PRESS RELEASE:
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Office of Leavenworth County Attorney Todd Thompson
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Leavenworth man sentenced to prison for residential burglary, church copper theft

LEAVENWORTH, Kan. — A 62-year-old Leavenworth man was sentenced to prison Tuesday, Oct. 28, on charges related to copper theft from a church and residential burglary.

Rickey D. Hundley was sentenced to 32 months in prison for residential burglary stemming from a June 24, 2026, incident and 16 months in prison for criminal damage to property stemming from a Nov. 2, 2025, incident. The sentences were ordered to run consecutively, for a total of 48 months in prison.

Hundley pleaded guilty to both charges Sept. 9, 2026.

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, “The impact of theft and damage extends far beyond financial loss, often leaving victims feeling violated and vulnerable. That harm is especially disheartening when a house of worship, a place built on faith, service, and teaching, “Thou shalt not steal,” becomes a victim itself. Our commitment is to hold offenders accountable, protect our community, and prevent these crimes from happening again.”