

Man sentenced to over 1 year for stealing mail from mailboxes

OFFICE OF LEAVENWORTH COUNTY ATTORNEY

TODD THOMPSON, COUNTY ATTORNEY

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countyattorney@leavenworthcounty.gov

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CASE NUMBER: 2024-CR-000614

LEAVENWORTH, Kan. --- A 31-year-old Bonner Springs man has been sentenced to **16 months** in prison after being convicted of stealing mail from mailboxes with raised red flags.

According to court documents, Dakota J. Bogart was arrested on March 23, 2023. At the time of his arrest, authorities found mail in his vehicle that did not belong to him. Bogart later admitted to stealing mail from about 20 mailboxes in Leavenworth County, specifically targeting those with raised red flags. A raised red flag, also known as a carrier flag, signals outgoing mail awaiting pickup by the mail carrier.

On Friday, Feb. 14, 2025, Bogart pleaded no contest to an individual count of theft. The court accepted his plea and found him guilty. **On March 19, 2025, he was sentenced to 16 months in prison, which will run consecutively to any sentence already being served.**

Leavenworth County Attorney Todd Thompson stated, "Stealing mail is serious and can result in an offender being sentenced to prison." Thompson added, "Everyone should feel confident that their mail is safe, but if you need to send checks, bill payments, or other sensitive documents, consider using the post office instead of leaving them in your mailbox."

Thompson also reminded residents about USPS's Informed Delivery service, which helps track mail deliveries. "This service provides Daily Digest emails and images of incoming letter-sized mail, offering greater visibility into your deliveries," he explained. "For more information or to sign up, visit www.usps.com."