

JAIL FISTFIGHT LEAVES WERSHE SR. INJURED

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Richard Wershe Sr. was expected to undergo surgery overnight Sunday after suffering a fractured collarbone and a broken jaw in a fistfight with an inmate Sunday at the Wayne County Jail, officials said.

Wershe , father of convicted drug dealer **Richard** (White Boy Rick) **Wershe Jr .** , "entered into some kind of a fray with another inmate, over what I don't know," said Nancy Mouradian, spokeswoman for the Wayne County Sheriff's Department, which operates the jail.

A spokesman at Detroit Receiving Hospital said **Wershe** , 44, also suffered abdominal and facial injuries, and was expected to undergo exploratory surgery Sunday night. He was in stable condition.

Wershe , a self-employed gun equipment and electronics dealer, is awaiting trial on charges he threatened a police officer during his son's trial and that he owned illegal gun silencers. He has denied making the threat and said the alleged silencers were cable television filters.

The fight apparently broke out around noon in a room where prisoners eat. The inmate was being questioned Sunday.

Despite **Wershe** 's recent statement that he and his son had been federal drug informants, Mouradian said the fight did not appear to be related to that. She said the fight could be characterized as a personal dispute that arose suddenly.

Other prisoners were in the room at the time but apparently did not try to stop the fight. Those who saw the fight were being questioned Sunday.

The other inmate involved in the fight, whom officials would not identify, was placed in a more secure disciplinary ward, Mouradian said.

Wershe probably would be moved to a different jail ward, Mouradian said, possibly the jail's infirmary.

Wershe Jr . , convicted last month of possessing more than 17 pounds of cocaine, has been turned over to the Michigan Department of Corrections and is no longer in the county jail, Mouradian said.

CUTLINE

Richard Wershe Sr

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