

Convicted arsonist sentenced

(KNZA)--A Hiawatha man convicted of setting homes and vehicles ablaze during a crime spree last May in Horton has been sentenced to 6 ½ years in prison.

Brown County Attorney Kevin Hill says 27-year-old Dustin McCulley was sentenced Friday in Brown County District Court on 9 felony counts.

Hill says McCulley was not granted probation and was remanded to the penitentiary to serve his sentence.

In addition, he was ordered to pay restitution to all the victims in various amounts.

McCulley pleaded no contest last month to one count of aggravated arson, five counts of arson, one count of felony theft and two counts of burglary.

Authorities say McCulley set two residences on fire early May 9th of last year—including one that was occupied at the time it was set ablaze. In addition, police say he set four vehicles on fire, stole a pickup truck and burglarized two other vehicles.

No injuries were reported in the fires.