

84-year-old woman who answered her door for a stranger is severely beaten - suspect sentenced to prison

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CASE NUMBER: 2022-CR-000456

LEAVENWORTH, Kan. --- A woman who brutally assaulted an 84-year-old celebrating her birthday has been sentenced to more than six years in prison for the violent attack.

On September 15, 2022, Sherry L. Housworth, 53, repeatedly banged on the victim's door. While using her walker, the victim answered the door and stepped outside to greet Housworth – a woman she did not recognize. While outside, Housworth became agitated, grabbed the victim's walker, and began striking her with it.

When officers arrived at the downtown Leavenworth home, the victim was lying face down in the home's yard. The victim was bleeding, and facial swelling and bruising were visible. The victim was conscious when officers arrived. The victim described her attacker and told police the woman who beat her, called her a cannibal, and accused her of holding the woman's husband hostage.

A man who was working in the area and witnessed the attack told officers that the suspect walked westbound from the crime scene.

Housworth was eventually arrested and taken into custody; she was located at a house a block away from where she attacked her victim.

On Thursday, December 20, Housworth was sentenced on the following charges:

- (COUNT 1) 41 months for attempted aggravated battery
- (COUNT 2) 13 months for aggravated battery
- (COUNT 3) 13 months for aggravated assault
- (COUNT 4) 7 months for criminal threat
- (COUNT 5) 7 months for criminal threat

All sentences will run consecutively for 81 months in the Kansas Department of Corrections.

Leavenworth County Attorney Todd Thompson said, "Thankfully, our victim is recovering. As we navigate the holiday season, I urge everyone to exercise caution when faced with unexpected visitors at the door. If you sense danger, don't hesitate to call for help and stay safe."