

COUNTY OF BERRIEN
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Press Release

February 21, 2017

Two charged in attack on Michigan State Police Trooper

Two men were arraigned in the Berrien County Trial Court today for a roadside attack on a Michigan State Police Trooper Monday morning around 9:00 am on the US-31 Bypass in Berrien County. The details of that incident are the subject of a Michigan State Police press release from Monday and attached below.

The two are Michael Scott Barber, 21 of Gobles, Michigan and Travis Tyler Wise, 19 of Middlebury, Indiana. They are charged with the following criminal offenses:

Michael Barber (driver of the motorcycle):

1. Assault Strangulation, a ten year felony;
2. Flee & Elude 3rd Degree, a five year felony;
3. Resisting and Obstruction a Police Officer Causing Injury, a four year felony;
4. Receiving and Concealing a Stolen Motor Vehicle, a five year felony; and
5. Attempt Disarming a Police Officer, (a taser), a two year felony.

Travis Wise:

1. Assault Strangulation, a ten year felony;
2. Obstruction of Justice, a five year felony;
3. Resisting and Obstruction a Police Officer Causing Injury, a four year felony; and
4. Attempt Disarming a Police Officer, (a taser), a two year felony.

The trooper was treated for the injuries sustained and released.

At their arraignment today, bond was set at \$100,000 cash or surety on Wise and \$75,000.00 cash or surety on Barber. Their pre-exam conference and preliminary exam hearing are scheduled for Wednesday, March 1 and Tuesday, March 7 respectively, both at 8:30 am in the Berrien County Trial Court – Niles, Michigan.

The charges are merely accusations and the defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Press release available at County Web site:

<http://www.berriencounty.org/ProsecutingAttorney/pressreleases>

EX-201 (11/08)
MICHIGAN STATE POLICE



VEHICLE PURSUIT AND ASSAULT ON A STATE TROOPER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On February 20, 2017 at approximately 8:43am, Tpr. Garry Guild (21 year veteran of the Michigan State Police) attempted to stop a motorcycle traveling south on US31 Bypass near Matthew Rd. in Berrien Township for speeding. The motorcycle, driven by a 21 year old unlicensed driver from Indiana, began to stop but quickly accelerated and reentered the freeway. After a three mile pursuit, the driver attempted to maneuver in the gore of the exit ramp and lost control. After crashing, the driver quickly returned to his feet and charged toward Tpr. Guild.

Tpr. Guild attempted to gain control of the driver. As he was wrestling with the suspect, a vehicle stopped and the motorcycle driver's brother (19 year old from Middlebury Indiana) ran toward Tpr. Guild attacking him. As he was attempting to choke Tpr. Guild, the motorcycle driver began to punch Tpr. Guild in the face. Two passerby's (50 year old male from Plainwell and Jerry Burnham from Berrien Springs) immediately stopped and ran to the rescue of Tpr. Guild. Both men subdued the man who attacked Tpr. Guild as Tpr. Guild placed the motorcycle driver in custody. Eventually, both men were placed in custody with the assistance of the citizens, Buchanan PD, Berrien County Sheriff Department, and Pokagon Tribal Police.

Further investigation is developing into the connection of the motorcycle being stolen out of Van Buren County, along with several breaking and entering's. Tpr. Guild was seen and released from the local hospital for minor injuries. Both suspects will be lodged at the Berrien County Jail. Their names will be released once they are arraigned.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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