PRESS RELEASE:
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Office of Leavenworth County Attorney Todd Thompson
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Leavenworth man convicted on charges related to copper theft from church, residential burglary

LEAVENWORTH, Kan. — A 62-year-old Leavenworth man has been convicted of charges related to copper theft from a church and a residential burglary.

Rickey D. Hundley pleaded guilty Sept. 9, 2026, to one count of residential burglary stemming from a June 24, 2026, incident and one count of criminal damage to property stemming from a Nov. 2, 2025, incident.

According to court records, Hundley was identified in May 2026 as a suspect in the theft of copper from a church south of downtown Leavenworth.

During an interview with a Leavenworth police detective, Hundley admitted that he broke copper lines and took copper from a church. Investigators determined Hundley was the man seen on church property on Nov. 2, 2025. He broke copper piping from three air-conditioning units before taking the copper and leaving the property.

The cost to repair the damage caused by Hundley was $38,775.

On June 24, 2026, Leavenworth police officers were dispatched to a residential property near downtown Leavenworth for a reported burglary in progress. Officers detained Hundley at the scene. He was arrested and later charged with residential burglary.

Leavenworth County Attorney Todd Thompson said, “Copper theft is far too prevalent in our community – it’s a serious crime, and we’re doing everything to combat it. Breaking into someone’s home or damaging property at a place of worship is unacceptable.”

Sentencing is scheduled for 11 a.m. Oct. 28, 2026.