

State Police arrest two after meth lab remnants, stolen motorcycle found

Written by George Browning
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Remnants of a homemade "lab" to manufacture the illegal drug methamphetamine and a dismantled, possibly stolen, motorcycle were found at a Lexington area home by Indiana State Police with the Sellersburg post on Thursday morning, February 21. People taken into custody at the house at 8006 Mace Road, Lexington, included James I. Golden, 28, and Barry R. Wicker, 34, also of Lexington.

Shortly after midnight on Thursday, several troopers went to the home based on an anonymous call received by 9-1-1 dispatchers. The tip stated that a possible, active meth lab was located at the house, where Golden lives.

After officers arrived at the residence, they said they smelled a "...strong chemical odor..." coming from the home. A search revealed physical evidence that a meth lab had been in operation. Methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia were also discovered, a press release related. In the basement of the house, troopers stumbled upon parts of a partially-disassembled 2006 Honda motorcycle, which the news release said had been stolen in Scott County last November. Evidence that the cycle was being repainted was also collected at the scene. Preliminary charges against Golden include manufacturing methamphetamine, possession of methamphetamine, possession of paraphernalia and maintaining a common nuisance. Manufacturing the drug is a Class B felony. The possession of the drug and maintaining charges are both D felonies. Possession of paraphernalia is a Class A misdemeanor. All were filed in Scott Circuit Court, where Golden appeared for his initial hearing on February 22.

Golden's bond was originally set at \$50,000 corporate surety or full cash, but Judge Roger Duvall allowed Golden the option of posting a 10% bond. The defendant was provided with a public defender, and a jury trial date of July 15 was scheduled. Wicker's charge was visiting a common nuisance, a misdemeanor. He appeared in Scott Superior Court on February 22 and entered a not guilty plea. His bond was set at \$15,000 surety/10% cash, and he was provided with the services of a public defender. Wicker's jury trial is scheduled on April 16.

Officers with the Scott County Sheriff's Department are assisting in the investigation.