

Man wielding hammer during argument at Hardy Lake faces felony battery charge

Written by Marty Randall

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A man who allegedly used a hammer as a weapon during an argument with another person at Hardy Lake is now facing a felony battery charge.

Johnny E. Terrell, 37, no address listed, reportedly got into an argument on the state recreational area's beach on Saturday, June 7. By the time Deputy James Shelton arrived at the scene, both the victim and alleged attacker had left.

Deputy Shelton later talked to the purported victim in the emergency room of Scott Memorial Hospital. That man said Terrell hit him in the head with a hammer and also struck him in the face with his hand. The man was being treated for what was described as "...a large laceration to the back of his head and also swelling and redness to his face." The alleged victim said he and Terrell had been arguing over going home.

Terrell's initial hearing in Scott Circuit Court was held on Tuesday, June 10, before Judge Roger Duvall. He was assigned a public defender after a preliminary not guilty plea was entered to Class C felony battery and Class A misdemeanor battery.

Judge Duvall set bail at \$50,000 corporate surety bond or \$10,000 cash. Terrell's jury trial was set for October 7.

Chief Deputy Prosecutor Chris Owens also filed a notice of the State's intention to file an Habitual Offender enhancement in the case.

Documents supporting the Habitual Offender enhancement related that Terrell had four convictions of Class D felonies in 2004, 2006 and 2012. Those felonies included unlawful possession of a syringe, possession of methamphetamine, resisting law enforcement and theft.