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Atchison County Jail Inmate Sentenced In Theft Case

(KAIR)--An Atchison County Jail inmate will spend an additional year in jail for a theft that took place when he walked away from a work detail in June.

24-year-old Joseph Clem appeared in Atchison County District Court Monday afternoon to learn his fate.

Clem had earlier pleaded guilty to one count of felony theft. In exchange for the plea, one count of misdemeanor escape from custody was dropped.

Judge Martin Asher informed Clem that he was eligible for probation, but Clem said that he preferred incarceration, and Asher sentenced him to one year in jail.

Clem was part of a four man work crew from the jail who were assisting with the setup and cleanup of the annual Juneteenth celebration in mid June. Three of the inmates returned to the jail later that night, but it appeared that Clem left the scene sometime before the event ended. He turned himself in to authorities four days later.

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