

Dale County robbery suspects remain held on \$50,000 bond

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OZARK — Two men who were charged after a former classmate said they robbed her remained in the Dale County Jail under \$50,000 bond after hearings on Wednesday.

According to court testimony before Dale County District Judge Stan Garner, Midland City residents Jonathan Andrews, 18, and Kevin Bennett, 20, were charged with robbery last month after two victims came to the Midland City Police Department claiming they had been robbed after giving Bennett a ride.

The victims alleged Andrews had pulled behind their vehicle in a white Buick after they were about to drop Bennett off and demanded money at gunpoint, Midland City Police Investigator Bran-

don Bagwel said.

Andrews' attorney, Tommy Scarborough, said there was no evidence linking his client to the crime besides the allegations.

"Basically, a classmate can say he robbed her and he goes to jail," Scarborough said.

Bennett's attorney, Joseph Gallo, said Bennett had tried to turn himself in to authorities amid the initial allegations.

"They wouldn't even let him in the jail. ... He's 20 years old, didn't have a gun," Gallo said.

Assistant District Attorney Cathey Berardi said Bennett had a robbery charge earlier that had been disposed.

"I'm not sure why that charge didn't go anywhere, but \$50,000 is well within the bond schedule for this charge," she said.

Both cases are expected to go before a Dale County Grand Jury.