

Elizabethtown man indicted for rape, sodomy

BY KODEE BRINEGAR
THE NEWS-ENTERPRISE

An Elizabethtown man has been indicted on multiple charges including rape and sodomy.

Police responded to a residence on Towne Drive on a domestic violence call Jan. 19 where the victim told police that Jimmy Blanton, 45, had strangled her with his hands.

According to Blanton's arrest citation, the reported victim told police that Blanton used both hands to strangle her to the point that she couldn't breathe and repeatedly bashed her head against the floor.



Jimmy Blanton

Police noted in the citation the victim had injuries consistent to the type of assault.

According to court documents, the rape and sodomy offense happened on or about Jan. 18.

Authorities located Blanton on April 1 and he was arrested.

Blanton was indicted on first-degree strangulation; fourth-degree assault; first-degree unlawful imprisonment; third-degree terroristic threatening; first-degree rape; first-degree sodomy; and first-degree persistent felony offender.

Rape and sodomy are both Class B felonies, punishable by 10 to 20 years on each count in prison, if convicted.

Blanton is being held in lieu of a \$50,000 cash bond at the Hardin County Detention Center. He is set to appear on June 10 for arraignment of the charges.

OTHER INDICTMENTS

- Hassin S. Altaee, 20, Louisville, complicity to theft by unlawful taking — auto worth more than \$10,000 but less than \$1 million; second-degree criminal possession of a forged instrument; operating a motor vehicle with one headlamp inoperable; operating a motor

vehicle with an expired license plate.

- Angela Chamberlain, 41, Elizabethtown, two counts of first-degree wanton endangerment.
- Melishea D. Edwards, 38, Radcliff, complicity to theft by unlawful taking worth more than \$10,000 but less than \$1 million; resisting arrest; third-degree assault.
- Taddous Justis, 24, Elizabethtown, two counts of first-degree wanton endangerment.
- Irvin Lyons IV, 38, Elizabethtown, first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance — methamphetamine; trafficking in marijuana; possession of

drug paraphernalia.

- Zachary D. Reed, 27, Elizabethtown, disregarding stop sign; reckless driving; third-degree fleeing or evading police; tampering with physical evidence; possession of drug paraphernalia.
- Madison Tatum, 24, Elizabethtown, two counts of first-degree wanton endangerment.
- Erick Wood, 26, Elizabethtown, first-degree fleeing or evading police; theft by unlawful taking; first-degree persistent felony offender.

Kodee Brinegar can be reached at 270-505-1413 or kbrinegar@thenewsenterprise.com.

Pair pleads not guilty to organized crime, identity theft charges

BY KODEE BRINEGAR
THE NEWS-ENTERPRISE

A man and woman from New York has pleaded not guilty to engaging in organized crime and identify theft charges.

Feiyang Xu, 23, appeared Tuesday in Hardin Circuit Court via Zoom, where his lawyer Evan Spalding entered a not guilty plea on his behalf.

Xu is one of the co-defendants in the case. Wei Hyang, 24, had appeared previously in the same court room where her lawyer, Paul Hobbs, had entered a not guilty plea on her behalf.



Feiyang Xu

Originally, Hyang was set for a disposition hearing, but since Xu was arraigned, a new disposition hearing was set.

The new disposition hearing for Hyang is set for 1:15 p.m. July 8. A pre-trial conference for Xu is set for the same date and time.

The couple is accused of trying to purchase electronic devices from Best Buy in Elizabethtown with an account that did not belong to either of them.

Elizabethtown Police Depart-



Wei Hyang

ment received a call Dec. 4 about a male suspect that had been involved in recent fraudulent transactions.

Police were given a description that matched Xu's and arrested him once he left the store, according to the arrest citation.

Police report that Xu purchased two iPads and provided a Best Buy account number for both purchases. The account did not belong to him.

According to her citation, Hyang, tried to purchase two apple watches with the same account number but was unsuccessful.

Upon their arrest, police found two fake California driver licenses in Hyang's possession, one of the license matched the information of the Best Buy account the couple attempted to use.

Xu was discovered to have three fake driver's license, two from California and one from Texas, on his person. One of the California licenses was reported to match the information of the Best Buy account.

Police report there was at third suspect in their vehicle nearby but that person was unable to be located.

Hyang was indicted on engaging in organized crime — criminal syndication; two counts of attempted identity

theft; and two counts of second-degree criminal possession of a forged instrument.

Xu also was indicted on engaging in organized crime — criminal syndication; three counts of theft of identity; and three counts of second-degree criminal possession of a forged instrument.

Engaging in organized crime is a Class B felony punishable by 10 to 20 years in prison, if convicted.

Xu and Hyang have been released from the Hardin County Detention Center on \$10,000 cash bonds.

Kodee Brinegar can be reached at 270-505-1413 or kbrinegar@thenewsenterprise.com.

