

## Two men arrested recently at active meth lab on North Hardy Lake Road

Written by George Browning

Tuesday, 22 October 2013 00:00 -

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While searching for a wanted person, officers with the Sheriff's Department and the Sellersburg post of the Indiana State Police (ISP) on Tuesday, October 15.

Men who were at the residence at 3235 North Hardy Lake Road were taken into custody on preliminary charges of manufacturing methamphetamine and possession of precursors. Precursors are items that can be used as ingredients of methamphetamine, one of the most addictive drugs developed.

Suspects being held at the Scott County Security Center are Christopher David Axsom, 31, Columbus, and Dustin Allen Evans, 24, North Vernon.

Officers had gone to the residence to look for a person wanted on warrant. When they approached the property, two men were seen standing outside an outbuilding in the back yard. Upon further inspection, the active methamphetamine "lab" was discovered.

Officers searched the area after a warrant was obtained and said they found more items commonly used in the production of the drug.

Members of the ISP meth lab team were dispatched by the Sellersburg post to collect evidence and clean up the lab.

Both Axsom and Evans appeared in Scott Circuit Court on Thursday, October 17, and entered preliminary pleas of not guilty to one count each of dealing in methamphetamine, a Class B felony. Axsom was also charged with false reporting, a Class B misdemeanor.

Both had public defenders assigned to their cases, and their jury trial date is March 11. Bond in both cases is set at \$75,000 corporate surety bond or full cash.

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Evans is also charged in Scott Superior Court with auto theft and driving while suspended with a prior conviction. The theft charge is a Class D felony, while the latter is a Class A misdemeanor.

These charges were based on an August 10 incident on South Boatman Road in which Evans was reportedly driving a white Pontiac Bonneville stolen in Columbus, court documents indicated.

When he had his initial hearing in Superior Court, Evans again entered a not guilty plea. A public defender was assigned to this case as well, and bond was set at \$15,000 surety or 10% cash.

Both suspects remain at the Scott County Security Center.