Elderly man charged with shooting

Friday, May 2, 2008
A 69-year-old man faces attempted manslaughter charges after shooting a Vivian man in the abdomen.

Caddo Sheriff Steve Prator said Riley Thomas, 65, of the 900 block of South Pine, was shot twice during an argument with Robert Lee Richardson, of the same address.

Both men are residents of the Central Park Apartments in Vivian. Witnesses said the two argued this morning about a flower pot that was outside the apartment complex entrance. Richardson went back inside the apartment building and was followed down the hallway by Thomas. Richardson then went inside his apartment and retrieved a handgun. He came back to the hallway and shot Thomas twice.

Thomas lives on the second floor of the complex, and Richardson lives on the first floor.

Thomas was taken to North Caddo Hospital and was later airlifted to LSU Health Sciences Center. His condition at this time is not known. Richardson was also taken to LSUHSC for observation after he complained of chest pains. Upon his release, he will be booked into the Caddo Correctional Center for attempted manslaughter.

The case is being investigated by Caddo Sheriff's Detective Stacy Cowgill. The Sheriff's Office was assisted by Vivian Police in this investigation.