

Waukesha County Court Commissioner Releases Convicted Murderer On \$1,000 Bond After Felony Arrest For Fight, Threat To Police Officer
By Mark Belling, WISN-AM

A Milwaukee man who was convicted of second degree murder in 1993 and later released on parole is in trouble with the law---again. And like most of his life, he is facing few consequences. 47-year old John Hanke was arrested in Waukesha after fighting with a police officer who told him his car was parked in a restricted area at the Waukesha Police Department. The criminal complaint said Hanke was armed with a pocket knife at the time. The two officers sustained minor injuries.

Hanke has been arrested and charged several times in several counties since his release, mostly for disorderly conduct or drugs.

Even though the new charges include two felonies, Waukesha County Court Commissioner David Herring released Hanke on a mere \$1,000 cash bond which he posted on Tuesday, the same day as his court appearance. As is her custom, Waukesha County District Attorney Sue Opper didn't bother to send an assistant DA to the bail hearing but instead dispatched an intern.

Commissioner Herring is the same commissioner who botched the case of the alleged Waukesha Christmas Parade massacre suspect by refusing to enforce a request to jail the suspect for non-payment of child support. Herring wrongly assumed the suspect was locked up in Milwaukee County. Now Herring is letting murders who face two new felony charges skip away after posting ten Benjamins.

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