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Bleeding burglar charged with break-in at Northland church

LIBERTY – An 18-year-old Kansas City man – who evidently cut himself breaking into a church – now faces felony burglary charges says Clay County Prosecutor Daniel White.

Charged today with one count of the Class C felony of burglary in the second degree was Dustin A. Hull. Hull lists an address in the 3500 block of Northeast 82nd Street, Kansas City in Clay County. Judge Janet L. Sutton set bond at \$15,000.

White stressed that though charged, Hull is presumed innocent unless there is a plea or finding of guilty by a court of law.

According to police, Gladstone medical personnel were dispatched early this morning to an address in the 7100 block of North Cherry Lane, Gladstone, regarding a young man who had cut his hand. A police officer was also dispatched to the scene and visited with the victim of the injury, Hull.

“The officer said Hull was covered in blood from head to toe. The blood was coming from a cut on Hull’s little finger,” said White.

Hull told police and medical personnel he dropped a glass of soda and cut himself, but police could see no evidence supporting that claim.

“Suspicious, the officers began looking around,” said White. “They found and followed a trail of blood from the residence to Antioch Bible Baptist Church, 800 NE 72nd St., Gladstone, where evidence of a burglary was found,” said the Prosecutor.

Police found the blood trail ended at the glass double door entrance to the church. The doors had been shattered. On the shards of the broken glass was a red liquid substance, most likely blood. A rock, believed to have been used to break out the glass, was found inside the building, said White.

A church staff member was notified, and told police that a lamp valued at \$100 was stolen. He also estimated damage to the building at \$5,000, said the prosecutor.

“The young man had been taken to the hospital so police officers were dispatched and arrested him once he’d been treated. He was interviewed by Gladstone detectives who pointed out the trail of blood and how it began at the broken church window,” said White.

White said Hull admitted involvement in the burglary but claimed he was intoxicated, and added he didn’t know why he broke in and took the lamp.

White said other charges are possible.

“I can think of few other criminal acts that are as offensive as breaking into a place of worship and just causing damage,” said White. “Still, it looks as if a higher power is at work. Here’s a cut on a pinky that results in an ambulance call. A police officer arrives in addition to the ambulance. And the officer was suspicious; the officer doesn’t buy the story and noses around until a trail of blood leading back to the church was found.

“In Numbers 32:23 in the Old Testament, there’s a phrase that may best describe what happened today: ‘(B)ehold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out,’” added the prosecutor.

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