

## Office of the Kane County State's Attorney



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### **WATERMAN MAN CHARGED WITH ATTEMPTED MURDER FOR ALLEGEDLY TAMPERING WITH NATURAL GAS LINE OF ELBURN HOME**

January 26, 2020

A Waterman man who previously lived in Batavia faces attempted murder charges for allegedly tampering with the natural gas line to an Elburn home so that gas would spray freely into the home's interior, knowing someone was in the home at the time.

Kane County State's Attorney Joe McMahon has charged 33-year-old **Frank E. Ryan** with the offenses of:

- Attempted murder, Class X felony, 2 counts
- Criminal damage to property, Class 4 felony
- Reckless conduct, Class A misdemeanor, 2 counts
- Battery, Class A misdemeanor, 2 counts

Kane County prosecutors allege that early the morning Jan. 19, 2020, Ryan rerouted a natural gas line by drilling a hole in the exposed gas line outside a home on Downing Street in Elburn, drilling a hole through the home's exterior wall, connecting a tube to the gas line and then placing the other end of the tube through the hole and into the home's interior. Ryan purchased the materials used to commit his offense the previous day. Ryan also had covered a doorbell camera at the home with duct tape. Two people were inside the home at the time. The homeowner discovered the tube and called 911. No one was injured.

Ryan appeared today in Kane County bond court. Kane County Circuit Judge René Cruz set Ryan's bail at \$200,000, with 10 percent (\$20,000) to apply for bond. If Ryan posts bond, he is to have no contact with the victims, no contact with a specified person who is known by Ryan and the victim, and he is to surrender any firearms and a FOID card.

The Elburn Police Department conducted the investigation with assistance from the Kane County Major Crimes Task Force, the DeKalb County Sheriff's Office, the Waterman Police Department, and the Aurora Police Department.

Judge Cruz set Ryan's next court appearance for 9 a.m. Jan. 30, 2020, in Courtroom 305 at the Kane County Judicial Center.

The charges against Ryan are not proof of guilt. Ryan is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial in which it is the state's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

**Frank E. Ryan:** Age 33 (d.o.b. 11-20-1986), of the 300 block of North Cedar Street, Waterman, Illinois. Case No. 20CF160.