

Man fails at alleged Craigslist auto scam when he drives off with owner

Written by Marty Randall

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A Louisville man who apparently attempted to pull a scam by pretending to buy a car from a Scottsburg resident is now behind bars at the Scott County Security Center.

Marcus Forbes, 25, reportedly contacted a local resident on Saturday, May 3, and indicated he wanted to test drive the Scottsburg man's 2007 Dodge Charger. The car had been advertised by the local resident on the popular website Craigslist.

Forbes arrived at the seller's home with several other people and was left there by them. After several hours of waiting for another relative to bring money with which Forbes said he would buy the car, Forbes and the car owner went for a test drive.

That's when the trouble began. After an undetermined time of driving the car, the seller asked Forbes to return to his home. Forbes allegedly refused and began driving south on Interstate 65, continuing to ignore the seller's demands that he stop.

The Indiana State Police news release stated that the seller was armed with a gun. He "...brandished..." the weapon, again demanding Forbes stop. The seller also called 9-1-1.

That call sent ISP units, sheriff's deputies and a Scottsburg officer south in a hurry around 4:30 p.m. Forbes finally stopped the car at the 25 mile marker when officers arrived. He was arrested without incident.

Preliminary charges against Forbes are criminal confinement, conversion and attempted theft, all felonies, and false informing, a Class B misdemeanor.

Because the Scott County Courthouse was closed on Tuesday, May 6, for the Primary Election, Forbes is expected to have his initial hearing today (Wednesday) in Scott Circuit Court.