

Injuries to two allegedly caused by Lexington man

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Thursday, 24 September 2009 00:00 - Last Updated Thursday, 24 September 2009 12:15

A Lexington man has been held at the Scott County Security Center pending a hearing in Scott Circuit Court on his competency to hire legal counsel to represent him on six charges filed against him in connection with an incident that occurred in Austin on Wednesday, September 16.

Eric R. Rasnick, 29, has been charged with Class C felony resisting law enforcement, Class D felony resisting law enforcement and criminal recklessness and Class A misdemeanor counts of resisting law enforcement, criminal recklessness and battery.

Lt. Shawn Hurt of the Austin Police Department prepared the probable cause affidavit for the Scott County Prosecutor's Office. In the document, Lt. Hurt stated that he was dispatched to Paulanna Avenue on September 16 along with Reserve Patrolman Shane Deaton to investigate a possible case of battery.

When the officers arrived, Lt. Hurt said he saw a man running toward a silver vehicle parked close to the officer's patrol car. People at the scene told him that the man was Rasnick. He said he used his flashlight to nick and ordered him to stop. Rasnick, he said, got into the driver's seat and drove his vehicle toward the patrol unit and Lt. Hurt, but as the officer began walking up to the vehicle, Rasnick drove the car closer, causing Lt. Hurt to step back and against his unit to avoid being hit. As Rasnick drove by, Lt. Hurt said he hit the rear window of Rasnick's vehicle with the flashlight, breaking the back window.

Rasnick continued west on Paulanna Ave. with the officers in pursuit. He drove only a short distance before wrecking his vehicle in a ditch on Church Street. The suspect then got out of the vehicle and ran, but he was located behind a shed in the yard of a nearby home.

When the officers returned to the scene of the crash, they learned that Rasnick was being accused of striking one individual on the head at the residence on Paulanna Ave. As he was fleeing the officers, Rasnick allegedly struck a woman who was walking along Paulanna with his vehicle.

Scott County EMS responded to the officers' call for assistance and treated both the man and the woman. The man's injuries were to the left side of his head. He also suffered pain to his back, neck and right shoulder. The woman pedestrian stated that she had been struck by Rasnick and knocked into a ditch. Injuries had occurred to her left side and back. She was transported to Scott Memorial Hospital, where she was kept overnight.

Rasnick appeared before Judge Roger Duvall on Friday, September 18, and the case was assigned a jury trial date of February 23, 2010. Bail was set at \$40,000 corporate surety or full cash.

Rasnick's hearing on his need for an attorney was scheduled for Tuesday, September 22.