

Holton man enters plea, avoiding retrial for sex crimes

(KNZA)--A Holton man facing a retrial on sexual assault charges has struck a plea deal with prosecutors.

Jackson County Attorney Shawna Miller, in a news release, said 26-year-old Jacob Ewing entered an Alford plea Friday in Jackson County District Court to two counts of aggravated sexual battery.

In an Alford plea, a defendant does not admit to the crime but agrees that the evidence will likely result in a guilty verdict in trial.

Miller said both sides agreed to 10 years incarceration on one count and two years, eight months on the other, with both running at the same time.

He will be required to register as a sex offender for the rest of his life once he is released from prison.

Sentencing is scheduled for June 18.

Ewing was initially sentenced to more than 27 years in prison following his 2017 convictions for raping and sodomizing one woman in 2016 and raping and committing two counts of aggravated criminal sodomy against another woman in 2014.

But the Kansas Court of Appeals threw out those convictions in 2019 and ordered a new trial, citing errors by the prosecutor and court.