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## Chiefland man arrested for armed robbery of a homeless man and more; *Bond set at \$887,000*



**Victor Todd Scoggins**  
**Mug Shot By LCSO**

**By Jeff M. Hardison**  
**© Dec. 27, 2018 at 9:38 p.m.**

**CHIEFLAND** – A 55-year-old Chiefland man was arrested over a two-day period for misdemeanor possession of marijuana; possession of drug equipment; driving while license suspended or revoked (DWLSR); aggravated assault with a deadly weapon without intent to kill; damaging property - criminal mischief \$300 or less; trespassing in an occupied structure or conveyance; grand theft between

\$300 to \$5,000; and robbery with firearm, according to records.

The total bond for all of these charges against Victor Todd Scoggins, 55, of Chiefland is \$887,000, according to records.

The DWLSR, paraphernalia possession, misdemeanor marijuana possession and burglary of an occupied structure or conveyance charges were on Dec. 19, according to records.

The arrest on charges of armed robbery with a firearm and all of the other crimes Scoggins is accused of doing were on Dec. 18, according to Levy County Jail records.

Chiefland Police Department Cpl. Blake Murphy is the primary arresting officer, according to records, and CPD Officer F.D. Macy assisted, according to Murphy's incident report.

While Scoggins was the alleged armed robber, the alleged victim's name is Samuel Melendez, 45, who has been living in a tent in the Chiefland area since March, according to records.

Leonard Robert Boyette Jr., 74, of Chiefland is listed among the witnesses, and he was reportedly with Scoggins on one of the two trips where Scoggins allegedly victimized a homeless man, according to records.

Cpl. Murphy met with Melendez at the Chiefland Police Department in reference to a theft, according to records.

On Dec. 18, the victim was met by two unknown white males at his campsite, according to records.

Melendez stated that he is homeless and has been living in a tent in the woods off of Northwest 14th Street behind Betts Big T, according to records.

Melendez stated that he had several pieces of property taken from his campsite, according to records.

The victim stated that he did not know that where he was camping was on private property, according to records. The incident report does not show Scoggins or Boyette as being the property owners.

Melendez sad he was two unknown white males approach him at his campsite, and that one of them introduced himself later as "Victor," according to records.

While one of the men who was at the scene of the crimes is known by police officers to be Scoggins, the other one is believed to be Boyette, according to records. And after questioning, Boyette told Cpl. Murphy information to substantiate the crimes Scoggins is under arrest for allegedly having committed, according to records.

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Cpl. Murphy had the victim write down what happened in the campsite area.

According to the victim, on Dec. 18 at approximately 4:30 p.m. Blade Bailey, Melendez's friend, came to visit him at his campsite. They left the campsite and Melendez returned about a half hour to 45 minutes later, according to records.

When Melendez returned, he noticed someone had rummaged through his belongings, according to records.

The victim discovered that his bicycle, a five-speed Beachcomber was missing. He was missing beer a 10-pack of Budweiser, his compound bow and case, and his backpack which was gray, battery packs, and his pay of \$240 in cash as well as some other personal items, according to records

Many of his belongings had been tossed on the ground, according to records. And a clothesline that held up his clothes was cut, according to records.

The victim texted his friend, telling him what had happened, according to records.

At approximately 6:15 p.m., Melendez heard people, according to records, and he walked out into the open.

As he was coming out of the woods, he saw one older man, according to records.

The victim said "Hello."

The man asked the victim and if he had permission to be there. The victim said he did not know that it was whether it was private or public property, according to records.

That's when Scoggins began approaching the victim holding either a rifle or shotgun and yelling at him to stand still and "Don't fucking move," according to records.

According to the victims' statement, Scoggins told him to hug a tree and to give Scoggins his wallet and his phone, according to records.

It was then that Scoggins smacked a machete just inches away from Melendez's head, according to records, and told the victim to keep hugging the tree.

The victim mentioned that it was evident that both men had been drinking alcoholic beverages, according to records.

The victim explained to them and that he had started working at Bett's Big T, according to records, and that he had been camping in this area since March.

As he was talking to them, he heard his property being destroyed, according to records.

He asked for the return of his wallet from, according to records, and then a gunshot went off.

Scoggins made trips to the campsite twice, according to records. The first time he went to the campsite, Scoggins stole a gray backpack worth approximately \$35 containing approximately \$240 in United States currency and four battery chargers each worth \$50 for combined total of \$200.

The approximate value of the items Scoggins stole totaled \$985, according to records. The approximate value of the property returned to the victim by the CPD's work was \$510. The approximate value of the property destroyed by Scoggins was \$228, according to records.

This case was closed by arrest, Cpl. Murphy noted.