

Trial set for former area healthcare worker

(KNZA)--A jury trial has been set for a former nurse aide at a Highland healthcare facility who faces seven counts.

27-year-old Janelle Lynn Sakakihara, of Atchison, pleaded not guilty May 8 in Doniphan County District Court to three felony counts of mistreatment of a dependent adult, a misdemeanor count of Medicaid fraud and three misdemeanor counts of battery.

A two-day jury trial was set, beginning August 13.

The criminal complaint alleges the offenses took place between September 27-29 of last year while Sakakihara was employed at the Highland Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center.

She was among ten individuals in seven counties charged last September as part of a statewide enforcement sweep by the Kansas Attorney General's Office.

Sakakihara remains free on bond.

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