

## **Watauga Inmate Charged with Assaulting Jailers**

Written by Steve Frank

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Three Watauga Detention Center Officers had to be treated after a Monday afternoon incident at the jail. At about 4:30, in the Detention Center's "single cell" area, detention officers were making their rounds when inmate Tommie Joe Booher, 39, of Cookeville, Tennessee, became agitated and began yelling and screaming, making racial remarks – directing them at a black inmate also housed in the single cell area. As Detention Officers were attempting to quiet him down and gain control of Booher, he allegedly threw what was believed to be human urine on the officers hitting two of the officers in the eyes and mouth and another officer on their duty uniform. Due to the incident, Booher was charged with three felonious counts of malicious conduct by a prisoner, which is a Class F Felony, and is scheduled for court on October 16, for the new charges, jailed under \$68,300 bond. Mr. Booher was originally being held on charges for Driving While License Revoked, Fictitious Tag, and No Operator's License. Additionally, Mr. Booher was being held in the WCSO Detention Facility for Failure to Register as a Sex Offender. Due to HIPAA regulations and the medical aspects of the investigation, and current and ongoing medical treatments for potential exposure to communicable diseases, the names of the Detention Officers cannot be released.