



## Fatally Shot After Crying ‘Rape’

Jan 5, 1990

LAKE CITY, Fla. (AP) - A boy who playfully cried "rape" while wrestling with a cousin in the woods was shot to death by a man who heard his scream, police said.

Simeon Kendrick, 13, died instantly from a gunshot wound to the chest. Ernest Howard Prior, 23, was charged with murder and jailed without bail.

Simeon was playing with Shay Jones, 14, when the shooting occurred Tuesday. Jones told police that Kendrick started yelling.

"Then the man shot him in the chest," Jones said. "He fell down and so did I. I was in shock."

Prior told authorities that he was working in his stepfather's garage when he heard someone yell "rape." Armed with a pistol, Prior ran toward the woods. His stepfather, Robert Connelly, grabbed a rifle and followed, police said.

Prior spotted the boys and fired two shots, police said.

After the shooting, Prior pointed the gun at Jones and ordered him to lie face down.

Connelly ran back to the house and called police.

[https://www.tulsaworld.com/archives/boy-fatally-shot-after-crying-rape/article\\_a498ef6d-8fae-5ac9-850d-a55f2318919e.html](https://www.tulsaworld.com/archives/boy-fatally-shot-after-crying-rape/article_a498ef6d-8fae-5ac9-850d-a55f2318919e.html)