Farm store theft leads to prison time

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CASE NUMBER: 2024-CR-300030

LEAVENWORTH, Kan. --- A man convicted of stealing a tiller from a Basehor farm and home store's parking lot has been sentenced to prison.

On Wednesday, Aug. 28, 39-year-old Charles Washington received a 12-month sentence in the Kansas Department of Corrections for Theft—a charge he pleaded not guilty to on June 5, 2024. Wednesday's sentence was ordered to run consecutively to any other sentences Washington faces. Washington was also ordered to pay restitution of at least \$2,839.99.

According to court documents, a Basehor police officer attempted to stop a van Washington was in on May 27, 2023. The van was traveling above the posted speed limit at N. 155th and Pin Oak Drive. It became apparent that the van wasn't stopping for police, so any pursuit of the vehicle ended. A short time later, near 147th and Hollingsworth, Basehor police found the van flipped over and in a ditch. While sifting through debris from the crash scene, an orange King Kutter Tiller was discovered lying on the east side of 147th. Laying near the tiller was a price tag of \$2,699.99. Washington and two others were taken into custody at the crash scene.

Leavenworth County Attorney said, "I want to thank the Basehor Police Department for safely handling this incident and connecting the dots to solve the case. Theft from our businesses is serious and will be handled as such."