Leavenworth inmate sentenced to over 10 years for attacking officer

OFFICE OF LEAVENWORTH COUNTY ATTORNEY
TODD THOMPSON, COUNTY ATTORNEY
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countyattorney@leavenworthcounty.gov

https://www.facebook.com/Leaven

worthProsecutor

CASE NUMBER: LV-2024-CR-000341

LEAVENWORTH, Kan. — Tyrell Davon James Clark, 37, was sentenced today to 130 months in the Kansas Department of Corrections for a charge of battery against a law enforcement officer. The sentence will run consecutively to any prior sentences previously imposed.

The attack occurred on June 30, 2024, while Clark was a maximum-custody inmate at the Leavenworth County Jail. According to court documents, the situation began shortly after noon when Clark started to cover the window of his cell. At approximately 12:20 p.m., a correctional officer attempted to collect Clark's lunch tray, but Clark refused to comply.

Multiple officers responded to the pod and repeatedly requested that Clark return the tray. After continued noncompliance, officers re-entered the pod at 12:45 p.m. and warned Clark that failure to follow orders would result in the use of force. A pepper ball gun was used; however, it was unsuccessful at first because Clark used his food tray to block the food slot.

During the exchange, Clark threw a liquid substance—later confirmed to be urine—at the officers. At 1:01 p.m., officers opened Clark's cell door using a protective taser shield. As one officer approached to retrieve the tray, Clark initially appeared cooperative before suddenly striking the officer in the head with the tray. He then punched the officer and placed him in a chokehold.

Another officer deployed a taser to subdue Clark and free the officer from the chokehold. Clark was eventually restrained and handcuffed without further incident.

Leavenworth County Attorney Todd Thompson said, "Acts of violence against our law enforcement and correctional officers are serious and unacceptable. There must be consequences when they are targeted. We are thankful that everyone is now safe and remain committed to ensuring accountability."