

Beat: Lifestyle

'Terminator 2' star Edward Furlong charged with assault

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USPA News - Actor Edward Furlong, who is best known for his roles in the movies "Terminator 2" and "American History X," was charged with assault Tuesday after an incident last month in which he allegedly attacked his ex-girlfriend and threatened her. Furlong, 35, was charged with dissuading a witness by force or threat, assault by means to likely produce great bodily injury and vandalism over \$400 -- all felonies -- and disobeying a domestic restraining order, a misdemeanor.

He pleaded not guilty when he was arraigned at Los Angeles Superior Court on Tuesday. District Attorney's Office spokeswoman Jane Robison said Furlong is accused of assaulting his ex-girlfriend in May and threatening her if she called police. "[He] allegedly violated a restraining order when he returned to the victim's West Hollywood home on May 21 and assaulted her," she said. "He also allegedly damaged laptop and photo equipment." The actor was already facing two pending misdemeanor battery cases involving incidents on November 21, 2012, and January 13, 2013, against the same victim. Both cases were dismissed on Tuesday after prosecutors decided to include both incidents in the new case, Robison said. Jail records show Furlong was arrested at around 11:45 a.m. local time on June 10, and he remained in custody on Wednesday with bail set at \$100,000. The actor is due to appear in court for his preliminary hearing on July 1, and Furlong could face up to four years in state prison if convicted. Known for his roles as John Connor in "Terminator 2: Judgement Day" and Daniel Vinyard in "American History X," Furlong has a history of substance abuse and court cases. He was sentenced to six months in jail in March for violating a 3-year period of probation that required him to obey all laws. The conviction was the result of two previous probation violations, including an assault against an ex-girlfriend and violating a protective order that stated he was to have no contact with her. He was also arrested in January 2011 after violating a domestic restraining order from his estranged wife, Rachael Kneeland. Kneeland, 29, who is better known as actress Rachael Bella, got a domestic restraining order against her husband in August 2010. The order required Furlong to stay at least 100 yards (approximately 91 meters) away from her, but Furlong was alleged to have approached her within 50 yards (about 50 meters) in December 2010. Kneeland and Furlong were married on April 19, 2006, and together have one child, Ethan Page Furlong, who was born in September 2006. Kneeland requested the restraining order in August 2010 after Furlong had left threatening voicemail messages that were addressed to her.

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