

Numerous facial tattoos help identify a suspected thief

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LEAVENWORTH, Kan. --- A Leavenworth County jury on Tuesday found Johnathon W. Brister guilty of charges related to aggravated assault and theft. Brister's facial tattoos helped identify him as the suspect.

Brister, 46, of Leavenworth, was arrested on January 10, 2023, in the 1400 block of Ottawa Street, by a Leavenworth County Sheriff's sergeant who was attempting to locate a stolen Camaro.

According to court documents, Brister approached the sergeant while holding a knife. The sergeant, 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.

Brister was also facing a charge of residential burglary, but the jury could not come to a unanimous decision regarding the charge, and was hung.

Leavenworth County Attorney Todd Thompson said, "There's never enough appreciation we can have for our law enforcement. We are grateful no one got hurt."

Sentencing is set for June 30.

Any and all defendants are innocent until proven guilty.