

Media Release

Yavapai County Sheriff's Office

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Suspect Arrested in Robbery, Burglary incident in Crown King

Just before 6 AM on October 17, 2016, YCSO deputies were dispatched to a reported robbery in Crown King. A man, later identified as Sean Sparling, 34, from Phoenix, had gone into two cabins and demanded and stole phones from the persons inside. In one instance, Sparling threatened to kill the victims. Sparling then left and entered the Crown King Saloon. While he was inside, one of the victims spotted Sparling's Ford Truck with an open door and was to retrieve the stolen phones. Sparling later left the bar and drove his truck to a residence down from the Crown King Saloon where he proceeded to get into a backhoe on the property and start driving it. When deputies arrived, witnesses directed them towards this residence where the suspect's truck was still visible.



Sparling

The deputies found Sparling who claimed he owned the home and was using his backhoe to do some work around the yard. The true homeowner came outside and asked, "What are you doing on my property?" The deputies thought she was talking to them since Sparling was acting like he lived there. Deputies advised the homeowner they were investigating a robbery incident and contacted Sparling who maintained he lived on her property. She told deputies that her comment was addressed to the man (Sparling) operating her backhoe without permission as she had never seen him before.

Deputies arrested Sparling and he denied taking any phones. The victims did confirm that Sparling was the robbery suspect. During follow-up, an employee at the Crown King saloon told deputies Sparling had been stalking a bartender for the last couple of weeks.

Inside Sparling's truck deputies found money bags with cash taken from the Saloon along with a stolen DVR for the saloon's camera system, and stolen clothing and cigars. Deputies discovered Sparling had forced entry into the Saloon earlier that morning by kicking open a back door and stealing the items found in his truck. Sparling also damaged multiple rooms with historical significance located above the Saloon which included kicking doors off their hinges to get inside.

Sparling was booked at the Camp Verde Detention Center on the following charges: Trespassing, Burglary, Criminal Damage (Felony), Robbery, Theft and Possession of Burglary Tools (a slim jim was found in his possession). He remains in-custody on bond of \$35,000.

Citizens can contact the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office with information or questions at 928-771-3260

or the YCSO website: www.ycsoaz.gov