

Henderson County Detectives responded to a report of a robbery and assault of a 96 year old man in his residence near Hwy 280 and Brickyard Rd. last night shortly after midnight. The victim states that in the early morning hours, he was awakened by a loud noise outside of his home. When he got up to investigate, he was confronted by an unknown male in the hallway just outside of the bedroom. The suspect appeared to be wearing a mask and gloves and a head mounted light. The suspect assaulted the homeowner with a large stick and demanded to see where he kept his money.

The suspect did take some cash from a shirt from the bedroom. He further threatened the victim and battered on the walls and doors in the residence with the stick that he had used to strike the victim. At this point, the victim gave the suspect some other cash money and the suspect told him to return to the bedroom and not to come back out. The victim complied. The suspect then left via the same door he had broken in order to gain entry into the home.

The victim tried to call 911, but it was later discovered that the suspect/s had demolished the phone service outside of the residence rendering the phone inoperable. Due to the fact that the victim is unable to drive at night and it was too far to walk for help in the dark, he went back to bed to wait for daylight. A neighbor who looks in on him discovered the broken door in the morning. The victim disclosed to the neighbor what had taken place, and the neighbor notified the Henderson County Sheriff's Office.

Except for heavy bruising to his arms, the victim was not injured further and he declined medical treatment.

According to Sheriff Davis, "This is a horrific event for anyone to have to endure. This certainly is one tough gentleman and the investigators certainly admired the strength and resilience he displayed during the interview process. We are doing everything we can to solve this crime and we welcome any information that anyone might have that would help bring whoever was involved, to justice."

It is always a good habit to lock all doors and windows of your home and vehicles whether they are occupied or not. It is also good for neighbors to be in the habit of checking up on each other and paying attention to any suspicious persons, vehicles, or activities in the neighborhoods. Community awareness is always the first line of defense against crimes. It appears that in this case, the homeowner had done all that he could do. It would appear that his cool demeanor in this extreme situation enabled him to survive a terrible event.

No further information available at this time.

Capt. Charles McDonald
Henderson County Sheriff's Office