

**PRESS RELEASE:**

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Office of Leavenworth County Attorney

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## **Leavenworth man sentenced after false report led to wrongful arrest of local restaurant owner**

**LEAVENWORTH, Kan.** — A 36-year-old Leavenworth man has been sentenced after being convicted of interference with law enforcement for falsely reporting a crime that led to the arrest of a local business owner.

Jacob A. Keim was found guilty after pleading no contest to **interference with law enforcement** during a hearing on Nov. 21, 2025.

On Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2026, Keim was sentenced to 12 months of probation, with an underlying jail sentence of one year. The judge ordered the sentence to run consecutive to any of Keim's previous cases.

The charge stems from an incident reported on March 21, 2025, at about 8 p.m. at the China Buffet restaurant on South Fourth Street in Leavenworth.

Keim told a Leavenworth police officer that he entered the restroom and found the restaurant's owner, later identified as Jianhao Liu, acting inappropriately with a child.

Based on Keim's statements, officers arrested Liu.

Due to a language barrier that evening, officers used a translator app to communicate with Liu, who told them he entered the restroom to use a urinal and observed a child crawling under a stall door. Liu said he asked the child if the child was OK. He told officers that Keim then entered the restroom and instructed the child to return to his father.

Investigators later obtained a search warrant for the restaurant's surveillance video that showed when Liu and Keim entered the restroom. A review of the video established a timeline that disproved the majority of Keim's report.

"This false report generated widespread attention on social media, which can be dangerous," said Leavenworth County Attorney Todd Thompson. "When someone knowingly provides false information to law enforcement, the consequences can be devastating. In this case, a false report led to the arrest of a local business owner. The justice system depends on truthful reporting, and this conviction reflects how seriously those responsibilities are taken."

**Charles Regan, Liu's attorney, released the following statement:**

"Mr. Liu is happy to be cleared of any wrongdoing in this matter. He was unjustly accused and is grateful to Leavenworth County Attorney Todd Thompson for dismissing the case against him. The evidence clearly showed that Mr. Liu is innocent. Mr. Liu and his family are grateful for the love and support

shown by the Leavenworth community and will continue to provide great food and hospitality to their guests at the China Buffet in Leavenworth."