



Joseph Taylor

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12-13-2023

CHIPLEY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ARRESTED

The Washington County School District and the CHS Administration have been collaborating the Sheriff’s Office in regards to a tip that came to us through FortifyFL on 12/12/2023. A lengthy investigation ensued by both school officials and sheriff’s office is still ongoing. Below is the press release from the Washington County Sheriff’s Office further detailing the case.

Statement from the Washington County Sheriff’s Office: *(Chipley, FL, December 13, 2023)-On December 12, 2023, Washington County Sheriff’s Office was notified of a battery that occurred at Chipley High School. While investigating the suspect involved in the altercation, School Resource Deputies discovered the suspect had a list of names of students and teachers on his phone. The SRD’s along with WCSO investigators began to question the student about why such a list of names was contained on his phone. The student admitted to investigators that he created the list of names of people he would like to harm.*

The suspect is identified as James Simmons a 10th grade student at Chipley High School. Simmons was arrested the same day and has been charged with a second-degree felony. He has been placed in a detention facility with the Department of Juvenile Justice.

Pursuant of School Board Policy and Practice, parents/guardians of students and teachers on the list are being notified by CHS School Officials in regards to this case. We want to thank the students, parents and community for using our Tip Reporting Tool ([FortifyFL.com](https://www.fortifyfl.com)) and for helping us keep our schools safer.