



Paul B. MacDonald
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Barnstable Police Department Press Release
April 4, 2012

Suspect Arrested For Assault with a Hatchet

On April 4, 2012 at approximately midnight, Barnstable Police Officers were dispatched to Bobby Byrnes Restaurant in Hyannis for a report of a fight. According to Patrol Officer Foley's report; two male subjects, identified as 32 year old Brian Bitting of Yarmouthport and 55 year old Herbert Erbe of Yarmouthport, started an altercation with a male party who was at the restaurant alone. According to the victim's statement Bitting and Erbe asked him to sell them narcotics. After the victim declined to sell the pair the drugs they were seeking he complained to management about the two men harassing him, which lead to the men assaulting him.

According to witnesses, Erbe produced a folding knife from his pocket and Bitting pulled a wooden handled hatchet from his waistband. Both men then proceeded to attack the victim, who was able to use a chair to keep his attackers away. With the help of bystanders, the men were detained until the arrival of the police.

Bitting and Erbe were both taken into custody and transported to the Barnstable Police Headquarters where they were booked on the following charges:

Brian Bitting: DISORDERLY CONDUCT
ASSAULT BY MEANS OF A DANGEROUS WEAPON (TO WIT HATCHET)
PROTECTIVE CUSTODY

Herbert Erbe: DISORDERLY CONDUCT
ASSAULT BY MEANS OF A DANGEROUS WEAPON (TO WIT KNIFE)
PROTECTIVE CUSTODY

If you have any questions regarding this press release please contact Detective Kevin Connolly at 508-778-3888 or connollyk@barnstablepolice.com



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BITTING



ERBE