



Attorney General Doug Peterson

News Release

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The Attorney General's Office and the Johnson County Attorney's Office recently received several final investigative reports on criminal investigations stemming from the May 10, 2015 Tecumseh State Correctional Institution (TSCI) riots.

Today, charges are being filed against five identified individuals. The Attorney General's Office is working jointly with Johnson County Attorney Rick Smith's office in the arrests and charges. Today's charges result from hundreds of interviews and hours of review of videotape in determining the criminal acts.

William Harris is being charged with terroristic threats today for an allegation of threats made towards a correctional employee. Terroristic Threats is a Class IV felony.

John Zalme, Roger Weikle and Frederick Gooch are co-defendants on the same assault charges. The three are being charged with Assault by a Confined Person on an Officer which is a Class IIIA felony.

Deputy Johnson County Attorney, Ben Beethe is charging Ian Yelton with First degree Assault which is a Class II felony.

All charges are merely accusations, and the defendants are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

Property crimes and homicides continue to be under investigation at this time. There may be additional charges forthcoming.

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