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News

# Cairns man accused of assaulting police officer facing extra charge

Grace Mason and Janessa Ekert, The Cairns Post 28 minutes ago

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UPDATE: One of the young Cairns men accused of knocking a police officer unconscious is facing a further charge for allegedly throwing a chair through a cafe window.

Brodie Rayner, 22, was allegedly thrown out of the Pier Bar with brother Darcy, 20, and Jayden Symons, 21, on Tuesday night before they attacked the 28-year-old acting Sergeant near the Esplanade Lagoon.

All three were granted bail in the Cairns Magistrates Court yesterday.

Prior to that incident, police allege Mr Rayner picked up a chair and



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The glass window was subsequently destroyed and two chairs were damaged as a result.

Detectives spoke with the man yesterday morning and he was charged with one count each of committing a public nuisance and wilful damage.

The man is due to reappear in the Cairns Magistrates Court next month.



Brodie Rayner, who is charged with assaulting a

Cairns police Constable.

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Three men charged with assaulting a Cairns police officer walk free from the Cairns watch house after a magistrate granted all three bail. Picture: BRENDAN RADKE

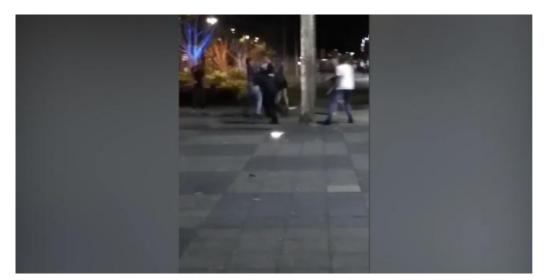
EARLIER: THREE young men charged with assaulting a Cairns police officer so seriously he was knocked unconscious have been granted bail.

Brothers Brodie and Darcy Rayner, 22 and 21, and 20-year-old Jayden Symons had allegedly been asked to leave a licensed venue where they had been attending a wake for <a href="motorbike crash victim Cory Duncan">motorbike crash victim Cory Duncan</a> about 7pm last night when they attacked the 28-year-old Acting Sergeant near the Esplanade Lagoon.

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Mr Duncan fell from his motorbike on a Smithfield track and died on June 18.

His funeral had been held earlier yesterday.



All three appeared in the Cairns Magistrates Court this morning charged with seriously assaulting police causing bodily harm and wilfully damaging police property, while Darcy Rayner is also charged with serious assault police and two counts of assault police.

Police prosecutor Acting Sergeant Morgan Harris described the alleged offending as a "very violent assault on a police officer", that involved "stomping and punching".





Jayden Symons, 20, Darcy Rayner, 21 and Brodie Rayner, 22 have been charged with the alleged assault on a Cairns police officer.

She objected to their bail and said the alleged incident had been captured on City Safe CCTV.

She told the court the officer had received a concussion, bruises and grazing as a result of the incident

Duty lawyer Steve Wettenhall said the three men had been at a <u>wake for a close</u> friend, who had recently died in a motorbike crash.



Police furious over alleged assault

"They were in a highly emotional state," Mr Wettenhall said, adding they were all significantly intoxicated.

The court heard none of the three had any criminal history.

Acting Magistrate Susie Warrington granted them bail but were given a banning order from the Cairns CBD. The case was adjourned until July 19.



Four men were arrested on Abbott St in Cairns tonight

The Far North has some of the worst figures for attacks on police in Queensland and senior officers have condemned the alleged incident which they labelled "cowardly".

"Our officers are just out there trying to do their job, trying to make our community safe and they should not be subject to this at all," Acting Supt Rolf Straatemeier said.

"It's not good enough, not acceptable."

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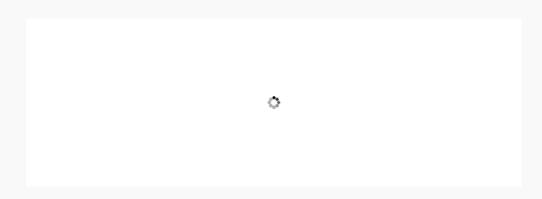
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