

Man gets five-year sentence in city break-in and assault

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BY KEITH EPPS

A man who broke into a Fredericksburg resident's home and broke his jaw during a bizarre Aug. 28 incident will serve no more than five years in prison.

Craig Owen Vaczy, 30, pleaded guilty to malicious wounding Wednesday in Fredericksburg Circuit Court.

As part of a plea agreement, prosecutor Travis Bird dropped three other charges and agreed to cap Vaczy's sentence at five years. Vaczy will be sentenced March 17.

According to the evidence, Vaczy broke into 1210 Charles Street on that evening and confronted the resident.

The 46-year-old victim said he didn't know Vaczy. Vaczy claimed that the man owed him money and he went there to collect the debt.

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Bird said the victim reported that the intruder initially tried to sell him drugs, but he wasn't interested.

When the intruder refused to leave, the victim pulled out a knife and ordered him out.

Bird said Vaczy took the knife from the victim, beat him, cut cords from the television and other appliances, and tied up the victim.

He then rummaged through the home and left with tools, the victim's wallet and other items.

A neighbor who heard the resident screaming called police, and Vaczy was arrested on Sophia Street a short time later.

Among the items on Vaczy were the knife and the victim's wallet.

Bird said Vaczy gave the arresting officers multiple explanations for his actions that night, from claiming that he went to borrow tools to claiming he went to buy drugs from the victim.

The victim also suffered broken facial bones in the attack. Vaczy was ordered to pay more than \$5,000 in restitution.

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