



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Jessica Burns
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Re: Suspect Arrested After Intentionally Striking Victim with Vehicle -
202500283540

Date: August 25, 2025

On 08-24-2025, at approximately 10:42 a.m., the Hernando County Sheriff's Office received a 911 call reporting that a man seated in a chair near the intersection of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Josephine Street in South Brooksville had been struck by a vehicle. The caller also reported the driver ran into the woods.

Upon arrival, deputies located the suspect vehicle, a gold Toyota Corolla LE, still on scene. The vehicle was parked on the sidewalk of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

The victim, a 74 year old Brooksville man, sustained severe injuries to both legs and head trauma. Due to the extent of his injuries, he was airlifted to a trauma hospital for emergency treatment.

Deputies determined the registered owner of the suspect's vehicle. The owner advised her son was known to drive the vehicle. Deputies then identified the driver as **Quaze Lavarn Simmons DOB/01-20-1989**.

A search of the immediate area was conducted. Shortly thereafter, deputies located Simmons emerging from the woods south of the incident. Simmons appeared wet, covered in dirt and debris, and was detained without incident. During the detention, Simmons spontaneously stated he was "scared."

Simmons initially told detectives he lost control of the vehicle and ran in fear of his mother's reaction to the crash. However, video surveillance obtained in the area revealed Simmons accelerated across traffic lanes directly toward the victim. At no time were the vehicle's brake lights observed, nor was there any evidence of the driver losing control.

Confronted with the evidence, Simmons stated the act was intentional. He told detectives he had been upset after an argument with his mother over money and chose to strike the victim because he was “just there.”

Simmons was arrested and transported to the Hernando County Detention Center. He is charged with:

Ct1) Attempted Murder

At the time of this release, the victim remains hospitalized and is receiving treatment for his injuries.

