

Jail escapee enters plea

(KMZA)--The second of two men charged in a 2017 armed escape from the Marshall County Jail has pleaded no contest to charges, canceling a jury trial that been set for March 11.

***The Marysville Advocate* reports 46-year-old Jeffrey Guenther, Sr. entered the plea last week in Marshall County District Court to 13 counts—including one count of attempted first-degree murder and two counts of attempted second-degree murder.**

Sentencing was set for May 6.

Co-defendant, 31-year-old Matson Hatfield, was sentenced in November to more than 47 years in prison after pleading guilty to 15 counts.

Authorities say Hatfield and Guenther escaped from the Marshall County Jail on October 14, 2017 after setting a cell on fire and obtaining two shotguns.

Hatfield fled to a nearby home and surrendered a short time later.

Guenther allegedly stole a pickup truck at gunpoint and lead authorities on a chase. He was arrested in rural Gage County, Nebraska after rolling the truck.

The Kansas Bureau of Investigation says shots were fired during their escape but no one was hurt.