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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Glouster man sentenced to four years in prison after stealing from father**

**ATHENS, Ohio** – Jack W. Kasler, 33 of Glouster, was sentenced in Athens County Common Pleas Court Wednesday to four years in prison after pleading guilty stealing nearly \$2,000 from his father.

Kasler pleaded guilty to telecommunications fraud (F4), theft from a person in a protected class (F4) and identity fraud against a person in a protected class (F3). Judge George McCarthy accepted the plea and sentenced Kasler to one year in prison for the telecommunications and theft convictions, which were merged for sentenced, and to three years in prison for identity fraud to run consecutive for a total of four years.

Kasler is ordered to pay \$1,930.97 in restitution to his father, Jack E. Kasler. The thefts took place late in 2019 from the elder Kasler's bank account with several unauthorized wired funds to Jack W. Kasler.

Prior to these incidents, Jack W. Kasler was on probation for drug-related charges. During the course of this case, Kasler voluntarily entered but withdrew from a treatment center. Athens County Prosecutor Keller Blackburn said the thefts were fueled by gambling and other addictive behaviors.

After pleading guilty, Kasler told the court he was remorseful and wanted to put 14 years of being addicted to opiates and methamphetamine behind him and start a new life.

"Family members are often taken advantage of by those who misuse drugs and struggle with addiction. Mr. Kasler's actions are indefensible but we hope that his incarceration will help him realize the error of his ways and inspire him to rebuild his life upon release," Blackburn said.



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