Sheriff's Department. The sergeant was trying to locate a stolen Camaro when Brister approached him with a knife.

According to court documents, Brister approached the sergeant while holding a knife. The sergeant, who was running surveillance in the area, exited his vehicle with his service weapon and badge displayed. The sergeant identified himself to Brister and ordered Brister to get on the ground. Brister refused and retreated to his residence. Brister later exited his residence, where the deputy placed him in custody. A search warrant was executed on the residence, and the knife was retrieved.

On May 23, 2023, Brister, born on February 11, 1977, was found guilty by a Leavenworth County jury of theft and aggravated assault charges.

Brister was sentenced today to 32 months in the Kansas Department of Corrections for the aggravated assault charge and to 12 months in the Kansas Department of Corrections for the charge of theft. Both sentences will run concurrently.

Leavenworth County Attorney Todd Thompson said, "We are so thankful for all those great law enforcement officers that help protect our community," Thompson added, "We are thankful no one was hurt in this incident."