FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 21, 2020

“DRUG DEAL GONE BAD”

In the early morning hours of Sunday, May 17th, Deputies with the Macon County Sheriff’s received a call for service at a residence on Hickory Knoll Road, regarding a male subject bleeding from the mouth and was sitting on the porch of a residence. The male subject, later identified as Ty Ellett of South Carolina, had showed up at the residence seeking help. Mr. Ellett appeared to have been struck in the face and head area causing severe injuries. At the time deputies arrived, Mr. Ellett was found to be in possession of methamphetamine. Macon EMS transported Mr. Ellett to Angel Medical Center due to his injuries where he was treated and released to the custody of the Macon County Sheriff’s Office.

MCSO investigators with the MCSO Narcotics Unit conducted an investigation into the incident and subsequently executed a search warrant at a residence located on Hudson Drive in Franklin. Multiple firearms suspected to have been used in the altercation were seized along with a large amount of suspected methamphetamine. Evidence seized was identified by the victim as related to the incident. MCSO investigators concluded that Mr. Ellett was involved in narcotics distribution activities which lead to an altercation between him and Daniel Southers and Jonathan Simmons. Southers and Simmons allegedly assaulted Ellett at a residence off Hudson Drive, threatened him with multiple firearms, took his clothes, wallet and cellphone, transported him from the residence to the area of Hickory Knoll against his will, removed him from the vehicle and assaulted him again before leaving him on the side of the road.

Daniel Southers and Jonathan Simmons were arrested at the conclusion of the investigation and both are currently being held at the Macon County Detention Center under $200,000 secured bonds on the following charges.

**Daniel Southers:** Robbery with a Dangerous Weapon
1st Degree Kidnapping
Assaulting Inflicting Serious Bodily Injury
Assault by Pointing a Gun
Possession of Firearm by Felon

**Jonathan Simmons:**
Robbery with a Dangerous Weapon
1st Degree Kidnapping
Assaulting Inflicting Serious Bodily Injury
Assault by Pointing a Gun
Possession of Firearm by Felon

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