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Effingham Man Pleads No Contest to Arson

A 30 year old Effingham man pleads no contest to a lesser form of arson of a vacant house Monday in Atchison County Court.

Gale Hewitt was arrested February 27th by Atchison Police for setting ablaze a home owned by Achievement Services at 1527 Center Street on February 17th where he had been staying while homeless.

The court set a supervised PR bond on the level seven felony since the case falls under presumptive probation.

He could have faced a higher level arson charge if the home wasn't vacant.

Sentencing is scheduled for April 9th