

Habitual, Repeat Sexual Offender statuses are added to man's charges

Written by Marty Randall

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Habitual Offender and Repeat Sexual Offender statuses have been added to current charges filed January 31 against a Scottsburg man.

Derrick Duncan, 28, entered a not guilty plea on February 1 in Scott Circuit Court to charges of attempted sexual misconduct with a minor, child solicitation and false informing. The first charge is a Class B felony; the second a Class D felony; and the last, a Class B misdemeanor.

His charges stem from an incident that reportedly occurred on Saturday, January 29, in Scottsburg. Scottsburg Patrolman Travis Rutherford was dispatched to a business to investigate a report of a man "...acting inappropriately with a juvenile," the probable cause affidavit stated. Duncan allegedly made gestures toward the juvenile as well as suggestive remarks.

Duncan, who was not supposed to be inside the building due to his probationary status on another criminal charge, had apparently left the building prior to the officer's arrival. Another person at the business confirmed that Duncan had been there.

The man was located at his residence by the officer. Duncan allegedly denied having been inside the business. The GPS bracelet he was wearing as a term of his probation was not working. Duncan said he forgot to "charge" the GPS device because he had been sleeping.

On January 31, the day before Duncan's initial hearing conducted by Judge Roger Duvall of Scott Circuit Court, Chief Deputy Prosecutor Chris Owens filed notices of Habitual Offender and Repeat Sexual Offender status with the court. Those statuses were added to Duncan's charges on February 1.

Owens also filed a petition for detainer and/or greater-than-standard bond. This too was approved by the Court. For 15 days, the defendant will be held without bond; thereafter, his bond was set at \$100,000 corporate surety/full cash.

Duncan's jury trial for the new charges is scheduled for June 13. A public defender is assisting him in the case.

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