

Jim Scarth

KANE'S ATTORNEY AGAIN FACES CHARGES RELATED TO ALCOHOL

Associated Press

For the third time in six years, Kane County Attorney **Jim Scarth** is facing alcohol-related charges.

Scarth, who also is under investigation by the Utah State Bar, was arrested Saturday night at Lone Rock Beach on Lake Powell. He faces citations alleging disorderly conduct, interfering with police and public intoxication, according to police records. **Scarth**, 56, and a friend from Kanab apparently got into a fight that was quelled when National Park Service officers arrived at the site eight miles southeast of Big Water near the Arizona border. Scarth was kept in custody a few hours before being released.

Scarth declined to comment, and National Park Service arresting officer David Van Inwagen and other police were unavailable for comment Monday night.

Scarth's arrests and controversies have "given all of law enforcement down here a black eye," Washington County Attorney Eric Ludlow said.

In June, **Scarth** was allowed to plead guilty to a reduced charge of reckless driving after appealing a drunken-driving conviction.

When the case was transferred to Salt Lake County because of widespread publicity in southern Utah, another prosecutor was assigned to the case and the deal was struck. Deputy Davis County Attorney James E. Gregan recommended the plea bargain to the Kanab City Council to save the expense of sending witnesses to Salt Lake City for trial. Kanab officials agreed.

Scarth was fined \$1,480, given a suspended two-day jail term and placed on probation.

Scarth, whose term expires after next year, was convicted of drunken driving in February 1988.

Because of the drunken-driving arrests, the Utah State Bar is scrutinizing **Scarth**, including whether his conduct violates bar regulations prohibiting acts of moral turpitude.

"We're doing it very carefully and getting all our ducks in a row," bar official Gary Ferraro said last week.