

Lake County Sheriff's Office

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MEDIA RELEASE

Antioch Township Father & Son Arrested After Beating Private Investigator

On January 20, 2021, at approximately 5:30PM, Lake County Sheriff's Deputies were dispatched to the area of Nicklaus Way and Harbor Ridge Drive, Antioch Township, for a disturbance in progress. When sheriff's deputies arrived, they found a victim, a 51-year-old man of Island Lake, significantly beaten.

The victim was transported to an area hospital with multiple broken bones and is currently in stable condition.

Preliminary investigation shows the victim is a private investigator and was conducting surveillance in the area, regarding a case he was investigating. The victim was parked in his vehicle conducting the surveillance and he also called the sheriff's office to advise he would be in the area. While conducting his investigation, the victim was approached by Russell S. Wright, 23, and Steven T. Wright, 62, both of the 24700 block of West Nicklaus Way. The two utilized a vehicle to block in the victim's car, so the victim could not leave the scene.

The Wright's then forced the victim's car door open and slapped a video camera from the victim's hands. Russell then entered the car and began beating the victim. Steven then also began beating the victim. The victim was able to dial 911, but one of the men took the victim's cellphone and smashed it on the ground. The 911 call still went thorough and LCSO 911 Telecommunicators were able to ascertain there was a problem, and dispatched sheriff's deputies.

There is no known connection between the Wright's and the victim, nor was the victim conducting surveillance on the Wright's.

Sheriff's deputies were able to apprehend the Wright's at the scene. After reviewing the facts and circumstances of the case, the Lake County State's Attorney's Office approved the following charges for both of the Wright's:

Robbery (class 2 felony)

Aggravated Battery (class 3 felony)

Criminal Damage to Property (class 4 felony)

The Wright's had an initial court hearing this morning. Steven Wright remains held in the Lake County Jail on \$40,000.00 bail. He is next due in court on January 27, 2021 at 9:00AM in courtroom T020. Russell Wright also remains held on \$40,000.00 bail and is next due in court on January 26, 2021 at 9:00AM in courtroom T020.

All defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law.

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