

Tarkio Man Sentenced for 2008 Tecumseh Pizza Hut Robbery

(KTNC) - A Tarkio, Missouri man was sentenced to 20 years in prison for his role in a robbery at the Pizza Hut Restaurant in Tecumseh more than five years ago.

Johnson County Attorney Julie Smith says 34-year-old Steven Sapp's 20-year sentence is the same as his accomplice, Travis Stewart. Like Stewart, Sapp will not be eligible for parole.

The two men were convicted of robbing the Tecumseh Pizza Hut, and beating two of the three female employees working in the store, late in the evening on March 4, 2008.

Stewart has previously been convicted for his role in the crime, but there was a delay in sentencing Sapp because he was serving a 10-year prison sentence in Missouri for a manslaughter conviction.

Deputy Johnson County Attorney Rick Smith says Sapp stabbed 40-year-old Steven Leach to death during a scuffle in Pickering, Missouri, on March 30, 2008.

Smith says Nebraska authorities knew of Sapp's location since 2008, that he has been continuously incarcerated in Missouri since then. He says they were unable to inform Nebraska media about the Missouri crime before the conclusion of the case, because that could have compromised Sapp's right to a fair trial.

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