

## Brother vs. brother: One arrested and one hospitalized with stab wounds

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The brother of Benjamin R. Coomer is recuperating at University of Louisville Hospital after he was allegedly stabbed twice by Coomer in a confrontation on Thursday, June 6.

Coomer, 46, and Steven Coomer reportedly got into a fight as the result of a domestic situation involving the pair's mother and Benjamin Coomer.

Deputy Jeremy Arnold was the officer dispatched to the family's home on West Thomastown Road, Scottsburg, that day. Dispatchers had received a frantic call from relatives asking for help for Steven Coomer. he was found by Deputy Arnold lying on the ground outside the residence, drifting in and out of consciousness. Steven Coomer had sustained a knife wound to an upper leg and a stab wound to the abdomen.

Family members had tried to help the wounded man prior to Scott County EMS arriving on the scene. He was later flown by Air Methods medical helicopter to University of Louisville, where he underwent emergency surgery. Steven Coomer is reported to be in good condition as he continues his recuperation.

Witnesses told Deputy Arnold that Benjamin Coomer had stabbed his brother, then fled the scene on foot accompanied by his wife. The brothers' mother said she had been involved in a verbal argument with Benjamin Coomer's wife, and the man got involved as well, pushing his mother and then going outside. Steven Coomer followed his brother outside, and the slashing/stabbing took place in the yard. The knife reportedly had a blade from six to eight inches long.

Officers from the Sheriff's Department and Austin and Scottsburg departments attempted to locate the couple until nightfall without success. Patrols continued after dark, with Benjamin Coomer being located some time after. He was arrested without incident.

At the suspect's initial court hearing on Monday, June 10, Robert L. Houston III, Judge Pro Tem in Scott Circuit Court, entered a not guilty plea for the man after reading him the charges of aggravated battery, a Class B felony, battery with a deadly weapon, a Class C felony and battery, a Class B misdemeanor.

A preliminary jury trial date of November 12 was scheduled on the court's calendar, and a public defender was appointed to represent Coomer.

Coomer's bail was set at \$100,000 corporate surety/full cash. he remains incarcerated in lieu of bond.