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Burglary suspects have second hearing

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By Aisha I. Jefferson

The three men suspected of involvement in the burglary that Henry County Police officer Chuck Haist was responding to when wrecked are scheduled to make their preliminary court appearances Wednesday morning. They are facing charges in relation to a Feb. 16 burglary at a wireless phone store in Stockbridge.

Stacey Lamar Seaborn, 18, of Atlanta, Bruce Austin, 18, of Riverdale, and Deangelo Terrod Myers, 19, of College Park, remain in custody and will find out if they will receive bond during the hearing.

A public defender will represent Myers, while Austin and Seaborn hired attorneys. Austin's attorney Lawrence Zimmerman said the hearing will determine whether the men's cases will be bound over to a grand jury.

On Feb. 16, Henry County Police responded to an alarm call at Premiere Wireless Solutions on Eagle's Landing Parkway in Stockbridge. Upon arriving at the scene, the officers discovered a burglary in progress.

The men will not be charged with the death of Haist, 32, who was killed on Ga. Highway 20/81 while en route to assist officers on a burglary call. Haist died on the way to Henry Medical Center.

All three men face two counts of burglary, two counts of aggravated assault, marijuana possession, criminal damage to property in the second degree and as being in-state fugitives. Seaborn faces additional charges of fleeing and attempting to elude police and possession of tools to commit a crime.

Burglary and aggravated assault carry a maximum penalty of 20 years each, Flint Judicial Circuit District Attorney Tommy Floyd said.

The three men are also suspects in a similar robbery that took place in another part of the county.

A number of cell phones and a cash box were recovered in the suspects' vehicle and links them to another burglary that occurred just prior to the Stockbridge incident at Associates Cellular at Tanger Outlet Mall in Locust Grove.

Locust Grove Police Chief Jesse Patton previously said they obtained warrants on the men, and that each faces one count of criminal damage, second degree, and three counts of burglary.

Zimmerman said Austin will enter a not-guilty plea.

"I speak with Bruce Austin almost on a daily basis via telephone, and he wants to get bond and get out of jail, and get back to his family so that we can investigate this case and fight it," Zimmerman said.

Seaborn's attorney Steven Berne said his client also will plead not guilty.

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