

Man held at gunpoint by property owner now being charged with burglary

Written by Administrator

Tuesday, 14 January 2014 00:00 -

David William Baker may think twice about entering private property in the future without an invitation.

Baker, 49, Scottsburg, was held at gunpoint on Thursday, January 9, by an irate property owner who told sheriff's deputies that he found Baker inside a relative's home on Double or Nothing Road southeast of Scottsburg.

The man said he was checking the relative's home because he had noticed in the past few days some signs that someone had been "...messing around..." the house.

On January 9, the man said he found where a boarded-up window was open. He said he saw a man inside the house trying to hide behind a table and pointed his shotgun at him. The intruder, later identified as Baker, crawled out of the window and laid on the ground at the property owner's command.

Sheriff Dan McClain and Deputy Joe Guarneri responded to the 9-1-1 call the property owner made and promptly took Baker in custody. Three watches the property owner said were his mother's were allegedly found in the purported intruder's pocket.

The suspect told officers later that he had been trying to locate a cat.

Baker's initial court hearing was held on Friday, January 10. He was charged with one count each of burglary, a Class B felony, and theft, a Class D felony.

Scott Circuit Court Judge Roger Duvall set a preliminary date of April 15 for Baker's jury trial on the charges. A public defender has been appointed to the case.

Bail is set at \$75,000 corporate surety bond or full cash.

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On Monday, January 13, Prosecutor Jason Mount filed a petition for detainer and/or greater-than-standard bond against Baker.

The detainer requested that Baker be held at the Scott County Security Center for 15 days without bond and that a larger bond then be set in the case.

A ruling on that matter was expected from Judge Roger Duvall by Tuesday, January 14.