

## **Cop Attacker Is Better, But Not Well Enough For Release**

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His condition has improved, but not enough to let him out of hospital yet.

Joseph Smith will stay at Mendota for now, where he's being treated for mental disorders and substance abuse. Smith attacked a La Crosse cop with a screwdriver six years ago, and asked a La Crosse County judge to release him. After hearing conflicting testimony from two doctors, Judge Dale Pasell ruled that Smith is showing progress, but he believes another release would be 'premature.'