

## Increased charges filed against suspect in local parking lot incident

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Tuesday, 08 March 2011 00:00 - Last Updated Tuesday, 08 March 2011 14:21

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A Scottsburg man has been ordered to appear in Scott Circuit Court on March 15 to answer to new, increased charges filed against him in connection with an incident on February 4.

Scottsburg Patrolmen Trevis Burr and Travis Rutherford were dispatched to the parking lot of a local motel that evening to learn about a fight that had occurred.

When they and Deputies Jeremy Arnold and Joe Johnson arrived, the officers were told that two women had gotten into a dispute which resulted in a physical altercation between the brother of one of those women and the friend of the other.

They were told that the brother, Thomas J. McCormick, 27, hit and kicked the vehicle of the woman with whom his sister was arguing. Damage was later estimated at around \$2,800.

When the other woman's friend saw what was happening, he allegedly tried to stop McCormick from causing more damage. The man told the officers that he was hit in the mouth and was in extreme pain.

The injured man was later taken to Scott Memorial Hospital by a friend and then transported to University of Louisville Hospital.

He had surgery the next day on both the right and left sides of his jaw, which had apparently been broken by the blow delivered by McCormick.

The man told Lt./Det. Mike Nichols that he had been advised that he now has permanent nerve damage.

Charges originally filed in Scott Superior Court against McCormick on February 4 were misdemeanor charges of battery and criminal mischief. Once the true nature of the victim's injuries was learned, those charges were dismissed and a Class C felony charge of battery and a Class A misdemeanor charge of criminal mischief were filed in Scott Circuit Court.

McCormick's initial hearing in Circuit Court is scheduled for March 15.

After a consultation with the victim, the County Prosecutor's Office agreed to allow McCormick's bond filed in the Superior Court case to apply for the Circuit Court case.