



# BUTTE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY



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## PRESS RELEASE

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### CHICO MAN HELD TO ANSWER AFTER STABBING A CHICO MOTEL GUEST

A Butte County judge today found sufficient evidence during a preliminary hearing to hold a Chico man to answer for charges of threatening a motel guest while holding a sawed-off shotgun to the guest's head and then slashing the man several times with a knife. The judge also held the defendant to answer for stalking his former girlfriend.

Jeremy Raymond Brooks, 49, of Chico, was charged with assault with a firearm, assault with a deadly weapon, first-degree residential burglary, criminal threats, possession of a firearm by a felon, unlawful possession of ammunition, stalking, and battery.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said the charges stemmed from an August 8, 2022 incident where Brooks went to a local motel on Broadway Street in Chico and knocked on a male guest's motel room door. When the guest answered the door, Brooks pointed a sawed-off shotgun at the guest's stomach and demanded to know "Where is she?" The guest told Brooks he didn't know who or what he was talking about. Brooks then pointed the shotgun at the guest's face and said he was going to ask only one more time. When the guest did not provide Brooks with an answer, Brooks pulled out a knife and slashed the guest numerous times. The victim was able to escape and run to the office manager for help who then called the police. Police arrived and located Brooks in the victim guest's room and were able to take Brooks into custody. Luckily the guest's wounds were non-life threatening.

Ramsey said Brooks had also been involved in an incident that occurred at the same motel just two days before when, according to a motel clerk, Brooks showed up at the motel office asking if his "wife" was at the motel. The employee told Brooks she was not listed as a guest, but Brooks demanded to see the list of guests at the motel. The employee refused to provide Brooks the list and Brooks left the office. However, when the employee exited the motel office shortly after, he was attacked and punched by Brooks in the parking lot. Two days later when Brooks' picture was shown in the press after his gun and slashing arrest, the employee recognized Brooks as the male who attacked him.

Ramsey said it was further determined back on April 16, 2021, Brooks had entered a home in Redding and attacked a male resident with a large metal wrench while stating he was looking for his girlfriend. The same day, Brooks led Redding officers on a chase eventually leading to his arrest. However, Brooks ended up posting bail that same day and was released from the Shasta County Jail.

Later formal charges were brought by the Shasta County District Attorney charging Brooks with residential burglary, assault with a deadly weapon, fleeing and eluding a police officer, and a warrant for Brook's arrest was issued in November 2021. The warrant was served

on Brooks on July 5, 2022, and he was released on his own recognizance the same day with an arraignment date set for September 2, 2022, but Brooks failed to appear there as he was in Butte County Jail for the August 2022 Chico incident. A Shasta County warrant was issued and has been placed as a hold on Brooks at the Butte County Jail.

Brooks' former girlfriend testified at today's preliminary hearing, telling the judge that Brooks had been stalking her over the last two years despite a restraining order.

Brooks faces a 25-to-life prison sentence under the three-strikes law because he was previously convicted of two counts of carjacking in 1996. Brooks remains in custody in the Butte County jail with bail set at \$1,570,000. His next appearance in Butte County Superior Court will be on July 26, 2023 for setting of his jury trial.



**Jeremy Brooks**