

Man accused in shooting bound over

Incident started
in bar, moved
to restaurant
parking lot

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A man accused of a shooting in the parking lot of a Jefferson City restaurant in March was bound over for arraignment Monday.

At a preliminary hearing Judge Byron Kinder found there was sufficient evidence against Jason Choate, 29. His case now moves to Judge Richard Callahan on June 12.

Choate is facing first-degree assault and armed criminal action for shooting Brian Jenkins in the early morning hours of March 24 at Steak and Shake on Missouri Boulevard. He could get anywhere from 10-30 years or life in prison for the assault charge and three years to life on the armed criminal action charge.

The probable cause statement details that Jenkins was with his girlfriend, Amanda Moore, at Spectator's Bar on Missouri Boulevard when the defendant's brother, Christopher Choate, got into a verbal and physical fight with the victim.

After both parties were asked to leave Spectator's by security staff, they agreed to meet at the Steak and Shake parking lot on the same street.

There, Christopher Choate and Jenkins again got into a physical altercation at which point the defendant removed a handgun from his vehicle glove box and shot Jenkins through the arm and into his torso.

The defendant, Jason Choate, was attempting to drive away when Moore reached through the window of his car and raked the right side of his face with her fingernails.

Choate then pistol-whipped Moore on the right side of her head three or four times and dragged her across the parking lot, attempting to get her off the car.

Cole County Prosecuting Attorney Bill Tackett said Jenkins survived five hours of surgery at University of Missouri Hospital in Columbia.