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## **Firefighter allegedly assaulted girlfriend**

by Lisa Brody

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A Commerce Township firefighter is awaiting a pre-trial hearing in Oakland County Circuit Court after being charged with first-degree home invasion and domestic violence against a woman he had been dating.

James Shimansky is accused of breaking into his girlfriend's home and then assaulting her.

"On Aug. 10, our agency responded to a home invasion, and our deputies had enough information and evidence to make an arrest," said Lt. Clay Jansson, commander of the Oakland County Sheriff's Department Commerce Substation. "Shimansky, who is a member of our fire department, and the woman did have a dating relationship."

Shimansky is alleged to have crawled through a window in the woman's house and then taken some items of minimal value. He is also accused of assaulting her and then leaving the home. The victim then contacted the Sheriff's Department.

After an investigation, Shimansky was arrested at his home later that evening. He was charged on Aug. 12 with first-degree home invasion and domestic violence before Judge Robert Bondy in 52-1 District Court, who ordered a \$250,000 cash surety bond. Unable to post that, Shimansky reportedly remained in jail. On Aug. 19, Shimansky came before 52-1 District Court Judge Dennis Powers, who lowered the bond to \$150,000-10 percent. Shimansky reportedly posted 15 percent, and was released from jail.

An exam was conducted on Tuesday, Sept. 30, and Shimansky was bound over to Oakland County Circuit Court. He was arraigned in circuit court on Friday, Oct. 9, before Circuit Court Judge Rudy Nichols. A final pre-trial hearing was scheduled for Dec. 9. The pre-trial hearing will be the last time Shimansky and his lawyers will be allowed to discuss the case with the prosecution before going to trial.

Shimansky has been placed on leave from the fire department, according to Jansson.