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Career Criminal Sentenced to 36 Years After Assaulting Officers During Undercover Sting

Lincoln County, CO –A violent repeat offender who tried to run over a sheriff's deputy and pointed a handgun at responding officers during an undercover fentanyl sting will spend 36 years in the Colorado Department of Corrections.

32-year-old Steven Christopher Hudson, from Crowley County, was sentenced after a Lincoln County jury found him guilty of felony eluding, three counts of attempted assault, and possession of a weapon by a previous offender.

The case stems from an undercover operation in May of 2025 in which another suspect agreed to sell 100 fentanyl pills to an undercover Lincoln County Sheriff's Deputy at the Loaf-N-Jug in Limon.

As officers arrested the driver, Hudson climbed into the driver's seat and attempted to escape. During the attempted getaway, Hudson slammed into two vehicles before steering directly at an officer, narrowly missing him.

Officers stopped the vehicle near Main Street and Highway 24. A female passenger obeyed commands and exited the vehicle, but Hudson refused. As officers entered the vehicle to arrest him, Hudson grabbed a handgun and pointed it at them. Officers quickly disarmed him and took him into custody after multiple Taser deployments.

Hudson's criminal history includes prior convictions for assault, menacing, and resisting arrest. Because of those felony convictions, he was prohibited from possessing a firearm.

“This defendant turned this one into a life-or-death encounter by trying to run over a deputy and then pointing a gun at another,” said Senior Deputy District Attorney Keegan Doheney. The jury saw exactly what happened and today’s sentence reflects just how serious those choices were.”

Lincoln County Sheriff Tom Nestor and Captain Michael Yowell addressed the court during the sentencing. “A dangerous offender is now off the streets,” said Nestor. “Our deputies showed tremendous courage and discipline during an incredibly dangerous situation.”

Yowell echoed that praise, saying, “They protected the public, protected each other, and brought a violent offender into custody without anyone losing their life. That’s outstanding police work.”

District Attorney George Brauchler said the sentence sends a clear message. “But for the training, professionalism, and restraint of the outstanding Lincoln County law enforcement officers, this guy would be dead,” said Brauchler. “But for the heroism of these same officers, they might be dead. In the past 15 years, Hudson has not had a six-month stretch of life in which he has not been in custody, under supervision, or broken the law. He has earned a sentence in prison longer than he has been alive. We are safer for his incarceration.”

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