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Clay County Courthouse, 11 S. Water, Liberty, MO 64068

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Charges filed in shooting that left two men badly wounded in Liberty

LIBERTY – A 23-year-old Liberty man faces assault charges today in a shooting that left two men wounded earlier in the week.

Charged today was Garry G. Brooke, who lists an address in the 700 block of South Mission, Liberty. Brooke faces two counts of assault in the first degree and two counts of armed criminal action.

The two wounded men received medical treatment. Prosecuting Attorney Daniel White said one man remains hospitalized and his condition appears to be serious but not life-threatening.

White stressed that though charged the defendant is presumed to be innocent unless there is a plea or finding of guilty.

The charges stem from a shooting Tuesday at a duplex in the 400 block of Dains Street in Liberty, said White.

According to documents filed in the case, Brooke entered the victims' residence where the armed with a pistol and started shooting. One man received gunshot wounds to the left side of his head, left lower jaw, index finger on his left hand and index finger on his right hand. Medical professionals told police the caliber was likely a small round, like a .22. The second victim had a similar, small-caliber wound, this one to the center of his left hand.

Both victims said they were shot by a white man approximately 6 feet tall.

Police entered the victims' residence and among the evidence recovered was a spent round which appeared to be a .22-caliber.

Police investigation resulted in Brooke being developed as a possible suspect.

One of the victims said Brooke's image appeared similar to that of the man who shot them.

Brooke's acquaintances were interviewed including one witness who said Brooke announced he had "shot two guys, killed them."

Other witnesses said Brooke was bragging that he shot two men each five times and "blood was squirting" out of the head of one of the victims. Another witness reported that Brooke stated "I can't believe I emptied 10 rounds into them and they didn't die; I hate twenty-twos."

Brooke was arrested and admitted shooting the two men. He told authorities the shooting stems from a dispute between the victims and a third party, and that Brooke took upon himself to personally resolve the dispute.

"Brooke armed himself, gathered extra .22-caliber rounds, and had a friend deliver him to where the victims were residing. He did not tell the friend who was driving what he was planning to do. He entered the residence, discharged his firearm, striking both men. He then went to a nearby video rental store, called his friend, and asked for a ride back to the friend's residence," said White

White said Brooke was staying with the friend and other family members of the friend, and that the hosts were evidently unaware of Brooke's intentions until after the shooting.

"Brooke then discarded the casings and ditched the weapon in a pond," said White. "He made a complete admission of his involvement in the matter when interviewed by police."

White said Brooke's bond was set at \$1 million by Associate Circuit Court Judge Donald T. Norris.

The assault charges carry a maximum punishment of life in prison. The armed criminal action has a minimum punishment of three years without parole and have no maximum cap.

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For more information, contact Jim Roberts or Daniel White at (816) 736-8300