

Suspected methamphetamine dealer finally arrested, pleads not guilty

Written by Marty Randall

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William Robert Waldon, the suspect in a methamphetamine dealing case filed after an early morning shooting north of Crothersville in May, got his day in court to answer to several felony charges filed in connection with that incident.

Waldon was arrested on Sunday, July 27, on a new charge of theft and the Scott County-based warrant on charges of Class B felony dealing in methamphetamine, Class D felonies possession of methamphetamine, unlawful possession of a syringe and maintaining a common nuisance and a Class A misdemeanor charge of possession of paraphernalia. All of these charges were filed on June 19 after pending Superior Court charges were dismissed.

The Superior Court charges were filed after the May 27 shooting. Allegedly, Waldon and his girlfriend, Ashley Vernon, had a dispute with people living in Crothersville when the couple supposedly sold drugs to them. Those purported "customers" were later allegedly shot at by Jonathan Lee "Chisel" Chilton as they fled from Chilton.

Chilton faces felony charges in Jackson Circuit Court from his alleged involvement in the Jackson County shooting. His arrest on July 13 in Scottsburg led to charges being filed against him in Scott Superior Court as well. (See related story.)

Waldon and Vernon were taken into custody at their home on Oard Spring Road by Indiana State Police investigating the shooting. As the case progressed, the more serious Circuit Court charges were filed. By that time, however, Waldon had been released on a cash bond he filed in the Superior Court case, and authorities could not locate him. Law enforcement luck turned on July 27 when Deputy Justin Cheatham visited a general store in Blocher and found Waldon there and allegedly in possession of a license plate he had purportedly taken from a relative's vehicle.

Waldon was taken into custody and charged with a Class A misdemeanor charge of theft in Superior Court on Tuesday, July 29. A not guilty plea was entered for him, and a jury trial was scheduled for October 14.

On the felony charges in Circuit Court, a preliminary plea of not guilty was entered for Waldon

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the same day. His jury trial was scheduled for January 6, 2015, and his bail for those charges is \$75,000 by corporate surety bond or \$15,000 cash.

A public defender was appointed in the Circuit Court case against Waldon.