

Salem man arrested for alleged violent actions toward Scottsburg ex-girlfriend

Written by George Browning
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A Washington County man charged with battery in Salem courts is facing additional charges in Scott County that involve the same incident.

Michael S. Bowling, 37, has been charged in Scott Circuit Court with one count of burglary, a Class B felony; criminal confinement, a Class C felony; two counts of intimidation, Class D felonies; and one count of battery, a Class A misdemeanor. All charges arise out of an alleged incident that began in Scottsburg on July 8.

Bowling's ex-girlfriend told Sgt. Rodney Watts of the Scottsburg Police Department that Bowling had come with a male friend to her home on North Washington Street and reportedly forced her to accompany him to his residence in Salem.

Her subsequent beating by Bowling there resulted in Bowling's arrest in Salem.

According to what the woman advised in her statement to the officer, Bowling and his friend entered her residence unannounced. Bowling then cursed at her and grabbed her by the hair. He allegedly threatened to kill her, apparently for her role in getting him arrested in April for purportedly breaking into her home.

Bowling's friend reportedly blocked the door so the woman could not escape. The ex-boyfriend then forced her to get her car keys. The friend, known as "Will," got into her car while Bowling allegedly forced her into his truck, telling her not to scream or she would die "...right here."

The vehicles were driven to Salem, where the woman was allegedly beaten. During his interview with the woman, Sgt. Watts said he saw that she had suffered several injuries.

Bowling was taken into custody on Tuesday, August 6. He had his initial court hearing the same day, entering a not guilty plea to the charges. A protective order for the alleged victim was also filed.

A jury trial date of January 14, 2014, was assigned to the case. Bowling's bail was set at \$75,000 corporate surety bond/full cash.

Bowling told the judge that he plans to hire an attorney to help him with his defense.