TAVERN

FROM PAGE A1

As a fundraising event in support of the Brown-Pusey House, no outside food or drinks are permitted.

There is a cash bar available offering wines and other drinks.

Something new Brown-Pusey House is offering to make an special evening stand out even more is the option of a Skybox.

"That's new this year," Ritchie said. "What we're doing with our Poplar Suite is renting that out."

For \$200, plus tax, a group of 20 can take part in Tavern in the Garden in a more private, air-conditioned setting. They are allowed to bring in their own food, if desired, but

have to purchase alcohol from the cash bar.

"They open the windows and they'll see out into the garden, hear the music and have the comfort of an indoor kitchen and bathroom and everything upstairs," Ritchie said. "We're excited about using it."

To reserve the Skybox for one of the Tavern dates, call the Brown-Pusey House at 270-765-2515.

Never has there been an occasion when Brown-Pusey House couldn't fit everyone inside the Cunningham Garden, Ritchie said. With 250 to 300 attendees, it can seem a little crowded but Ritchie says everyone still has such a good time enjoying themselves, the music, the food and drinks.

Ritchie tries to attend every Thursday. Admit-

tedly, she did miss two nights last year.

"I do enjoy it," she said. "It's a beautiful evening, a great time of networking with our community and getting to see people you don't see all the time. It's just a wonderful event."

Should weather possibly become an issue, guests are encouraged to go to the Brown-Pusey House Facebook page as a decision is made between 3 and 4 p.m. day of whether or not that evening's concert will

need to be cancelled.

Brown-Pusey House Executive Director LeAnne Perkins will be attending her first Tavern in the Garden, Ritchie said. Perkins is excited and looking forward to Thursday evening.

Guests might have the opportunity to meet with the new director and say, hello.

Greg Thompson can be reached at 270-505-1414 or gthompson@thenewsenterprise.com.

VINE

FROM PAGE A1

A second reading and vote on the budget is scheduled for 4 p.m. June 10 at the Vine Grove City Hall.

Council members also heard the first reading on an ordinance to amend the Salary Scale, but all other Vine Grove Personnel policies and procedures will remain the same.

IN OTHER BUSINESS

City Engineer Bob Woosley said the city has submitted a letter of intent to file for a Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Ruse Municipal Grant.

"This grant is competitive. We submitted a request for \$500,000," Woosley said. "They don't have as much money as they did last year; this year they have \$843,000."

Despite the request being

rather large, Woosley said they are going to explain how the money would be used and how to fund it.

"The application deadline is July 9, so (City Clerk Jessica Irwin) and I will be busy getting all the documentations in," Woosley said.

According to Woosley, work conducted on Lowball Lane is complete and ground restoration in underway.

"We did hit a snap during the process, but we were able to work through it," Woosley said. "The underground electric that serves the neighborhood is not supposed to be more than 42 inches deep, but it was seven feet."

Woosley said they were able to make adjustments and was able to work around it.

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COUNCIL

FROM PAGE A1

"We think it has really made a difference and will continue to make a difference not only to make the kids safer but to build a foundation and a friendship and a trust level with our police department, and we've already seen that paying dividends," Gregory said. "It's been a great program and it's worked really well with all those different entities and the

City of Elizabethtown."

Councilman Tony Bishop added many of the officers do more than just protect the school as they can be seen at school events after hours and other activities.

With the first reading held, the second reading is expected at the next council meeting at 4:30 p.m. June 16 at Pritchard Community Center. The council will hold a work session at 4:30 p.m. Monday in the same location.

SEE COUNCIL/PAGE A8



LEGAL NOTICE

MASTER COMMISSIONER SALES

To comply with the orders of the Hardin circuit court, the Commissioner will sell the property described in the following actions on **Wednesday, June 11, 2025**, at the hour of **2:00 p.m.** at the Hardin County Justice Center, 120 East Dixie Ave., Elizabethtown, Kentucky. Said property shall be sold to raise the amounts hereinafter set forth, together with interest and the costs of the action, and upon the following terms and conditions.

At the time of sale, the successful bidder shall either pay cash or check, if paying in full, or make a deposit of 10% with the balance on a credit of thirty (30) days. In the event the successful bidder desires or elects to credit the balance, he or she will be required to produce one of the following:

1. An irrevocable letter of credit (MUST HAVE THE ORIGINAL, NO COPIES) from lending institute at the time of the sale. Please note that a loan commitment or bank statement will not be sufficient.
2. Post bond and furnish an acceptable surety thereon. If a purchaser chooses to use a surety for the remaining balance of property purchased, **THE SURETY MUST PROVIDE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING TO THE MASTER COMMISSIONER BY 2 PM THE MONDAY PRIOR TO THE SALE AND BE PRESENT AT THE TIME OF THE SALE** (If a married individual intends to act as surety, their spouse must also sign.):
 - (i) A COPY OF A DEED WHICH IS UNENCUMBERED AND A COPY OF THE STATEMENT OF VALUE FROM THE PROPERTY VALUATION ADMINISTRATOR (PVA OFFICE), TO WHICH THIS BOND WILL ATTACH.
 - (ii) A COPY OF THE CURRENT ACCOUNT STATEMENT. A SWORN FINANCIAL STATEMENT WHICH SHOWS A NET WORTH OF AT LEAST 2 1/2 TIMES THE SALE PRICE.
3. AN IRREVOABLE LETTER OF CREDIT (MUST HAVE THE ORIGINAL, NO COPIES) FROM THE LENDING INSTITUTE TO THE SURETY.

