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NEWS IN BRIEF

**Comedian Foxx pleads not guilty to misdemeanor charge**

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Comedian Jamie Foxx pleaded not guilty Monday to misdemeanor charges that he fought with police officers after he ordered him to leave a casino.

The 35-year-old was arrested Saturday and charged with trespassing, disturbing the peace, battery on police officers and resisting arrest. After a brief time in jail, he was released on \$1,900 bond.

A spokesman for Foxx in Los Angeles said Monday that the comic had no comment.

Foxx and his sister, Dixie Dixon, allegedly entered Harrah's casino near the French Quarter and refused employees' requests for show identification. The two walked toward a gambling table and Foxx splashed water from a fountain, police said.

He and Dixon, 25, refused to leave when asked by security guards, who called police. The two then fought with officers who arrived to escort them outside, police said.

Dixon, of Tarzana, Calif., was booked on trespassing, simple battery on officers, resisting arrest, aggravated battery and extortion. Capt. Marlon DeFillo, a police spokesman, said Dixon was charged with extortion because she allegedly threatened to cut a Harrah's guard unless he allowed her inside the casino.

She spent several hours in jail Saturday before being released on \$6,000 bond. The district attorney's office hasn't decided whether to prosecute her, and has two months to decide.

Foxx is in town to film "Unchain My Heart," in which he stars as Ray Charles. Shooting is expected to continue through June.

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