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Rape, other charges, hold Atchison man

(KAIR)--A weekend domestic dispute turns violent, with a 43-year-old Atchison man now accused of rape and other charges.

Atchison Police Chief Mike Wilson told MSC News Richard Butler is accused of attacking a woman inside the residence they once shared. "A 53-year-old female reported that she had returned home [around 4:00] Saturday morning, and after entering the home she was threatened with a knife by a 43-year-old male who had been living with her, but she was not aware that he was in the residence at the time. She was kept in the residence for the next several hours where she was raped."

Wilson said the victim was able to escape and notify police about the attack. "She was able to escape from the residence shortly before 8:30 a.m. and ran to a nearby residence where police were notified. We began an investigation at that point. A number of steps were taken to ensure her safety, to gather evidence, and then shortly thereafter, we were able to locate the suspect, Richard Butler, at the victim's residence, and he was taken into custody."

Wilson said Butler was attempting to leave the residence, located along the K-7 corridor at the northern edge of Atchison, when he was arrested.

The alleged attack followed what Wilson called a verbal altercation that had occurred hours earlier in downtown Atchison. "There had been a dispute at another location on Friday evening. She stayed away from the residence until the early morning hours on Saturday. When she returned to her residence, she did not anticipate him being there and didn't think that he had the ability to get in, although when we worked the scene, we determined he had actually forced entry. He was waiting for her inside the residence when she entered."

According to Wilson, the victim referred to Butler as her ex-boyfriend.

Butler faces charges of aggravated kidnapping, rape, aggravated sexual battery, aggravated assault, aggravated domestic battery, criminal threat, criminal damage, and criminal restraint.

Following his arrest, Butler was booked into the Atchison County Jail.

According to jail records, his bond is set at $100,000.

Butler is scheduled for a May 20 Atchison County District Court appearance.

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