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## Jailer Apologizes For Beating Inmate

Manuel Diaz told a judge and the family of a former Sedgwick County Jail inmate he was sorry for beating the man last February.

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A former jail deputy says he's sorry for severely beating an inmate in the Sedgwick County Jail.

Manuel Diaz admitted in court Friday morning that his actions were wrong but he says he can't take them back. □

"What I did that day was unreasonable and uncalled for. I apologize to the court. I apologize to the family. And I apologize to the law enforcement community. I am truly sorry for what I did," said Diaz.

Because of what he did the judge sentenced Diaz to 18 months probation.

Diaz pleaded guilty to aggravated battery for severely beating inmate Edgar Richard last February. The fight started over medication issues and ended, Richard's family says, with his teeth knocked out and skull fractured. He is now in a nursing home.

The prosecution says Diaz's actions not only harmed Richard but the law enforcement community as a whole.

"He has shamed those officer and he ought to be ashamed himself for his actions because he has brought disrespect and shame," said Deputy District Attorney Kevin O'Conner.

Richard's relatives were not in court but his attorney, Larry Wall, tells KAKE news that instead of probation Diaz should have to spend time behind bars.

"On behalf of Edgar I am disappointed the District Attorney choose to charge Diaz in such a way that he would be guaranteed probation. We are pleased that Mr. Diaz has admitted he was unreasonable and excessive and that he has apologized. Edgar cannot speak for himself but as his attorney I accept his apology on behalf of Edgar," said Wall.

Even with this sentencing, the story will continue. Wall plans to file a civil lawsuit against the county this June unless the county admits what it did was wrong.

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