The down payment, in addition to either an irrevocable letter of credit (MUST HAVE THE ORIGINAL, NO COPIES) or acceptable surety (see requirements above), must be produced at the time of the sale. Said bond and/or irrevocable letter of credit shall be for the unpaid purchase price and bear interest at the rate of six percent (6%) per annum from the date of sale until paid. (Unless otherwise court ordered)

- (a) The purchaser shall be required to assume and pay all taxes or assessments upon the property for the current tax year and thereafter.
- (b) All properties are sold subject to the judgment and order of sale in each case which should be reviewed carefully prior to purchase. The Judgment and Order of Sale can be reviewed at the Hardin Circuit Clerk's office, 120 E. Dixie, Elizabethtown, Ky.
- (c) The Master Commissioner does not obtain a title search or investigate for further liens on the properties listed below nor conduct or authorize a survey of the property. ****the purchaser is responsible for title searches and/or any additional liens not named in the judgment and order of sale and for the results of any good and accurate survey of the property.**
- (d) The Master Commissioner does not have access to the properties listed below and therefore makes no representation or warranty of any kind as to the conditions of these properties.
- (e) Bidding is in increments of \$500.00 up to \$75,000.00 and \$1,000.00 for over \$75,000.00. If Plaintiff provided a one-time opening bid, a first-bid increment of \$100.00 may be made.
- (f) If the property sells for less than 2/3 of the Master Commissioner's appraisal amount, there is a 6 month right of redemption period.
- (g) If purchasing as a Corporation, LLC, or Trusts please provide the Master Commissioner's Office by the Monday prior to the sale date with the following:
 - 1.) An updated certificate of good standing for the entity for which they are purchasing.
 - 2.) Entity must provide its EIN Number
 - 3.) Resolution- Proof that the person bidding is authorized to bid on behalf of the entity.
 - 4.) Identification: Current Driver's License and SSN

SALE NO. 1

Northeast Bank vs. Radcliff Apartment Homes, LLC, et al (24-CI-01811)

Amount of Judgment: \$719,205.17 plus interest and costs

1390 SOUTH WILSON ROAD, RADCLIFF, KY

MAP ID# 161-30-02-006

Recorded in Deed Book 1431 Page 164 in the Hardin County Clerk's Office

SALE NO. 2

Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC vs. Gary McCane, et al (24-CI-00883)

Amount of Judgment: \$109,709.85 plus interest and costs

103 PERSIMMON RIDGE, RADCLIFF, KY

MAP ID# 160-30-04-044

Recorded in Deed Book 1451 Page 708 in the Hardin County Clerk's Office

SALE NO. 3

Abell Property Solutions, LLC vs. Robert Walter Bell, et al (24-CI-00666)

Amount of Judgment: \$5,152.69 plus interest and costs

1028 FAIRVIEW DRIVE, RADCLIFF, KY

MAP ID# 139-40-09-034

Recorded in Deed Book 762 Page 121 in the Hardin County Clerk's Office

SALE NO. 4

US Bank National Association, but not in its individual capacity but Solely as Owner Trustee for REO Trust 2017-RPL1 vs. Vicky Lehman, et al (24-CI-02228)

Amount of Judgment: \$69,407.46 plus interest and costs

412 HIGHLAND AVENUE, VINE GROVE, KY

MAP ID# 140-20-04-002

Recorded in Deed Book 1189 Page 583 in the Hardin County Clerk's Office

SALE NO. 5

MM Lending, LLC vs. Blue52 Properties, LLC, et al (24-CI-02033)

Amount of Judgment: \$106,854.71 plus interest and costs

106 NORTH 8th STREET, WEST POINT, KY

MAP ID# 158-10-02-062

Recorded in Deed Book 1553 Page 460 in the Hardin County Clerk's Office

SALE NO. 6

Kentucky Housing Corporation vs. Patricia Dolly Crawford-Hess (24-CI-02242)

Amount of Judgment: \$264,891.69 plus interest and costs

1214 AMANDA JO DRIVE, ELIZABETHTOWN, KY

MAP ID# 201-20-04-117

Recorded in Deed Book 1567 Page 1380 in the Hardin County Clerk's Office

BARRY BIRDWHISTELL
MASTER COMMISSIONER
HARDIN CIRCUIT COURT
270-234-0250
HARDINCOUNTYMASTERCOMMISSIONER.COM